

Writing the Master's Thesis as a Scientific Article

Instead of a traditional thesis in the form of a monograph, a Master's thesis can also have the form of **a scientific article published in a scientific journal or accepted for refereeing**, providing the student is the first author of the article.

The student shall already agree on a suitable journal with his or her supervisor in the early stages of the writing process!

An article accepted as a Master's thesis shall be written in one of the Faculty's research groups under the supervision of the leader of the research group or the supervisor of a Master's thesis group. In addition to the student and the supervisors, other persons taking part in the project can also contribute to the article as agreed. A research plan shall be composed for a thesis based on an article, to be approved by the research/thesis group supervisor.

The format of the article shall follow the instructions given by the chosen refereed publication. The article can be published in either a Finnish or a foreign journal with a refereeing process.

When an article is proposed for submission as a thesis, **a separate introductory part to be agreed on with the supervisor is included in the work, in which the student describes the research approach, process and methodology and discusses the significance of the research results from a broader viewpoint than would be possible in the article.** The student shall agree with the supervisor on the relative weight given to and the contents of this part of the study. The length of the text shall be around 20 pages and it shall also include the references to literature. The thesis supervisor and examiners assess whether the article manuscript corresponds to the requirements set for Master's theses in terms of scope and standard.

Both the article manuscript and the introduction are examined and evaluated as parts contributing to the Master's thesis. The thesis is evaluated when 1) the introduction is ready, 2) the supervisors consider the article manuscript to be ready for submission to the journal, and 3) the manuscript has been accepted for a refereeing process. An article-based thesis shall not be uploaded to the Laturi system following the instructions given to us by the library. However, before the thesis evaluated, it is put through the Urkund anti-plagiarism process as normal.

For more information, contact the supervisor of your research or Master's thesis group or the thesis coordinator:

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