



澳門大學
UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU
UNIVERSITY OF MACAU

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE PROGRAM

GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF APPLIED THESIS¹

The Master of Science (MSc) in Finance Program of the Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) allows students to opt for either Academic Thesis or Applied Thesis to fulfil their research component of the program. An Applied Thesis is a 3-credit thesis applicable to students from 2014 intake and onwards. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 after completion of course work and thesis oral defense is required for graduation.

Normally a thesis supervisor should be an instructor from the Faculty of Business Administration, but as an Applied Thesis is more practical in nature, part-time instructors or field experts may also be invited from outside the faculty or University to serve as co-supervisors for students if circumstances require. Please note that the co-supervision system is strictly applicable to Applied Thesis.

To be eligible to supervise, a co-supervisor must fulfill the following requirements:

1. with substantial related professional / teaching experience;
2. with professional qualification(s) e.g. CFA, CFP, or equivalent;
3. master degree holder.

The co-supervisor must work together with a principal supervisor, who must be an academic staff from the Faculty of Business Administration. Thesis proposals written under co-supervision must be recommended by the Program Coordinator of the MSc in Finance Program and approved by the Dean of FBA before submission to the Faculty of Business Administration Graduate Studies Committee (FBAGSC) for approval.

To begin writing, students should decide the research topic and direction of their thesis. The thesis nature is restricted to original piece of applied research or practical case study in the

¹ The items mentioned in this general framework are for reference only. The supervisor and student can make amendments that are deemed necessary.

area of Finance or Business Economics. An Applied Thesis should include the following sections:

I. Problem Diagnosis

- Describing the background
- Identifying the main problems of study

II. Action Planning

- Reviewing relevant literature
- Considering alternative course of action

III. Action Taking and Evaluating

- Selecting a course of action
- Collecting data
- Evaluating the consequence of an action

IV. Specifying Learning Outcomes

- Identifying general findings
- Reflections and conclusion

Similar to requirements of other master degree programs of the faculty, the thesis should carry around 10,000 to 25,000 words and must be orally defended. The normal duration of Applied Thesis writing should be one semester. Upon successful thesis oral defense, a grade / classification will be awarded.



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PROPOSAL GUIDELINES OF APPLIED THESIS

This document contains general principles for students of the Master of Science (MSc) in Finance Program of the Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) to prepare a thesis proposal for their Applied Thesis.

For students from 2014 intake and onwards, a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 after completion of course work and thesis oral defense is required for graduation.

Proposal Content

A thesis proposal is limited to 10 pages, excluding the cover page, tables and figures in the appendix. It should be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font in 1.5 line spacing and printed on double sides of the paper. The reference / bibliography should follow journal formats.

Following is a suggested format for a thesis proposal.

I. Cover Page

The cover page should include the following elements;

Thesis title

Your full name

Name of institution

Degree sought

Name of supervisor

Name of co-supervisor (if any)

Date of submission

II. Abstract (no more than 200 words)

The abstract should clearly identify the background information of the research problem, the subject under study and the relevant research methodology. Emphasis should be put on the

practical implications of the research findings.

III. Problem Diagnosis

The introduction is to provide readers with the background information of the main research problem(s). The purpose is to explain why the problem(s) is worth researching and the relevance for the subject under study.

IV. Action Planning

In this section, you should provide descriptions about the overall research design and operational procedures for solving the research problem (s), including data collection and analytical methods. A preliminary review of relevant conceptual materials should also be included.

V. References

The reference section should list out all the references cited in the thesis proposal.

Proposal Submission

When the thesis proposal is ready for submission, students must complete and submit the “Thesis Topic and Proposal Form” along with thesis proposal to the Postgraduate Office of FBA. After obtaining decision and comments from the Faculty of Business Administration Graduate Studies Committee (FBAGSC) on the thesis proposal, students will be notified the result. ***Any subsequent changes (thesis topic, supervisor, etc.) may require the submission of a new proposal and are subject to approval of the FBAGSC.***