

# The EBA Master Thesis

**As early as possible:** Get in contact with a potential supervisor from a department you are interested in.

**Start:** Submit the application for the thesis in consultation with your supervisor.

**After Starting:** Register for the next possible thesis seminar & colloquium.

**After Presenting:** Submit the thesis after your final presentation.

## Planning the thesis & the topic

- **Start as early as possible**, preferably at least a semester before.
- Choose the direction you want your master's thesis to take and develop ideas for a topic – a starting point might be to look at the existing literature.
- **Get in contact with a faculty member who might match, and they will help you determine if they are a good fit as a supervisor.**
- Develop your ideas together with the supervisor, look for suited data and substantiate the topic (might take some time).

### Requirements for a topic

- The topic must fall under an elective course you have taken – therefore, choose your electives wisely.
- The thesis must include the use of data and the application of an empirical approach learned in the EBA program – it must not be purely qualitative (e.g., a literature review).

### Collaboration with a company

- If you have an offer from a company to write your master's thesis in cooperation with them, talk to a faculty member in whose field the topic is - all criteria for an EBA master's thesis must still be met.
- Sometimes departments are already collaborating with companies – your supervisor will offer you such an opportunity if your topic ideas fit.

## Starting the thesis

- Starting the master's thesis requires an approved application signed by the supervisor – the moment you receive the approval, your master thesis starts (the link to the registration form can be found under "Helpful Links" below).
- You have to select a topic for your master's thesis that you can complete within a six-month period.
- Once you start, enrol in the next master's thesis seminar (so look out for the enrolment periods) and plan enough time in between your concept presentation and your final presentation to be able to incorporate feedback to further improve your thesis.

## Writing the thesis

- Once you have finished the final presentation (your supervisor needs to be present for both, so inform them in advance), you will receive a so-called "Kolloquiumsschein". You need it for submitting your thesis.
- Requirements for length and citation style are best talked about with your supervisor but should generally follow general academic standards.
- You may write in German under special circumstances and in consultation with your supervisor, but the master's thesis seminar presentations must be given in English in all cases.
- There is a template for the thesis and other information on the thesis website.
- Use your supervisors help and their insight to improve your thesis but value their time – save multiple questions and ask them together, improve your work before talking to them again.

## Submitting the thesis

- After your final presentation in the master's thesis seminar and within 6 months of the start of writing, make sure your thesis meets all criteria and submit it as describe
  - You can use the [free plagiarism check offered by the student union](#) (website in German only)
- Grading times are dependent on multiple factors.
- The grading criteria are based on the same standard across departments and the thesis is worth 20 ECTS.
- The master's thesis colloquium and the master's thesis seminar together count for 4 ECTS - the individual credits depend on your starting semester.
- There is no defensio (defence of your master thesis) or master thesis test

## Helpful Links

[Registration document](#)  
 [What should my thesis be about?](#)  
 [JKU Thesis Website](#)  
 [EBA Handbook](#)  
 [EBA Curriculum](#)