

EDITORIAL AND TYPOGRAPHIC GUIDELINES FOR THE FINAL ASSESSMENT PAPER

MASTER'S DEGREE in GLOBAL LAW MAKING

Overview

To meet the requirements for the Master's Degree, students must submit a research paper (thesis) on a topic approved by their supervisor. Students will defend their theses before a committee composed of professors and experts. The thesis is worth 18 ECTS.

As a general rule, theses must be written in English (Art. 2 of *Regolamento Prova Finale e Conseguimento Titolo del Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Global Law Making*).

However, if students participate in a Double Degree programme, they can write their thesis in the official language of the University partnering with the University of Trento. If the official language of the Partner University differs from English, the student must provide a synopsis in English and submit it to the Administrative and Student Support Offices (*Ufficio Offerta Formativa e Gestione Studenti*, (supportostudentiecorsi@unitn.it), as per the aforementioned *Regolamento*, Art. 8, §3.

Purpose of the thesis

Research papers must be the result of the students' individual work and efforts, and they must show their capacity to work autonomously, and to formulate and sustain an argument. Students must demonstrate how their arguments fit in the debates and in the research gaps of their field. Students may criticise, support, and of course expand existing works and ideas, contributing to the development of their academic community. The choices of topics and methods fall within the autonomy of the student, and they are subjected to the suggestions of the supervisor (as stated in the aforementioned *Regolamento*, Art. 3 and Art. 4, §2).

The role of the supervisor may be undertaken by any professor or researcher in the Faculty of Law, or by an external professor with a teaching assignment in the Faculty of Law. As a rule, the supervisor will be a professor or researcher with whom the student has taken at least one exam in the same scientific-disciplinary sector as the subject of the final assessment – also within the framework of Double Degree Programmes.

Requirements

The research paper must comply with the following indications:

- 1 The cover and front cover must be written in accordance with the ANNEX placed at the end of this document (ANNEX A);
- 2 Theses generally include:
 - Table of contents, followed by a dedication page (optional);
 - Introduction or preface;
 - Main body (usually consisting of well-defined subdivisions such as chapters, sections, parts, and so on);
 - Conclusion;
 - Bibliography and/or references;
 - Appendices (if applicable);
- 3 The Table of contents must include the indication of the pages on which chapters and paragraphs begin, or where figures and tables are placed;
- 4 **The thesis must contain the complete bibliography of all works cited in the text and in the footnotes (including cases and legislation):**
 - 4.1 Students may include additional relevant texts consulted but not used in the notes;
 - 4.2 Students must include websites they have consulted in the bibliography, reporting the date of the day when the webpage was last retrieved;
- 5 The bibliography's formatting should follow English/international standards, or the standards of the field and research area of the thesis;
- 6 The research paper must be paged on A4 sheets. The number of characters (spaces and bibliography included) may range between 120.000 and 150.000, but students should consult their supervisors to better discuss the appropriate length.

Formatting

- i. Font: Arial; body 12 (10 for the notes, footnotes); the margins of the page should be 3, 3, 3, 3; single line spacing; justified alignment; first line indents: 1 cm;
- ii. When writing the thesis, it is necessary to respect uniformity criteria, for example by using standards in the use of capital letters, abbreviations and acronyms.
- iii. You may specify which curriculum your thesis belongs to, choosing among
 - **“Legislative and Legal Drafting”**
 - **“Law and Policy for Energy and Ecological Transitions”**

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- **“Regulation of Digital Technologies”**
- **“International and Regional Governance”**

if these categories are applicable. Students and their supervisors should decide which profile is most appropriate;

- iv. Thesis formatting should conform to English or international standards for L.L.M. theses, or to the standards of the chosen research area. Students should consult their supervisor and be familiar with the standards adopted in their fields;
- v. The same principle applies to citation styles;
- vi. Figures and tables should be in UNI format (A4, A3, and so on). Students should consult their supervisors to discuss the methods for numbering tables, figures, illustrations and other such items and where to place them;
- vii. Students should add Alternative Text¹ to their images, illustrations, and similar elements.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense, and it will not be tolerated. The submission of final assessment papers that are the work of others as one's own constitutes a crime pursuant to art. 1 RD 475/1925 of the Italian law. Students are required to follow the highest standards of research ethics and integrity, and to abide by the Students' Honour Code and Code of ethics of the University of Trento. The University of Trento has adopted automated procedures for checking final assessment papers.

Students are responsible for their work and for learning the proper forms of citation. Students are expected to clearly distinguish their own ideas and reflections from other sources – including other people's thoughts and views expressed in non-academic sources or events. Students need to be aware of the fact that paraphrasing might constitute plagiarism, if poorly handled and/or without attributions. Students may reproduce images and tables by others and/or placed in other works only with proper citations and attribution (credits). Not remembering where relevant information was found is not an acceptable excuse for failing to provide sources. Self-plagiarism is also not excusable: theses must be original pieces of work, and students need to cite their previous works properly.

Any case of proven dishonesty leads to disciplinary sanctions at least. In the gravest cases, the master's degree can be revoked.

¹ Alternative Text is a brief text description that can be read by screen readers, making the content accessible when being read through assistive technology.



**UNIVERSITÀ
DI TRENTO**

**Facoltà di
Giurisprudenza**

**Master's Degree in
Global Law Making**

[THESIS TITLE]

**Supervisor
Professor
[Name Surname]**

**Graduating student
[Name Surname]**

[Immediately after the cover page, reproduce this page and specify whether the thesis falls into the “*Legislative and Legal Drafting*”, “*Law and Policy for Energy and Ecological Transitions*”, “*Regulation of Digital Technologies*”, or “*International and Regional Governance*” curriculum, if applicable – at the discretion of the student and their supervisor]

Academic Year 20.../20...