

## D-BSSE Master's Thesis Assessment

- The master's thesis is graded  
*Grading scale: from 1.0 to 6.0 in quarter grade (0.25) steps. Pass grade: 4.0, maximum grade: 6.0.*
- The thesis is concluded with a written report and an oral presentation.  
*The written report is submitted to the supervising professor within the deadline.  
The oral presentation (at least 15 min + at least 15 min Q&A) is held with the internal supervising professor present (in person or hybrid), at the latest 6 weeks after submission of the thesis.  
In case of an external master's thesis, it is recommended for the external supervisor to also attend the presentation.*

Further details are laid out in the Study programme Regulations:

- [MSc Biotechnology](#)
- [MSc CBB](#)

## Assessment Criteria

The master's thesis shall be assessed according to the criteria detailed below. The supervising professor may define additional criteria (to be communicated to the student at the start).

Execution of Thesis	
Organisation & work in research group*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planning, time management, independent organisation, attendance</li> <li>▪ Systematic and scientific approach</li> <li>▪ Ability to ask for and make constructive use of advice, ability to learn from mistakes</li> <li>▪ Initiative, contribution to scientific discussions</li> <li>▪ Cooperation and teamwork</li> </ul>
Project design and data handling *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Independent design of experiment/project, originality</li> <li>▪ Understanding of the concept and purpose of the project</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of relevant context and background</li> <li>▪ Methodological competence</li> <li>▪ Detailed and traceable documentation of the work conducted</li> <li>▪ High quality and conclusiveness of (experimental) work</li> </ul>
Written report and oral presentation	
Written report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concise overview of the research field and identification of important open questions</li> <li>▪ Clear description of the problem addressed and clear statement of the project goals</li> <li>▪ Appropriate literature citations and overall consistency</li> <li>▪ Deduction and clarity of the research question</li> <li>▪ Clear presentation, critical discussion and evaluation of the obtained results</li> <li>▪ Discussion of the possibilities and limitations of the approach used</li> <li>▪ Structure, comprehensibility, and formal correctness of the thesis</li> </ul>
Oral presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clear, coherent, and well-structured presentation of the project and the results</li> <li>▪ Correct presentation, labelling of figures, citations</li> <li>▪ Presentation and differentiation between own and group contribution</li> <li>▪ Defense of project and responses to questions to the project and the broader concept</li> </ul>

\* In case of an external master's thesis, the criteria marked with an asterisk (\*) shall be discussed with the external supervisor.