

MASTER'S DEGREE FINAL PROJECT GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

General information

The final test or Master's Degree Final Project (MDFP) is mandatory and provides the student with 18 CFU credits. It has a duration of 5-6 months approximately.

For the MDFP, the students must do a personal work through which they demonstrate the skills, knowledge and competencies acquired during the degree course. The work can be started when only 2-3 exams are left over.

The students can choose the topic of the project within a database that contains a number of possibilities provided by the members of the degree's course and the name of the corresponding tutor.

Students choose their own project and carry out it individually under the guidance and supervision of the tutor.

Once the students have had a MDFP assigned, they must contact the tutor to decide how to proceed.

The MDFP can be of different types: e.g. modeling, design, experimental.

As a general organization, the work to do for the final project should include the hypotheses supported by a theoretical framework, based on the more updated literature, the materials and methods (including any software or design instrument), applied to the development of the work, the presentation and discussion of the results with a deep analysis using advanced tools, and the final conclusions.

The tutor will monitor the process of the student by periodical meetings and email exchanges.

At the end of the work, the tutor will evaluate the student's progress, throughout the duration as well as the written report of the project, and will assign an initial grade.

The final grade will be decided based on the tutor's grade and also the evaluation by a panel to the oral presentation of the project. The final grade falls within the range 4-10 points.

Final project's format specifications (thesis)

The report of the MDFP must be written in English, following the main rules listed below; the use of a specific software for format editing is also recommended:

- number of pages: about 100-200 (although not mandatory)
- line spacing: 1.5

- font: Times New Roman
- font size: 12
- all pages numbered
- text justified
- sections numbered as follows: 1., 1.1., 1.1.1., 2., ..
- paper size: 29x21 cm (A4)
- citations from the literature should be included in the text and all citations should be in the list of references
- for citing references in the text:
 - if a work has two authors, give both surnames on each citation, e.g. (Rossi and Bianchi, 1998)
 - if the number of authors is more than two, give the name of the first author with "et al., year" (Rossi et al., 2001)
- a software such as Mendeley o EndNote basic can be used for reference list editing
- figures, graphs and tables should be numbered (with Arabic numbers) in progressive order have a title
- references at the end of the report can be presented in the following way:
 - for articles from journals/newspapers
 - Angelakis, A.N., Snyder, S.A., 2015. Wastewater treatment and reuse: past, present, and future. *Water* 7, 4887–4895. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w7094887>.
 - for books
 - United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2011. *Exposure Factors Handbook: 2011 Edition: EPA/600/R-09/052F*. Office of Research and Development, Washington DC.
 - for Conference papers
 - The World Bank, 2011. *Water reuse in the Arab World from principle to practice: voices from the field*. In: *Summary of Proceedings of Wastewater Management in the Arab World*, (22–24 May, Dubai-UAE).

The final report should contain the following main sections in the order indicated:

- A cover sheet, which contains candidate name, degree course, title of the project, name of tutor and calendar year of submission
- Acknowledgements (optional)
- summary, which consists of one-page resumé of the report
- Table of contents (with page and section numbers)

- Introduction, which presents the starting points (background), aims of the project and structure of the report
- Body of report, which includes the analysis and specification of the problem and a description of the main issues; specific distribution in sections and their length depend on the tackled topic
- Conclusions, where final remarks are reported, along with suggestions for future extensions or alternative methodologies to tackle the topic
- References, where all consulted scientific material must be reported according to the above format
- Appendices, where any further technical material can be included (e.g. test data, results of software elaborations)

Presentation's format specification

Each student must give an oral presentation of the final project in presence in front of the evaluation panel.

The presentation's format must follow the general rules listed below:

- no more than 10/15 slides, in pdf or power points, arranged as:
 - 1 cover slide, which contains candidate name, degree course, title of the project, name of the tutor and calendar year of submission
 - 3/4 slides, which give introduction and backgrounds to the topic
 - 5/9 slides, which present main findings (also through tables, graphs, drawings, etc.)
 - 1 slide, which highlights final remarks and future perspectives.

Final project's format specifications for theses that require graphic work in building design, architecture, surveying, representation.

Tables should be predominantly graphic, limiting textual writing to titles, legends and very brief descriptive elements.

Texts should be included in the MDFP report prepared according to the general guidelines.

Layout and presentation of the graphical drawings:

- Number of graphic layouts: about 8-12 (although not mandatory)
- Font: a sans-serif font is prescribed (Arial, Helvetica, Futura, etc.)
- All layouts numbered
- Digital paper size: preferably 420x594 mm (A2)
- Figures, graphs and tables should be numbered (with Arabic numbers) in progressive order must have a title and source references if not made by the author of the thesis.
- References in the tables should be in Chicago B format and given in full in the report.
- All graphic tables must have Key Map (for elevation and section tables of the architectural or spatial object) and Key section for horizontal projection tables.
- The drawings must have metric scale and point cardinal orientation.
- Papers must be submitted in both PDF and JPEG formats.

The cartouche of each layout must contain:

- University, Faculty and Degree Course heading.
- Logo of Sapienza
- Student's first and last name
- Matriculation number
- Supervisor
- Co-supervisor
- Title of the thesis (max 150 characters)
- Type of drawings submitted (survey, urban design, executive design, survey campaign, etc.)
- Content of drawings (floor plan, elevation, floor plan, section, dimensioned plan, etc.)
- Scale of individual drawings