

Departement Pharmazeutische Wissenschaften



# Information for supervisors of Master's theses in the Master's program in Pharmacy,

# who are contacted directly by students regarding a project

## General information about the master thesis

The master thesis is an obligatory part of the master study Pharmacy. Admission to the Master's thesis is independent of the results in other courses in the Master's program. However, the bachelor's program must be completed in full. At the beginning of the master thesis a so-called study contract has to be filled out and signed accordingly. At the end of the Master's thesis, it is evaluated by the responsible lecturer and the grade, provided with the corresponding signatures, is reported to the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Science via the Study Coordination.

### Aim of the Master Thesis

The Master's thesis is intended to give students the opportunity to apply the skills they have acquired during their studies within a longer, completed project in the field of pharmaceutical research. The focus is on learning how to work independently and scientifically. In addition, the students will gain insight into the working methods of a scientific research group.

#### Supervision of the Master's thesis

The Master's thesis can be completed at the University of Basel or externally. In any case, the thesis is overseen by a responsible lecturer. The responsible lecturer must be a professor or a lecturer with a habilitation or equivalent qualification from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The responsibility can be delegated to external professors with the approval of the Teaching Commission.

The supervision of the Master's thesis can be delegated to other researchers with at least a Master's degree with the approval of the Teaching Commission. The responsibility in these cases also lies with the responsible lecturer.

### Assessment

The Master's thesis is evaluated by the responsible lecturer (if necessary in consultation with the supervisor) in steps of half grades. If the master's thesis receives a satisfactory grade (at least 4.0), 30 credit points are earned. A failed Master's thesis can be repeated once. The grade will be entered on the study contract and will be sent to the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Philology via the Study Coordination Pharmaceutical Sciences.

### **Procedure of the Master Thesis**

The master thesis takes 21 weeks and is completed with a written report within this time. The exact dates for starting and submitting the thesis are announced every year (see following figure).



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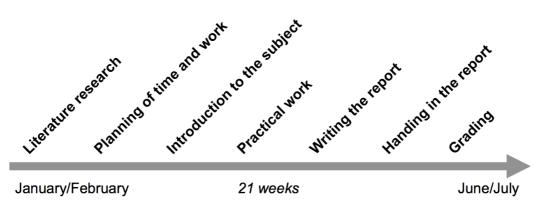


Fig.: Rough time schedule of the master thesis at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the University of Basel.

The master thesis should include the following tasks (see figure): time and work planning, literature research, familiarization with the topic and the practical research work. During the 21 weeks, the students receive an introduction to the necessary working methods and time for writing the work report. A copy of the written report is given to the responsible assessor and to the supervisor who sets the grade.

### Master's examination

Within 4 weeks after submission of the Master's thesis, the Master's examination is conducted in the form of a 30-minute oral colloquium on the topic of the Master's thesis and related areas. The examiners in the Master's examination are the responsible lecturer and, as a rule, the research person involved in the supervision of the Master's thesis. In exceptional cases and at the request of the responsible lecturer, the Teaching Commission may allow another appropriately qualified person to take his/her place. Grades are given in half steps. If the Master's examination is passed, 4 CP are acquired. In case of failure, the Master's examination can be repeated once.

#### **Publications**

The Master's thesis is an internal departmental examination paper and therefore cannot be cited. Publications resulting from it have to be agreed upon with the respective supervisors or the head of department.

#### Tasks of the supervisors

The workplace, equipment and required materials should be provided by the supervisors. For a good start, a short introduction of the students to the research project and the required working methods is essential. The main task is to supervise the students during their work and to integrate them into the team.

If you have any questions, please contact the Study Coordination of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pharmazentrum, Klingelbergstrasse 50, 4056 Basel, Tel. 061-207 15 53, E-mail: studienkoordination-pharma@unibas.ch.