COURSE DATA

Data Subject	
Code	44416
Name	Master's final project
Cycle	Master's degree
ECTS Credits	15.0
Academic year	2024 - 2025

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2207 - Master's Degree in Language and Literature Research	Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication	1	Annual

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2207 - Master's Degree in Language and Literature Research	3 - Master's final project	End Labour Studies

Coordination

Name	Department
RICOS VIDAL, AMPARO	150 - Spanish

SUMMARY

The Master’s final project is the preparation of a report or project, under the supervision of a tutor, where the student shows the knowledge and skills acquired throughout the MA programme. This project is an autonomous and personal task.

The project must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the degree verification report. Given the research nature of this degree, the Master’s final project must reflect the competences and knowledge acquired throughout the programme. Moreover, it constitutes the students’ first research work, which may be the basis of the basis of a future doctoral thesis.

The modalities for presenting the Master’s final project are as follows:

a) Bibliographic review and research or experimental work.

b) Bibliographic review and research or experimental work, produced as a result of a stay at a different (Spanish or foreign) university.

In any case, that project comes into being as a written report or project, which includes material deemed relevant.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

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

Other requirements

To be eligible for the defence and assessment of the Masters final project, it is necessary to have passed all 45 ECTS corresponding to the rest of the modules in this Masters Degree.

COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)

2207 - Master's Degree in Language and Literature Research

- To acquire an interest in encouraging, through academic and professional concepts, the scientific, social and cultural progress of a society based on the knowledge of the field of languages and literatures.
- To be capable of conceiving, designing and implementing a research process in the field of languages and literatures with responsibility and scientific rigour.
- To be able to contribute, through monographs, analytical works, and, especially, the Master's Thesis, to expanding the boundaries of knowledge by developing a corpus worthy of publication.
- To develop an ethical commitment, focusing on aspects such as gender equality, equality of opportunities, values of culture of peace, democratic values and environmental and sustainability issues, as well as the knowledge and appreciation of diversity and multiculturalism.
- To acquire the appropriate methodologies for scientific research in languages and literatures.
- To have a good command of the different techniques and methodologies for analysing and interpreting complex texts from a formal and/or conceptual standpoint.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to produce critical editions, bilingual editions, and translations of literary, philosophical, historical, or scientific texts in one of the languages ¿¿studied in the Master's program, in order to provide a material basis for cross-disciplinary studies.
- To be capable of locating, managing and synthesising specialised bibliographic information, in both the target language used in the Masters Degree and other modern languages, either in libraries or in physical or online archives.

- Demonstrate knowledge and experience in using specific computer tools, programs, and applications for research in the field of Philology.
- To acquire the sufficient knowledge for approaching texts scientifically from different contextual perspectives.
- Know how to apply acquired knowledge and problem-solving skills in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their area of study.
- To be able to integrate knowledge and face the complexity of formulating judgments from information that, being incomplete or limited, includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.
- Know how to communicate your conclusions (and the underlying knowledge and reasons) to both specialist and non-specialist audiences in a clear and unambiguous way.
- Possess the learning skills that will allow them to continue studying in a way that will be largely self-directed or autonomous.
- Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)

At the end of this module, students must:

- have knowledge of and research methodologies for different fields applicable to these distinctly interdisciplinary areas of knowledge;

- be able to design and plan an academic research project in the field of languages and literatures;

- be able to critically assess the theories, methodologies and results of their research in the field of languages and literatures;

- be able to argue, in a clear and informed way, the results of the project, both in writing and orally;

- critically assess the social and ethical implications and responsibilities of their decisions as researchers.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Supervised research project

The aim of this project is for the student to show the application of the competencies acquired to carry out academic research within the research areas of the teachers in the Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication appearing in VERIFICA:
- Language research. Synchronic perspectives.
- Language research. Diachronic perspectives.
- Literature research. Synchronic perspectives.
- Literature research. Diachronic perspectives.
- Philological editing of texts.

- Contrastive studies in languages and literatures.
- Studies in applied languages and literatures.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Graduation project		100
*Realización del Trabajo Fin de Máster	360,00	0
Seguimiento i tutorización del Trabajo Fin de Máster	12,00	0
Presentación y defensa del Trabajo Fin de Máster	3,00	0
TOTAL	**375,00**	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The training activities consist mainly of seminars, small-group and individual tutorials and, particularly, the student's autonomous work.

In-class activity is reduced to an indicative maximum of 5% of the total workload. Even so, students count on the supervision and advice from their project's supervisor available at all times.

Autonomous work is enhanced. Students put into practice the knowledge, techniques, methodologies and the rest of skills acquired in the Master's Degree.

EVALUATION

The Academic Board of each master's degree programme will set specific guidelines and criteria to standardise the preparation and evaluation of the master's degree final dissertations.

Upon this premise, the following guidelines have been approved by the Academic Board and the UV Postgraduate Commission. The specific documentation referred hereby will be published in the Virtual Learning Environment (*Moodle*) of the master's degree.

1. Style guidelines for submission of the MA final dissertation (MFD)

1.1. Layout and style

The MFD must include the following sections and follow the subsequent layout:

- Title page (similar to the one shown in Annex I)
- Table of contents (with page number for each section)
- Theme(s) and rationale for the study
- Definition of the research objectives
- Description of the propose methodology for the research
- Brief review of the literature (state-of-the-art) on the field of study
- Analysis and discussion of the subject or theme
- Conclusions

- Bibliographical references of the research consulted and cited in the text
- Other additional materials (annexes, appendices, corpus, databases, audiovisual materials on CD or DVD, etc.).

The MFD must be an original contribution. Therefore, the critical review of the literature will not exceed one third of the total length.

1.2. Length

Approximately between 60 and 80 pages, excluding annexes.

1.3. Language of the dissertation

The MFD can be written in any language studied in the Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication, besides the two official languages of the UV: Catalan and Spanish, if this is agreed between the candidate and the tutor of the MFD.

In accordance with UV regulations for PhD theses, students who write their MFD in a foreign language must additionally submit a summary – equivalent to a 10% of the total number of words – in one of the two official languages.

1.3. Format

The MFD must be submitted word-processed, with the following page layout:

- Margins: 3 cm on each margin
- Font: Times New Roman 12 for main text and 10 for footnotes and quotes.
- Line spacing: 1.5 cm (no space between paragraphs)
- Text layout: justified (left and right)
- 1-cm indentation on the first line of each paragraph.
- Paper size: DIN A4
- Pages must be numbered (except for title page).

The MFD must comply with formal criteria at all times: font and typeface, spacing and margins, headings, citation system in the text and in the final bibliography, etc.

1.4. Ethical standards

The UV formally adopts and respects widely known ethical standards in academia as regards the use of the work published by other researchers. The contribution of the MFD must be individual, original and personal.

2. Supervising

All MFD will be supervised by at least one academic.

It is required that MFD supervisors hold a PhD and at least a six-year research period (unless otherwise authorised by the master’s Academic Board).

Students on mobility programmes can do their MFD at the host institution with the approval of the Academic Board; and must have a supervisor from the UV.

3. Assignment of the MFD and supervisor

The topic of the work will be established by mutual agreement between the student and his/her tutor. In any case, the Academic Coordination Committee will organize and guarantee the assignment of topic and tutor for all enrolled students. The calendar of the MDF selection process for each year is published on the Master's web page.

Students will fill out the MDF registration form, which will be available on the website and in the virtual classroom, for approval by the CCA.

4. Procedure for submission

The MFD supervisor must approve the final submission of the project by signing the requested document. This is a sine qua non condition for submission and assessment. Once approved, students must submit their MFD through the UV virtual system ENTREU or on-site at the Registrar's Office of the Faculty.

The submission must include a summary of the thesis in three languages (please, check the template available at the master's degree website).

Final submission must then include:

- A copy of the abstract / summary in electronic format
- The application form (with the supervisor's approval)
- Four hard copies of the MFD (to be distributed among the supervisor and the members of the examining board).

The supervisor will submit a brief report on the dissertation to the chair of the examining board.

5. Defence and evaluation

Students must defend their final projects in public before their corresponding Examining Boards.

Final projects must be defended orally in a public reading. Students must formally defend their selection of topic, the research method followed, the results obtained and any further aspects that may be of relevance.

The Board will be chaired by the doctor with the highest academic rank / the most senior, who will allot turns of interventions and time of both the candidate and the Board members. The candidate will be given some time to reply after the turns of the Board. It is recommended that the defence should not last more than 15 minutes and that the subsequent debate be limited to 30 minutes.

The defence should help the Board assess the student's knowledge and intellectual maturity. Hence, the contents of the defence should in no way be a summary of the written work.

The oral defence will be part of the assessment of the final project. Therefore, the candidate must adhere to the conventions of academic oral discourse regarding formal register, forms of address, speaking times or aspects of non-verbal communication.

The defence must take place within the academic year in which the student has enrolled.

As a guide to the Board for assessment, the following aspects will be taken into consideration:

FINAL PROJECT REPORT (up to 80%)

- Presentation (up to 10%)
- Structure and contents (up to 40%)
- Bibliography (up to 10%)
- Relationship among objectives, methodologies and results (up to 20%)

PUBLIC DEFENCE (up to 20%)

In the event that the three members of the Board deem that a final project is not eligible for assessment, they may communicate so to the Master's Academic Board. The latter may decide to revoke the approval and order the student to elaborate the project again.

The final project may be presented in two calls per academic year and several defence periods. The closing date for submitting the application must be on the 10th of the last month within the defence period).

1) The defence periods for the first call are as follows:

i. From October 1st to November 30th. (Submission until November 10th).

ii. From December 1st to January 31st. (Submission until January 10th).

iii. From February 1st to March 31st. (Submission until March 10th).

iv. From April 1st to May 31st. (Submission until May 10th).

v. From June 1st to July 25th. (Submission until July 10th).

2) The defence periods for the second call are as follows:

i. From September 1st to September 14th. (Submission until September 08th).

The final marks of the candidates in each of the defence periods will be gathered in an official transcript issued be the School Registrar's Office. This transcript must be filled in within the five days following the end of each period.

6. Assessment Board

Supervisors will propose three members for the Assessment Board after submission of the MA thesis (**annex IV**), which must be approved by the Master's Academic Board.

All faculty (PhD) of the School of Philology, Translation and Communication are eligible for Board members, as long as they have some expertise in the research line of the project. Supervisors are not allowed to be members of the Examining Board.

The Board will issue a report for each project defence, specifying day and time of the defence and the mark obtained. They may also nominate a candidate for the Honours distinction, on the basis of their merits This document must be submitted to the Master's Director.

7. Marks

The mark of the final project may be appealed in accordance with the appealing regulations in force at the UV.

The Honours distinctions will be awarded to those students nominated by the Examining Boards. To that effect, the Honours will be awarded in a meeting of the Academic Board, once all MA theses have been defended.

Thus, the final award of Honours distinctions will only take place once all defence periods have ended.

8. Applicable regulation

- http://www.uv.es/uvweb/universidad/ca/estudios-postgrado/masteres-oficiales/trabajo-fin-master-1285846160620.html

- http://www.uv.es/fatwireed/userfiles/file/Reglament_Treball_Fi_M%C3%A0ster_cst.pdf

Intellectual honesty is vital to an academic community, and for the fair evaluation of students' work. The work submitted for this course must be originally authored by every student. No student shall engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software.

REFERENCES

Basic

- Colás Bravo, Mª Pilar, Leonor Buendía Eisman y Fuensanta Hernández Pina (coords.) (2009): Competencias científicas para la realización de una tesis doctoral: guía metodológica de elaboración y presentación. Barcelona: Davinci Continental.
- Coromina, Eusebi, Xavier Casacuberta y Dolors Quintana (2000): El trabajo de investigación: el proceso de elaboración, la memoria escrita, la exposición oral y los recursos: guía del estudiante. Barcelona: Octaedro, 2002.
- Eco, Umberto (1977): Cómo se hace una tesis: técnicas y procedimientos de estudio, investigación y escritura. Barcelona: Gedisa, 1982.
- Phillips, Estelle M. y Derek S. Pugh (2008): La tesis doctoral: cómo escribirla y defenderla: un manual para estudiantes y sus directores. Barcelona: Bresca.

Additional

- Dependerán del tema objeto de estudio en cada caso./ Dependran del tema objecte d'estudi