
Roadmap for Master's Thesis Work

Introduction and purpose: This concise roadmap, designed to guide the implementation of key activities within the Masters' program, aims to ensure the timely completion of thesis work and enhance the overall quality of research work. Additionally, it serves as a tool for monitoring student progress and offering necessary support when needed. Aligned with existing guidelines and Senate Legislation, this roadmap provides a framework for students to concentrate on their studies effectively. The roadmap serves as a clear guide for ensuring the proper execution of student's thesis research. It consists of four consecutive and interrelated milestones which a student is expected to accomplish in the two semesters.

Milestone 1: Title Approval and Advisor Assignment (Second year - Semester I)

- This milestone requires students to submit three alternative titles along with brief abstract. The students must provide titles in his/her field of specialization based on the broad themes identified by the respective department. It also involves, scrutinizing and approving the title as well as assigning advisor to each student.

Milestone 2: Proposal Writing and Submission (First year - Semester I)

- This is proposal writing milestone, where students are expected to develop proposal, get feedbacks from advisors and submit the final version to the department after approval by the advisor. The final proposal document must include data collection tools.

Milestone 3: Field Data Collection and Thesis work (Second year - Semester II)

- This milestone represents a pivotal juncture in the progression of the master's thesis project. The major tasks encompassed within this milestone include the collection of field data, data cleansing and entry, data analysis, and the subsequent composition or write-up of the final thesis document. Furthermore, it entails careful corrections of thesis based on comments and feedback from advisors and preparing the final thesis for submission.

Milestone 4: Final Submission and Open Defense (Second year - Semester II)

- The last milestone entails the final submission of the thesis project and publicly defending it. As per the graduate research policy and guideline of the University (2023), students must submit the final thesis **2 weeks before** the scheduled defense date.

Academic Year	Semester	Major Expected Activities	Deadlines
Year 1	Semester I	Coursework (1 st Semester)	University Academic Cal.
	Semester II	Coursework (2 nd Semester)	University Academic Cal.
Year 2	Semester 1	Course work continued along with proposal writing side by side during first semester of second year. Milestones for thesis are:	September, Week 4 – February Week 1 (or based on academic calendar of ECSU)
		<i>Milestone 1: Title Approval and Advisor Assignment</i>	<i>October, Week 1- October, Week 4</i>
		- Title submission (including brief concept note)	October, Week 1- October, Week 2
		- Title evaluation and approval by DGC	October, Week 3
		- Advisor assignment by the department	October, Week 4
		<i>Milestone 2: Proposal Writing and Submission</i>	<i>November Week 1- January, Week 4 (or end of Semester 1)</i>
		- Proposal write-up	November, Week 1 – January, Week 2
		- Incorporating comments from advisors.	January, Week 3 - January, Week 4
- Submission of the final proposal to the department	February, Week 1		
Year 2	Semester II	<i>Milestone 3: Field Data Collection and Thesis work</i>	February, Week 2 – May, Week 1
		- Data collection, clearing and entry	February, Week 2 - March, Week 2
		- Data analysis and thesis write -up	March, Week 3- April, Week 4
		- Incorporating comments from the advisor	May, Week 1 – May, Week 2
		<i>Milestone 4: Final Submission and Open Defense</i>	
		- Final thesis submission and brief thesis status report	May, Week 3 or (Two weeks before the defense date and important to refer to academic calendar for defense date)
		- Open defense	June, Week 1 (or refer to academic calendar for defense date)
		- Final submission after open defense	With in two weeks after the defense date