MASTER’S PROGRAM IN COASTAL AND MARINE MANAGEMENT
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1. Introduction
The following instructions are for the master’s thesis in Coastal and Marine Management at the University Centre of the Westfjords. Thesis topics must be related to coastal and marine management and have relevancy for that field of study.

2. Guidelines for master’s degree thesis
Goals
A master’s thesis is the final project in the master’s program and is based on independent or work-related research and/or development project. The master’s thesis must be completed individually. The goal of the final project is to train students to employ academic working methods in an independent way.

Academic Honesty
All students must follow the University Centre's Academic Honesty Policy and fully respect intellectual property rights when writing their thesis.

Credits
The master’s thesis in Coastal and Marine Management normally earns 30 ECTS, but students may apply for permission to write a longer thesis and earn 60 ECTS.

The master’s thesis may not count for fewer than 30 ECTS.

Thesis Advisors
Students choose a thesis advisor in consultation with the program director. Any instructor in the program may serve as advisor. Students may also apply for an external advisor who fulfills the relevant conditions and requirements and has the necessary specialized knowledge and experience. The external advisor must be approved by the Master's program committee after consultation with the program director. (as for evtl. two advisors cf. p. 5)

External readers
All master's theses must be evaluated by the advisor and an external reader. The master’s program committee nominates external readers. Either the external reader or thesis advisor must be a faculty member of the University Centre of the Westfjords. Both must have specialized knowledge in the relevant field. Readers must have a master’s or doctoral degree and have extensive experience in the field of academia. When the advisor is not a faculty member and no appropriate external reader can be found within the faculty member team he/she can be nominated from outside the program. If a thesis is allotted two advisors, both of them, plus an external reader, will evaluate the thesis.
Program director's supervision of master’s theses

The master's program director in Coastal and Marine Management oversees the procedures and contents of all student theses.

The role of the program director is to make first contact with the students regarding the requirements, guidelines and completion of the master's thesis. However, it is the students’ responsibility to choose a topic. To that end, the student takes initiative in contacting the program director for consultation.

There will be an all class meeting outlining the expectations regarding the thesis, which will be followed by private meetings between the program director and the students. The purpose of these meetings is to assure that students are on track and ready to work on a successful thesis. The Coastal and Marine Management program is committed to partnering with its students to assure successful completion of the degree. As such, the program director will be available to answer student questions at the beginning of the process and throughout.

The primary duties of the academic director regarding the master’s thesis are:

- to take responsibility for the overall organization of the master’s thesis process
- to maintain a list of master’s theses including the names of each student, their advisor and external reader
- to inform students of the rules regarding master’s theses and take responsibility for helping students find advisors
- to give general guidance on working methods
- to advise and decide on the choice of specialists and external readers
- to inform advisors and external readers about program requirements, deadlines, and evaluation procedures
- to take responsibility for organizing public presentations (30 ECTS thesis) and thesis defenses (60 ECTS thesis) in consultation with the advisor, external reader, the department office and the student involved
- to assure each thesis fulfills the formal requirements set by the master’s program committee when it is sent to readers
- to resolve any matters in doubt, for example the choice of material or the division of duties between advisors (if there are two advisors)

If a formal or informal conflict of interest precludes the program director from fulfilling these duties in a given case, administrative rules (stjórnssýslureglur) apply and a substitute must be
found to counsel the thesis. If the program director is the advisor, the master’s program committee will assure that the tasks of the program director are fulfilled.

**The master’s program committee**

The master’s program committee at the University Centre of the Westfjords is the ultimate supervising body for matters concerning the program in Coastal and Marine Management. Among its roles is to review applications and approve study plans, to assess the quality of instruction, to approve instructors, to nominate readers for exams and theses, and to deal with other issues when so directed. The master’s program committee decides on its own formal procedures.

### 3. The roles, responsibilities and relationship of thesis advisor and student

The master’s thesis is the final project in the master’s degree program. Choosing a project and working on it is the student’s responsibility, in consultation with the student’s thesis advisor. In exceptional cases, with the approval of the program director, two advisors may be assigned to a student. In such cases, one of them must be the primary advisor. It is important that the division of duties be clear if a project has two advisors.

**The thesis advisor’s duties**

1. The advisor explains the requirements for the final project to the student and gives the student encouragement, guidance, and direction in his or her work.

2. The advisor gives the student guidance on the following matters:
   - deciding on the scope of the topic
   - finding sources
   - defining goals and research questions
   - preparing a research plan
   - gathering, processing, and analyzing research data
   - presenting results
   - advising on the general construction of the thesis
   - notifying relevant institutions when working with sensitive and personal data, for example the Offices of protection of privacy (Persónuvernd) or other institutions that deal with matter of ethics and justice (i.e. in Iceland Viðindasiðanefnd, the National Bioethics Committee). The advisor should guide the student to receive any necessary research authorization
3. The advisor follows the project’s progress and evaluates it with respect to the student’s research and study plan.

4. The advisor assists the student in resolving any problems which arise during the project, such as methodological issues or ethical issues in the student’s research.

5. The advisor, along with an external reader, is responsible for the final evaluation of the thesis and ensures that the student follows the academic honesty policy.

The student’s role

1. Students are responsible for their studies, and students in the master’s program are expected to work independently.

2. Students are responsible to keep contact with the program director after the first meeting as well as updating the program director regarding the progress of their work.

3. Students prepare a research plan in consultation with their thesis advisor, and create a schedule for the project and its completion.

4. Students, in consultation with their thesis advisor, determine what kind of guidance suits them best.

5. Students must take the initiative in negotiating meetings with their thesis advisor and in negotiating what work will take place between meetings.

6. Students complete the tasks which have been negotiated with their advisor.

7. Students permit their advisors to follow their progress in their project. This also applies to those periods when the student and the advisor do not meet.

8. Students regularly submit an overview of their research progress, based on a pre-determined schedule worked out between the student and his/her thesis advisor.

9. Students consult with their advisor about when the master’s thesis should be submitted for evaluation.

Communication between thesis advisors and students

There is no fixed schedule of communication for the student and his/her advisor. It is recommended that there should be approximately 60 minutes of meetings a week, while the thesis is in progress, for a total of no more than 15 meetings for a 30 ECTS thesis and no more than 30 meetings for a 60 ECTS thesis. The advisor and student make their own cooperative decisions about when to meet and the way they communicate. All communication about the final
project counts towards meeting time, including assistance, guidance, telephone calls, and so forth. For every hour of meeting time, it is estimated that the advisor will spend two hours on preparation.

**Communication difficulties**

If difficulties arise in communication between a student and his/her thesis advisor, for example if a student feels that the advisor is not providing appropriate guidance or is treating the student unfairly, the student should send a written complaint to the master's program committee.

4. Starting thesis work: Proposal and registration

**The research proposal for the master’s thesis**

In consultation with the program director, students submit a research proposal for their master’s thesis by April 30th. The research proposal is a formal declaration of how the student expects to carry out his or her research. The goal of the research plan is to define the scope of the thesis, explain its purpose, define the research questions and explain the research methods. The research proposal also includes a timetable for the project and an explanation of its scientific contribution. By the due date for the proposal, under the guidance of the program director, the student should optimally have found a thesis advisor.

The research proposal must include the following elements:

- Introduction to the project, description of the topic and delineation of its scope
- Explanation of the project’s goals, aims, research questions, and/or the issues on which the project is intended to cast light
- Justification for choosing the project and of how it relates to the student’s experience or future plans
- Brief description of the academic framework involved (the state of knowledge in the research area), including explanations of concepts, if applicable
- Explanation of the research methods which will be used, and how data will be collected, analyzed and processed
- Laboratory and field research, if applicable
- Discussion of ethical issues, if needed, and of what permits will be obtained for the research, if applicable
- Description of the scientific or practical value of the project
• Project timetable

Research proposal are normally about 3-5 pages long.

After submission, the master’s thesis’ research proposal is evaluated by the advisor and the program director.

The advisor and program director must approve the research proposal before the student may continue. Approval is always relative to current conditions and is valid until such time as the circumstances of the project require that the research proposal and project description be changed.

**Master’s thesis registration form**

After a research proposal has been approved, a master’s thesis registration form must be filled out (see appendix). The registration form is filled out in duplicate. The student keeps one copy and the program director the other. The registration form is signed by the student, the advisor, and the program director. The program director is responsible for sending copies to the appropriate parties. The registration form represents the University Centre of the Westfjords’ approval of the project and ensures that the student will receive guidance in its completion. Either the student or the advisor may notify the program director, if he or she feels that the agreement is not being upheld due to one of the parties not fulfilling his or her commitments.

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**5. Writing a master’s thesis**

**5.1 Research Journal**

Students must, from the beginning of their research, keep a journal of their work. The journal should be concise and specific. It will include an overview of all sources and data, how they are preserved, and their access and location as well as interviews, the identity of those interviewed the subjects discussed, and of anything which might later need to be recalled at short notice. Information provided orally should be written down, recorded, and approved by the source. The research journal is normally not turned in with the thesis, but is an important source for confirmation and validity of student’s research work. Thesis advisor and external reader may, when necessary, require student’s research journal.

**5.2 Format, length, and organization**

**Format**

The thesis must be turned in book form (A4 size), written in English. Students can apply to the Master’s program committee to write in Icelandic. In this case, the student must submit an
argument as to why it is relevant to write the thesis in Icelandic. If a thesis is written in Icelandic, it has to have an English summary, approximately one page or 200 words.

Length

There is no set length or fixed scope for the master’s thesis and the advisor will guide the student towards an appropriate length and approach. The length of the thesis may depend upon the ambitiousness of the research project, the approach used, or the amount of supporting data included. However, a typical 60 ECTS thesis might reach 80-130 pages (based on 250-300 words per text page) and a typical 30 ECTS thesis might reach some 50-60 pages.

Organization

The University Centre has no standardized master's thesis template except the guidelines provided in these master’s thesis directions.

Style

Please consult relevant literature and thesis advisor for acceptable thesis-style writing.

Title page

Students must use the template for the title page attached to these directions including the name of the author, the title of the thesis, the advisor’s name, month and year of submission as well as a statement that the thesis is a final master’s degree project at the University Centre of the Westfjords/University of Akureyri, including the number of credits to be achieved.

Abstract

The abstract describes the research project in more detail than the title. It highlights the research question(s), methods, major findings and brief summary of main conclusions. The abstract should be short (200 words), concise and carefully worded. By definition, the abstract is the last part of the thesis to be written.

Acknowledgements

If the student chooses to make acknowledgements, this is to be done on an extra page after the abstract and before the table of contents.

Table of Contents

A table of contents listing the page number of each major section and subsection of the thesis is required. If figures and tables are used, they are listed separately in the index of figures and the index of tables.
Introduction

The purpose of the introduction is to present the project and to show why it is important. The introduction gives the reasons why the author chose to carry out this research and discusses the purpose the research will serve. In the introduction the student places the issue/problem/project into the context of relevant literature with a brief but critical examination of the state of knowledge in the field including a description of local settings/issue/gap in the literature. It is important to make arguments for the research question(s) and project’s goals with reference to previous studies and research. At the end of the introduction there is a short description of the organization and contents of the paper.

Theoretical overview

In this section, the theoretical foundations of the project are discussed in depth and critically explored. It includes:

• Operationalization of terms: Major concepts are defined and their relationships are explained when appropriate.

• Literature review: Through description of the state of knowledge in the research field, it explains the importance of the current project and the knowledge and understanding that it hopes to contribute.

Research methods

This section describes the premises for the research methods selection and how the research was carried out: what was done and how it was done. A detailed explanation of the methods used and why they were chosen and their limitations is a necessary part of this section. Any deviations from previously published methods should be precisely described and reasons for the deviation explained.

The goal of the methods’ section in a research paper is to give the reader the information needed to evaluate the reliability and validity of the research results. The methods, procedures and data analysis must be thoroughly and clearly written so that they are repeatable.

Results

Here the data analysis and results are presented systematically. They should be presented in the same order as stated in the introduction. The text of the paper should present the results systematically, and data and main outcomes should be presented in figures and tables, if applicable.

Figures and tables should be presented independently but must be referred to in the main text. Figures and tables are to be numbered sequentially and must have legends and titles. Any lengthy presentations of detailed data should be placed in an appendix, which allows the data to be used to confirm the accuracy of descriptions, calculations, and other observations.
Discussion/conclusions

This section discusses, evaluates and interprets the project results. Results should be discussed in reference to the research questions or problems that were laid out in the introduction, regardless of whether answers to them were found or whether the goals which the researcher set were reached. It is necessary to show and describe internal relationships between the research results and highlight unexpected conclusions. The results and conclusions have to be put into a context of the scope of project/research and limitation of the applied research methods. It is important to take care not to repeat the research project’s results, which should have been fully presented in the previous section.

Discussion on findings is a critical debate of author’s principal contribution with the research project. It reflects its outcomes with the stated purpose in the introduction and relevant literature review. It implies possible input for reconstruction of knowledge and practical solutions. This section must also discuss future research, what outstanding problems remain and how they might be addressed.

Summary

Summarize the main results of the research project, why they are important, and what meaning they have for the relevant academic field. This section should be a direct continuation of the introduction. The introduction and summary should form a single whole which gives a clear picture of the goals and main conclusions of the research project.

Source citations and references

Care and diligence is necessary in the presentation of the material, source citations, and references in a master’s thesis. For citation questions and list references, students should consult with their advisor. Generally the APA reference guidelines are recommended, while students can, with their advisors’ acceptance, use other formatting and style guidelines.

6. Submission and graduation

6.1 Submission of a 30 ECTS thesis, open lecture and graduation

Due date

In student’s fourth semester she/he is expected to hand in two copies of the thesis, one to the advisor and the other to the program director. The due date for handing in the thesis is December 1st.
Open lecture: Introduction of thesis topic and findings

Students doing 30 ECTS project are obliged to give a presentation open to public where main findings of the project are introduced. This introduction is a requirement for graduation of a student. Timing and organization of the lecture will be set in cooperation with the program director, optimally soon after submitting the thesis. The introduction has to be done at the University Centre of the Westfjords, either in person at the Centre or through video-conference system, skype or other means of distance visual and oral communication systems. The student is expected to highlight the main aspect of the project, research question(s), methods, major findings and summary of main conclusions, in a 30 minutes lecture. Following the lecture 15-20 minutes are left for questions and discussion with the audience, lead by the program director.

Examination

Within three weeks from December 1\textsuperscript{st}, the thesis advisor, through the program director, will announce to the student if the thesis is acceptable and fulfills the minimum requirements for the degree. An external reader will then be nominated by the Master’s program committee. At this point, the advisor can propose last corrections. The student can, in accordance with the advisor, make final adjustments to the thesis.

The thesis is handed in again in two copies, one to the external reader and one to thesis advisor, latest January 5\textsuperscript{th}. Evaluation work of advisor and external reader is supposed to be finished before February 1\textsuperscript{st} with a written evaluation of the thesis. The evaluation will be made in accordance with the evaluation guidelines given in chapter 7 of this document and applicable learning outcomes for the program. In the written evaluation the student receives a grade for the thesis work. The evaluation is endorsed with the advisors, external readers and program director's signature. If the external reader and the advisor cannot agree on the evaluation, the final grade will be the average of the grades they submit (if the student has two advisors, their evaluations jointly count as one vote of equal value to that of the external reader).

If the final evaluation is conditional in any way, requirements for revision must be laid out by the advisor and external reader with the utmost clarity at that time. The student receives comments, electronically via e-mail, from the advisor and external reader as well as the copies that the thesis advisor and external reader used for evaluation progress. The University Centre will send the materials by post if requested. Costs of sending are at the expense of the student. In case of not fetching the materials personally, the student is responsible for having access to his/her University Centre e-mail account. The student provides necessary corrections before February 6\textsuperscript{th}. Thesis advisor and external reader will then receive the revised copy and, if the requirements of conditions are met, notify the program director with a revised written evaluation.

Handing in the final copy of the thesis and graduation

The final master’s thesis must be submitted in printed, triplicate format, as well as in “pdf” format no later than February 15\textsuperscript{th} to the program director. The copies, together with the thesis
confirmations by the advisor/external reader, are for the University of Akureyri and for the University Centre of the Westfjords. The third copy is to be returned to the student. The student is either handed out the third copy, or it is sent, together with the graduation certificate and the applicable learning outcomes as soon as they is issued by the University of Akureyri, normally no later than February 28th.

The University of Akureyri awards the MRM degree. Students may want to attend the graduation ceremony in Akureyri. The University Centre will invite students for its own graduation ceremony in the Westfjords annually on June 17th.

Within a month of graduation, titles and abstracts will be available on the University Centre's homepage. Students' entire theses will be made available on the University Centre homepage and/or on the central homepage for theses at University of Akureyri within one year of graduation. If the thesis is accepted for a publication in a scientific journal or comparable ways of publication, the Master's Study Committee can allow exception from publication on the University Centre's web site for a limited time.

In the case of unusual and unexpected circumstances, the student can apply to the Master’s program committee for an extended deadline and postponed graduation.

### 6.2 Submission of a 60 ECTS thesis, defense and graduation

**Due date**

In student’s fourth semester she/he is expected to hand in two copies of the thesis, one to the advisor and the other to the program director. The due date for handing in the thesis is December 1st.

**Examination and defense**

Within three weeks of December 1st, the thesis advisor, through the program director, will announce to the student if the thesis is acceptable and fulfills the minimum requirements for the degree. At this point, the advisor can propose last corrections. Students can, in accordance with their advisors, make final adjustments to the thesis.

An external reader will then be nominated by the Master’s program committee and a date for oral defense and examination will be announced. The oral defense will have to take place no later than February 1st and is a part of the student’s final grade.

Two copies of the thesis are handed in, one to the external reader and one to the thesis advisor, no later than January 5th. Evaluation work of advisor and external reader is supposed to be finished before February 1st with a written evaluation of the thesis. The evaluation will be made in accordance with the evaluation guidelines given in chapter 7 of this document and applicable learning outcomes for the program.
The 60 ECTS thesis is defended orally in Ísafjörður by the student. The defense is obligatory for students’ graduation and students’ performance is evaluated as a part of the grade for the thesis work.

The defense is a 30 minutes public presentation followed by open questions and then a closed/private examination and discussion of 30 minutes with the advisor, the external reader and the program director. Program director will lead the defence and discussion with the public. Either the external reader or the advisor can participate through video conference/skype or comparable technology. The University Centre is responsible for the travel costs of the advisor or external reader, but not of the student. In the oral presentation, the student has the opportunity to explain her/his work (30 minutes), by reviewing its main points and conclusions, discussing its weaknesses and strengths, explaining the value of the research project, correcting potential flaws and bringing up anything else that merits particular emphasis. Then the public, external readers and advisor have time for questions and discussions. After the oral presentation, the student has 30 minutes of oral examination/defense where the student is given change to defend and discuss his/her theses against the overall conclusions and critique of advisor and external reader.

When the defense is over, the student leaves the room and the advisor and external reader make their final evaluation of the master’s thesis. After the oral defense and examination the student receives a written evaluation of the thesis. The evaluation will be made in accordance with the evaluation guidelines given in chapter 7 and applicable learning outcomes for the program. In the written evaluation the student receives a grade for the thesis work. The evaluation is endorsed with advisors, external readers and program director’s signature. If the external reader and the advisor cannot agree on the evaluation, the final grade will be the average of the grades they submit (if the student has two advisors, their evaluations jointly count as one vote of equal value to that of the external reader).

If the final evaluation is conditional in any way, requirements for revision must be laid out by the advisor and external reader with the utmost clarity at that time. The student receives comments, electronically via e-mail, from the advisor and external reader as well as the copies that the thesis advisor and external reader used for the evaluation progress. The University Centre will send the materials by post if requested. Costs of sending are at the expense of the student. In case of not fetching the materials personally, the student is responsible for having access to his/her University Centre e-mail account. The student provides necessary corrections before February 6th. Thesis advisor and external reader will then receive the revised copy and, if the requirements of conditions where met, notify the program director with a revised written evaluation.

**Handing in the final copy of the thesis and graduation**

The final master’s thesis must be submitted in triplicate, as well as in “pdf” format no later than February 15th to the program director. The copies, together with the thesis confirmation by the advisor/external reader, are for the University of Akureyri and for the University Centre of the Westfjords. The third copy to be returned to the student. The student is either handed out the
third copy, or it is sent, together with the graduation certificate and the applicable learning outcomes as soon as they are issued by the University of Akureyri, normally not later than February 28th.

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In the case of unusual and unexpected circumstances, the student can apply to the Master’s program committee for an extended deadline and postponed graduation.

7. Thesis evaluation and grading

30 ECTS theses. Students who complete a 30 ECTS final master’s thesis are typically pursuing a work-related degree. Their final project generally consists of a research and development project which is often work-related.

60 ECTS research projects. In general, students who complete a 60 ECTS final project are pursuing a research degree and their final project involves scholarly research. In these projects more is expected of students in terms of research ability and methodological sophistication.

The advisor and external reader read through the thesis, evaluate it and return a written evaluation that will form a base for the final grade for the thesis. In evaluating a thesis, they must consider the following aspects:

- Organization and clarity of the material
- Approach and discussion
- Results and conclusions
- Technical presentation of figures or diagrams, if applicable

The following questions reflect the general criteria for evaluating master’s theses.

1. Is the thesis topic introduced at the beginning of the thesis in a satisfactory way? Is the choice of topic and its importance justified?
2. Are the goals of the project clear? Are the questions or problems that the project attempts to resolve explained clearly?

3. Is the project placed in its theoretical context (or its historical or social context if appropriate)? Is the theoretical framework of the topic explained well? Are the unresolved issues connected to the subject matter discussed?

4. Does the author explain his or her connection to the topic and the way in which his or her perspectives and position might influence the work?

5. Are sources chosen and used appropriately?

6. Does the author clearly explain the research methods used, how the research was carried out, the participants in it and how the data was processed?

7. Is the data handled and processed in a careful, analytical, and critical way? Are conclusions drawn with due caution? Does the author explain the limitations of the project?

8. Do the data analysis sections give an informative description of the research results?

9. How good is the presentation of the material? Is the thesis organized in a logical way with good transitions between sections? Does the thesis form a unified whole? Are its goals achieved and its research questions answered? Are the most important results and lessons from the research summarized in a conclusion?

10. How is the writing and layout of the thesis? Is visual information well laid out and presented, if applicable?

11. Does the author demonstrate creativity and inventiveness, or shed new light on the subject? What is the value of the project? Does it make a contribution to the knowledge in the field?

12. Are ethical matters or issues discussed, if applicable?

Criteria besides those mentioned here may depend on the nature of the subject matter. For example, differing criteria may apply to projects which involve qualitative and quantitative research methods.

The following table gives more detailed guidelines on the grading aspects and weight of each part. In the appendix to these directions advisors/external readers will find an evaluation form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theoretical discussion</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey, data collection</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis, proposals, discussion</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In a 60 ECTS-thesis, the defense is part of the grade: The student’s performance at the defense is considered independently and makes up 10% of the final grade.

Examiners also have to consider the learning outcomes for the program in the evaluation of thesis work and defense. Learning outcomes for the program will be given by the program director and examiners are obliged to take them into consideration, where applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Superb. The student shows exceptional ability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-9,5</td>
<td>Excellent. The student exceeds by far basic requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-8,5</td>
<td>Very good. The student meets the requirements well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-7,5</td>
<td>Good. The student meets the requirements for the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-6,5</td>
<td>Fair. Somewhat more than the minimum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-5,5</td>
<td>Acceptable. The project meets minimum requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4,5</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory. Does not fulfil minimum requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consistency in grading is very important. The following guidelines should be used:

The external reader and the advisor submit, to the program director, a written evaluation of the thesis, and explain their reasoning consistent with the norms of the thesis evaluation. If the program director judges that master’s projects have been graded in an inconsistent way, he/she makes suggestions in writing, explains the reasons and communicates them to the advisor and external reader. The advisor and the external reader must reply to the program director’s suggestions in writing before the grade can be posted, regardless of whether they take them into consideration. The program director receives grades and communicates them to the University Centre’s administrative director of education and teaching no later than February 5th.
University Centre of the Westfjords – Master’s thesis registration form

**Student**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Kennitala:</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Street address:</th>
<th>Telephone:</th>
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<th>Postcode and town:</th>
<th>E-mail:</th>
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**Final project**

<table>
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<th>Title of the project (in English):</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advisor:</th>
<th>Project contact person/program director:</th>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work will begin:</th>
<th>Work will end:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advisor’s signature:</th>
<th>Program director’s signature:</th>
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**Content**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description (background and goals):</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

Expected benefit from the project:

Keywords (5, in English):

External reader/defense/presentation:
Evaluation of the project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation category</th>
<th>Well done:</th>
<th>In need of improvement:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Theoretical discussion:</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research question, methods, scope.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Theoretical discussion:</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Theoretical foundation, discussion, use of sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Survey and data collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data analysis, proposals, discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project results</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>The thesis as a whole</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The goal of this form is to assist in grading. Yet, grades must be submitted on a separate grade registration form with the signatures of the advisor and external reader, not on this form.
Master's thesis

Thesis title (in 24 Franklin Gothic Book):
Subtitle in 16 Franklin Gothic book
Date and year in 14 Franklin Gothic book

Student name in 18 Franklin Gothic Book

Instructors: (Names of instructors) in 14 Franklin Gothic Book:

University of Akureyri
Faculty of Business and Science
University Centre of the Westfjords
Master of Resource Management: Coastal and Marine Management