

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	41058
Name	Master's final project
Cycle	Master's degree
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2001 - M.D. in Environmental and Territorial Management Techniques	Faculty of Geography and History	1	Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2001 - M.D. in Environmental and Territorial Management Techniques	5 - Master's final project	End Labour Studies

Coordination

Name	Department
ESCRIBANO PIZARRO, JAIME	195 - Geography

SUMMARY

Completion of a personal project related to one of the theoretical or practical subjects of the Master's Degree in which the student demonstrates that he/she is able to correctly apply the knowledge and techniques learnt and to present the results in an appropriate written and oral form.

With regard to the process of development, awarding, presentation and reading of the Master's thesis, what is established in the agreement of the Governing Council of the Universitat de València of 25 July 2017 (ACGUV 199/2017) will be followed. Chapter V: Master's thesis.

Link: <https://www.uv.es/uvweb/universidad/es/estudios-postgrado/masteres-oficiales/trabajo-fin-master-1285846160620.html>



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

None

OUTCOMES

2001 - M.D. in Environmental and Territorial Management Techniques

- Capacidad de realizar la planificación territorial: análisis, diagnóstico y propuestas.
- Capacidad de diseño, ejecución, seguimiento y evaluación de proyectos territoriales y estudios de impacto y auditorías ambientales.
- Análisis del medio físico de una manera integrada, interrelacionando sus componentes a partir del trabajo de campo y manejo de elementos cartográficos y toma de datos.
- Capacidad de analizar y caracterizar los procesos naturales y de degradación y evaluar las posibilidades de restauración medioambiental.
- Aprender a elaborar catálogos de paisaje y estudios de integración paisajística
- Capacidad de interrelacionar las hipótesis y planteamientos iniciales con la recogida de información, y la elaboración del discurso y de nuevas hipótesis.
- Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.
- Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.
- Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.
- Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.



- Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Search, select, review, and synthesis of information obtained.

Preparation of written work, according to the minimum formal rules: index, development headings, citations, conclusions, as well as sources and references where appropriate.

Public presentation and defense of the arguments.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Master's final project (TFM)

Completion of a personal project related to one of the theoretical or practical subjects of the master's degree, in which the student demonstrates that he/she is able to correctly apply the knowledge and techniques learnt and present the results in an appropriate way, both in writing and orally.

The Final Master's Thesis (TFM) aims to:

- i) That the students apply the knowledge acquired and demonstrate the maturity achieved in the learning process.
- ii) Introduce, where appropriate, students to the use of research tools and guide them towards doctoral studies.

The dissertation will be supervised by a university tutor, a PhD lecturer on the Master's programme, assigned by the Academic Coordination Committee (CCA).

The work will be defended before an examining board composed of three PhD members appointed by the Master's CCA.

This panel will evaluate and grade the dissertation in a public event. For this purpose, the student will prepare a 15-20 minute presentation, after which he/she will have to respond to comments or questions from the members of the panel for a maximum of 30 minutes.

The topic of the paper may be established by two procedures:

- (i) Students may propose a topic agreed with a lecturer, who acts as tutor. To do so, the corresponding form must be filled in and handed in where indicated on the form.
- ii) The teachers propose a list of topics from among those chosen by the students, making a prioritised proposal of three topics. The CCA approves the proposal of topics provided by the lecturers.

The coordination of the TFM awards the TFMs considering the requests made by the students. In the event of conflicts of preferences, the reasoned request will be resolved by academic record. The CCA



finally approves the assignment and the list of tutors.

2. Themes

The lines of research on which TFM can be proposed are, for example:

- Environmental cartography
- Remote sensing
- Geographic Information Systems
- Coastal geomorphology
- Fluvial geomorphology
- Mediterranean climatology
- Mediterranean flood hydrology
- Erosion processes and runoff generation on slopes
- Biogeography
- Natural and anthropogenic hazards
- Anthropogenic action
- Restoration of natural systems
- Natural and cultural landscape
- Global change
- Paleoenvironment
- Sustainable development
- Land-use planning and management
- Population
- Rural areas (depopulation, depopulation, rural development, etc.)
- Tourism and territory
- Evaluation of public policies
- Sustainable territorial development policies
- Territory and heritage
- Sustainable mobility
- Analysis of networks and services
- Urban systems
- Territorial planning of services and facilities
- Local productive systems and diffusion of innovations
- Local and regional development

3. TFM and External Practices (1st part)

The possibility is envisaged that students can carry out their TFM from their External Practices, but following a rigorous procedure to differentiate both products, so that they are clearly distinct (as their purposes are different). The idea is that two products are obtained from the same process.

The UV regulations specify that:

1.The TFM will consist of the completion of a report or project under the supervision of a tutor in which



the knowledge and competences acquired by the student throughout the degree are made evident.

2. This work will constitute an autonomous and personal task for the student. On the other hand, article 13 ap.b specifies that one of the ways of carrying out the TFM may be the following: work coordinated with work placements in companies or institutions, including the option of external work placements. In such a case, according to article 15.3

3. If the TFM is carried out in a different institution, organisation or company at the Universitat de València (UV), an external tutor must be appointed. This person will have to collaborate with the academic tutor in the definition of the content of the TFM and its development.

4. TFM and External Work Placement (2nd part)

1) When an application for an autopracicum is linked to the completion of a TFM, the person in charge of the company/tutor of the work must specify this in the application, specifying the tasks to be carried out during the internship period and the existing relationship with the TFM to be developed.

2) According to the postgraduate regulations of the University of Valencia, the TFM must be an autonomous and personal task of the student. To ensure this point, in the case of having opted for the modality of "work coordinated with internships in companies or institutions" (option indicated in the postgraduate regulations of the UV in article 13b), the student will indicate in the Introduction of the TFM the part of the work that has been carried out during the internship, and the personal contribution that corresponds to the TFM. The examining board shall also be provided with a copy of the student's work placement report in order to make an informed assessment.

3) The TFM must be carried out specifically for the completion of the subject within the framework of the master's degree, and, as indicated in the university's postgraduate regulations, it must be an autonomous and personal task for the student. It is not necessary for the work to be unpublished at the time of the reading, but, if it has resulted in a publication or communication at a congress in parallel to its completion during the enrolled course, the student must appear as the first author, and the tutor or tutors of the work may appear as co-author, if applicable.

**WORKLOAD**

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Graduation project		100
*Realización del Trabajo Fin de Máster	120,00	0
Presentación y defensa del Trabajo Fin de Máster	30,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The figure of the module coordinator will be established, whose competences will be as follows:

1. To specify -and annually review- the content and type of teaching staff for the module's theory classes and to guarantee teaching coordination.
2. To advise the tutors in relation to their function.
3. To deal with students' queries in relation to the activities of the module and in particular with the choice of assignments and tutors.

The Master's CAC will appoint a tutor for each student, taking into account the specific subject matter of the work chosen. The conditions for being tutors shall be governed by the University regulations.

The tutor will agree with the student the topic of the dissertation, guide him/her, supervise the process of elaboration and give the approval for its presentation and public defence.

It is the tutor's responsibility:

1. Set out the objectives and methodology of the research.
2. Advise the student on all aspects where necessary: bibliography, approach, theoretical focus, analytical tools, etc.
3. Discuss the results of the work with the student.
4. To issue a report on the work carried out by the student, which will be required to authorise the reading and will be considered as an element of assessment.
5. The commitment of the tutor and the student will be for one academic year. In the event of non-compliance or disagreements, the CCA of the master's degree or higher university bodies, as appropriate, will resolve the matter.

The TFM should follow the following guidelines (but highly recommended):



- Cover page. The cover page will include: name of the Master's degree, title of the dissertation, name of the student, name of the tutor, date and place (of the call), and reference to the Faculty and the University.
- Abstract in Spanish. The maximum length is 300 words, and must include the justification and objective of the research, methodology, main results and conclusion.
- Key words of the text in Spanish (3 to 5) (these should not already be included in the title of the TFM).
- Between 3 and 5 key ideas (NOT key words again) in Spanish as highlights (max. 15 words each of the key ideas).
- Index or table of contents, with indication of the pages.
- Alphabetical list of Acronyms / Abbreviations used in the text (if applicable).
- Text of the TFM, according to the following outline:

1. **Introduction and justification.** The problem or topics and the interest in studying them must be clearly stated, conceptualised and justified, followed by the clear formulation of one or more research questions, as a working hypothesis.
2. **Objectives, methodology and sources, areas or cases of study.** Based on the justification and state of the question, clear objectives, an appropriate methodology to achieve them, as well as the sources of information for all of this, must be set out. In this section, the areas or cases of study in which the research is carried out should be presented, justifying their suitability and/or relevance for the research.
3. **Theoretical-conceptual bases.** Based on the hypotheses or research questions, the relevant theoretical-conceptual contributions in the national and international literature, on which the research is based, must be set out.
4. **Results.** These must be presented clearly and concisely, arguing their importance and scope. They should not be mixed with the following section/chapter.
5. **Discussion.** This section is especially important, as it is here that, based on the results obtained, the research questions or hypotheses must be answered and interpreted in the light of the theoretical-conceptual bases extracted from the relevant national and international literature, collected and set out in chapter 3 (theoretical-conceptual bases).
6. **Conclusions.** These are not a simple summary of the results. They should serve to present a final, very global impression of the aspects that have been analysed, as well as to convey the implications of the research carried out in a broader context, demonstrating the real importance of the findings, in a scientific and/or applied perspective. It is recommended to compare the conclusions with the objectives of the work and to indicate if there have been anomalies, and also to point out the fulfilment, or not, of the initial hypothesis.
7. **Future directions.** Brief reflections should be introduced on what new perspectives, approaches, methodologies, data sources, areas of study, etc. should be taken into account in order to continue and advance the research or line of research.



8. **References.** The following is an indication of how to carry out this chapter.

9. **Annex(es).** To be added if necessary. In this part of the work, relevant materials are added to the work: summaries of the interviews, examples of questionnaires, complementary cartography or statistical tables, etc.

10. **Average mark/academic record of the master's degree** (available in the virtual secretary's office) **and CV (updated) of the student.**

The TFM will have the following characteristics and format:

- Its minimum length will be between 20,000-25,000 words (50-60 pages); including tables and figures (excluding annexes). The maximum total length (excluding annexes) should not exceed 100 pages (50,000 words).

- Regarding the Tables. They must be inserted in the corresponding place in the document in Word format, with Arabic and correlative numbering, and with a brief title at the top in Times New Roman, 12 point normal font. They shall be accompanied by the corresponding font at the bottom (Times New Roman, 10 point normal). For the data in the table, Times New Roman 10 point font should be used. Tables should never be inserted as an image, as the words included in them would no longer be counted, which would prevent the original from really conforming to these editing rules. If, when reviewing the final document, it is found that tables have been inserted as images, the author/s will be asked to make the appropriate changes to comply with these rules, with the corresponding reduction of the written text if necessary.

- Figures are understood to be anything other than tables produced directly by the student (photographs, graphs, diagrams, maps, images, charts, diagrams, etc.). They must be inserted in the appropriate place in the document and must fit the size of the page. They should be numbered in Arabic numerals and sequentially (Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.) indistinctly for photos, graphs, diagrams, maps, etc. They will have a short title in Times New Roman, 12 point normal font and their fonts will be indicated in Times New Roman 10 point normal font, taking into account the size in which the figures are inserted, so that legibility is not compromised. In this regard, it is very important that the texts that may be included in the figure (legend, for example) are equally legible, being at least of a size in the final reproduction equivalent to Times New Roman 10 point. Maps must be provided (as is the general rule) with north, scale and legend. Figures must be inserted inside the manuscript, with a minimum resolution of 300 DPI for subsequent publication. They may be in black and white or in colour. If, when reviewing the final document, it is found that the resolution is insufficient, the author/s will be asked to resubmit it with higher quality, thus postponing the final publication. In any case, for the final publication, it is recommended to prepare and send the figures independently, in jpf, tiff or similar format. This ensures a higher quality in the final reproduction.

- Abbreviations and acronyms should be spelled out clearly and clearly defined when they are used for the first time in the text. A list of abbreviations and acronyms will be included at the beginning of the paper, after the table of contents.

- Editing standards for papers are as follows:



- Font: Times New Roman 12 point.
- Line spacing: Multiple, 1.5 lines.
- Spacing after each paragraph: 0 points.- Page margins: Top and bottom: 2.5 cm; left and right: 3.0 cm.
- In-text citations:

Preferably double or English inverted commas ("....") should be used.

Short citations (up to 40 words) should appear within the text, between double inverted commas ('...'), never in italics.

When internal distinctions are necessary in a citation, single inverted commas ('...') should be used. If necessary, a space should be added between the single and double quotation marks ('...').

In the text, use APA (American Psychological Association) style, 7th edition (<https://apastyle.apa.org/>; <https://normas-apa.org/wp-content/uploads/Guia-Normas-APA-7ma-edicion.pdf>; <https://normas-apa.org>). Other sources of information can also be consulted for updates (<https://apa.org.es/normas-apa-actualizaciones/>).

For citations in the body of the text, the summary citation is entered in parentheses with the author's surname(s), followed by the year of publication.

When the quotation is verbatim, the page number or specific location of the sentence(s) in the original text is included.

Some cases are briefly detailed below, with practical examples:

i) In-text citation of a work with only one author:

When the surname(s) of the author(s) is part of the narrative, only the year of publication of the article is included in brackets:

(...) according to Alberdi (2018), dynamising local initiatives for agroecological promotion....

When the surname(s) and date of publication are not part of the narrative of the text, both elements are included in parentheses, separated by a comma:

(...) in a study on ecological and proximity agriculture... (Alberdi, 2018).

When the date and surname(s) are part of the sentence, they are not enclosed in parentheses:

(...) in 2018, Alberdi studied local agro-ecological promotion initiatives....

Where reference is made to more than one work by the same author and year, lower case letters should be used after the date to distinguish between them:

(Alberdi, 2011a); (Alberdi, 2011b).



ii) In-text citation of a work with more than one author:

Citation in the text of a work with two authors: both authors are always cited whenever the reference occurs in the text joined by "and" or "&":

(...) in a recent work on depopulation in Galicia (Pazo and Moragon, 2018), they propose....

Pazo and Moragon (2018) talk about ageing and depopulation as generalised facts...

In 2018, Pazo and Moragon point to depopulation as one of the most important socio-economic problems for Galicia....

Citation in the text of a work with three or more authors: the surname(s) of the first author(s) followed by "et al." and the year of publication.

Aldrey Vázquez et al. (2008) emphasise the demographic variables...

Blah, blah, blah (Aguilar et al., 2014). Blah, blah, blah...

In the event that two or more works are cited by different authors in the same reference, the surname (preferably, or, where appropriate, two surnames) and respective years of publication are written, separated by a semicolon within the same parenthesis, in the order in which they appear in the "references" section:

(...) in several investigations (Bock & Shucksmith, 2012a, 2012b; Camarero, 2015) concluded that....

These citations should always follow the order of seniority, with the oldest first.

• References:

The section will be entitled "References", will appear at the end of the article and will contain only the sources that support the research and that have been used for the preparation of the paper. This is why each entry in the list of references must be cited in the text.

References should appear in alphabetical order of the author's (or first author's) surname and in lower case.

Works by the same author are ordered chronologically, with the oldest appearing first. References to the author alone appear first, followed by works with other authors. When several works by the same author appear, the name is repeated for each entry.

If the documents have a DOI, it will be included as part of the reference. Also, as far as possible, the URLs of the references of documents available on the Internet should be included.

If the author is an entity, institution or group, the full name will appear in the place of the author's surname(s) and initial of the first name(s) in the reference.

References will respect the following structure:



Book: García Sanz, B. (1997). *La sociedad rural ante el siglo XXI*. Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación, Secretaria General Técnica.

Book chapter: Milbourne, P. (2010). Scaling and spacing welfare reform: making sense of welfare in rural places. In P. Milbourne (Ed.), *Welfare reform in rural places. Comparative perspectives* (pp. 1-17). Emerald.

Digital journal article with DOI (with volume): Camarero, L., and Sampedro, R (2019). Depopulation and transnational rurality. Crisis and rural roots in Castilla y León. *Economía agraria y recursos naturales*, 19(1), 59-82. <https://doi.org/10.7201/earn.2019.01.04>

Article from a digital journal with DOI (no volume): Lozano-Cabedo, C. (2012). Promoting female labour integration in rural areas. Evaluation of the impact of employment workshops in the Sierra de Segura (Jaén). *AGER: Revista de Estudios sobre Despoblación y Desarrollo Rural (Journal of Depopulation and Rural Development Studies)*, (12), 117-147. <https://doi.org/10.4422/ager.2011.04>

Online press article: Aznar, Y. (19 August 2010). *Rich town seeks neighbours*. ABC. Retrieved from <https://www.abc.es/20100819/sociedad/pueblo-rico-busca-vecinos-20100819.html>

Inclusive and non-sexist language should be used in the writing of articles. As a guideline, authors can refer, for example, to the document "Guidelines for the non-sexist use of language", from the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. This document is available on the following website: https://www.inmujeres.gob.es/servRecursos/formacion/GuiasLengNoSexista/docs/Guiaslenguajenosexista_.pdf. In particular, the recommendations of the Guidelines referring to the academic environment should be taken into account.

The TFM can be written entirely in English (British or American), except for the corresponding summary, key words and key ideas, which will be in Spanish. However, it is compulsory to reach an agreement with the TFM tutor beforehand. On the other hand, the public presentation and oral defence of the TFM, as well as the discussion derived from it, will be entirely in Spanish or Valencian.

EVALUATION

It will consist of the written presentation and subsequent public oral defence of the Master's Final Project before a panel of three members appointed by the Master's CCA. When the type of work makes it possible, people from outside the Master's programme may form part of this panel, who must in any case have a Postgraduate qualification, whether Master's or Doctorate, or the qualification determined by the University's regulations.

The **evaluation criteria** will be the following:

- Adequacy of the work to the content of the Master's degree.
- Ability to pose a problem, to collect and process information and to construct a logical argument.
- Rigour and clarity of the hypothesis put forward and the results obtained.



- Mastery of those techniques included in this Master's degree that are necessary for the specific work.
- Quality of the written presentation
- Quality of the oral presentation
- Ability to respond to the observations of the members of the examining board.

The final grade will be based on the following components:

- 1. Tutor's report: 20 %.**
- 2. Work presented: 60 %.**
- 3. Exhibition and public defence of the work, including responses to the observations of the selection board: 20 %.**

*Use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** programmes such as ChatGPT and similar:

Thanks to the IT service of the University of Valencia, the teaching staff of the master's degree has several anti-plagiarism programmes and artificial text detectors, which will offer one more criterion to evaluate the TFM, the result being decisive to reject the TFM in extreme cases (which would mean the failure in the appropriate call, having to resubmit the TFM in the next possible one).

The use of AI in itself is not penalised in this Master's degree; on the contrary, it is considered to be another tool for searching for information. However, in order to give it this consideration, it is compulsory to indicate in the text, by the student, its use in the preparation of the dissertation and what it has meant for the dissertation: how it has been used, what it has been used for, whether the tutor has been notified of its use, etc.

Therefore, reference should be made to all AI tool content included in the dissertation. Failure to make reference to this type of external sources will be considered as presenting a non-original work, which will be considered as an obvious academic misconduct (and consequent failure).

The tutor will provide guidance on how to make reference to the use of AI tools. Some possible examples are:

- i) Cite their use in the text, also including this in the references of the work.
- ii) Include their use in the methodological section, clearly explaining how they have been used, for what purpose, etc.
- iii) Provide an annex with a complete transcription of the questions and answers generated by the AI.

Examples of how to cite the use of AI (according to APA 7th ed.):

(OpenAI, 2022)



OpenAI (2022)

Example of how to reference the use of AI (according to APA 7ema ed.):

OpenAI (2022). ChatGPT (Dec 20 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

*Author of AI model used (Year of AI model used). Name of AI model used (Version of AI model used)
[Type or description of AI model used]. Web address of AI model used.*

REFERENCES

Basic

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