

Memo internal Registration for Master's Thesis in Cyber Security

1. Preamble

The Master's Thesis (MT) is the final requirement of the Master's program. It is the result of independent scientific research and/or constructive development project including the written report of the results. The MT has to be supervised by a professor listed on the websites of the Cyber Security Master's program. The duration of the MT is 6 calendar months (full-time). The MT is not compatible with outside employment. If a MT is submitted late for unfounded reasons, it will by default be graded as a "fail". In case of a failure, the MT can only be repeated once whereby a new MT topic must be chosen. The D-INFK Director of Studies can extend the deadline for submission of a MT if the student has submitted a legitimate request (sickness, accident or similar reason). Students who wish to work as a teaching assistant while completing their MT may do so only with the formal written consent of the responsible professor.

2. Admission to the Master's Thesis

- Completed Bachelor's program
- All additional requirements have been successfully completed
- Master's courses:
 - *Major Cyber Security*: 28 credits completed, from which at least 12 credits must come from core courses, **and**
 - *Inter focus courses*: 16 credits completed, **and**
 - *Semester project*: 12 credits completed, **and**
 - At most 8 credits to complete in the categories minor courses, free electives and science in perspective.

3. Registration for the Master's Thesis

- Before starting the project, electronically register the Master's Thesis: **LE 260-0800-00L in myStudies**. The registration for the Master's Thesis has not to be done at the beginning of the semester, but when you start with your thesis though.
- Under "functions", select "project/papers/theses".
- Enter all the details (supervisor, co-supervisor, title, start and end date, upload task description).
- The signed plagiarism declaration (declaration of originality) is a component of your Master's thesis.

4. External Master's Thesis

A professor listed on the Website of the Cyber Security Master's program together with a supervisor from the external institution (advisor from industry) must supervise the MT. The professor from Cyber Security must approve the task description and is responsible for the grading of the MT. The MT candidate is responsible for continually informing the Cyber Security professor of the progress of their research or project. The mentor must as well be in agreement with the topic. It is essential for the MT candidate to reach an agreement with the external institution regarding intellectual property rights. Copies of the proposal for acceptance of the external MT and the intellectual property agreement must be submitted to the D-INFK Director of Studies via the D-INFK Student Administration Office. The D-INFK Director of Studies will then reach a decision. It is not allowed to do the MT while under contract with the external institution. This also means that a salary scale cannot be attached to the agreement. Certain reimbursements are allowed to a limited extent.

5. Grading of the Master's Thesis

The MT is a graded semester performance. In order to successfully complete the MT, a grade of 4.0 or higher must be obtained. The supervisor establishes the assessment criteria in a written report, which can include a presentation.

6. Grade Descriptions for Master's Theses

In principle, the following evaluation scale is applied:

Grade	Requirements
6.00	Work and results are publishable for international workshops.
5.50	Thesis quality significantly exceeds expectations.
5.00	Thesis meets expectations.
4.50	Thesis partially meets expectations and has minor deficits.
4.00	Thesis meets minimum quality requirements; but has major deficits and is clearly below expectations.

7. Submission and Archiving of Master Theses

An electronic version of the MT including the plagiarism declaration must be submitted to the Studies Administration Office upon completion. The supervisor directly enters the grade via myStudies within 4 weeks upon completion of the thesis.

8. Intellectual Property Rights on Master Theses

Students writing a MT, creating models and/or writing computer programs, are creators and authors of their work according to Swiss copyright law. We archive all MTs in D-INFK and are allowed to use them within the statutory regulations.

see (in German) <https://rechtssammlung.sp.ethz.ch/>

It is highly recommended to sign an agreement concerning intellectual property rights between the responsible person for the MT and the project collaborator / student (see attachment). All intellectual property rights regarding the MT and its results remain basically in the student's possession. In exceptional cases, it may be compulsory (in the course of a research project in industry) to file an agreement between the supervisor of the MT and the student concerning intellectual property rights (e.g. copyright protection for software). All questions relating to the necessity of such transfer agreement should be addressed to: ETH transfer, Rämistrasse 101, CH-8092 Zurich, Tel +41 (0)44 632 23 82, E-mail: transfer@sl.ethz.ch.

Zurich, January 2024
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