Masterproefbeurs Elektrotechniek

Master thesis fair Electrical Engineering

2014-04-25
Master thesis

• How does it fit in your programme
• Doing the master thesis
  o Requirements
  o Assessment
• How to choose a subject
• Some links
The master thesis in your programme

• Master thesis = P&O / P&D
  o Research based
  o Working in a (very) small group (1 or 2 members)
  o Show initiative, independence, creativity, communication

• 24 credits or ± ½ year
  = 600 – 720 h of work (4 × P&O/P&D)
  = 75 – 90 days (9 to 5)
  = 15 – 18 weeks (40h/week)
  = 46 – 55 h/week in 13 weeks
⇒ good tuning to your course work required
The master thesis in your programme

Restrictions

• You must have obtained 48 credits in the previous year (stage 1)

• If in cooperation with a company, it may *not* be combined with
  o H03F6A (Industriële stage) / H00R0A (Practical Training in Industry)
  o H05W9A (Bedrijfservaring) / H00R1A (Business Experience)

  *in the same company*
Master thesis: requirements

• Make a plan: e-submission at time of ISP
  o Objectives
  o Important milestones with dates (≥ 3)
  o Amount of time planned for the thesis in each month

• Do the research

• Present the results: intermediate, final (December & end of June)

• Report the results:
  o 2 parts: • Main text, written in the master programme language
    (an exception is possible on motivated request)
    • English paper (IEEE-like) for everyone
  o Templates for text and paper available & obligatory
  o E-submission at the end of the academic year (deadlines are on Toledo)
Master thesis: assessment

• Assessment and marking/scoring:
  <eng.kuleuven.be/studenten/masterproef/beoordelingsrooster-masterproef-met-score.pdf>
  - Content: effort, dedication, originality, creativity, critical sense, results, independence, cooperation, problem solving, results versus goals
  - Text of the thesis: clarity, depth, conciseness, language, spelling, layout, figures (graphs, drawings, pictures,... and their captions)
  - English paper: ditto
  - Oral presentation: conciseness, clarity, language, slides, answers to questions, timing

• By whom?
  - Promoter(s): 40 %  (≥ 1 professor Ba/Ma EE)
  - Daily supervisor(s): 20 %  (≥ 1 KU Leuven researcher/professor)
  - Assessors: 40 %  (≥ 1 from research group, ≥ 1 outside research group)
Erasmus master thesis: assessment

- **Assessment by host university** (= exchange course)
  - Only for a full year exchange
  - You follow the rules of the host university
    ⇒ no KU Leuven jury needed
  - Score = Pass/Fail (no influence on grade)

- **Assessment by KU Leuven** (= KU Leuven course)
  - For exchanges < 1 year or on demand for full year exchanges
  - You follow the rules of the KU Leuven
    ⇒ a KU Leuven jury needed for follow-up and scoring
  - Score given by the KU Leuven jury (influences the grade)
    - KU Leuven standards for scoring are used
    - Scores of the host university can be used as additional input, not as score
How to choose a subject

• Subjects often available to all students, sometimes suited for one option only
  o Contact the promoter, when in doubt

• Working in a team may have advantages
  o A team of two is often more fun than a team with... yourself
  o You have somebody at hand to discuss ideas and problems
  o Students from different options can bundle knowledge

• Have a brilliant idea yourself?
  o Find a promoter and communicate to Anne Ons (00.55)
    • When in doubt, contact your option coordinator
How to choose a subject

• Use the fair to eliminate subjects
  o Find out what’s behind those titles and short descriptions
  o Today, 2 – 4 pm @ 00.57 & 00.62 & 02.58

• Contact the daily supervisor
  o Get detailed information about remaining subjects
  o Check him/her out ...

• Select a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice
  o Erasmus students: “Erasmus” + 2 fallback choices
  o Often you get your first choice (# subjects >> # students) but no guarantee
  o We try to get the best choice for everyone; if necessary, we consult you

• Submit your choices via web before May 16 2014, 2pm
  o To solve problems before the exam revision period (‘blok’)
References

Master Elektrotechniek

• www.esat.kuleuven.be/master/elektrotechniek/masterproef
• eng.kuleuven.be/onderwijs/studenten/masterproef

Master Electrical Engineering

• www.esat.kuleuven.be/master/ee/thesis
• eng.kuleuven.be/english/education/Masterpaper
Finally ...

I wish you

• a lot of success on your quest for a good subject;
• a lot of pleasure with your research;
• a lot of points on your transcript of records.

Luc Van Eycken