

63134 - Master's Dissertation

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2020/21

Subject: 63134 - Master's Dissertation

Faculty / School: 107 - Facultad de Educación

Degree: 330 - Complementos de formación Máster/Doctorado
573 - Master's in Lifelong Learning: Introduction to Research

ECTS: 15.0

Year: XX

Semester: Annual

Subject Type: ---

Module: ---

1.General information

1.1.Aims of the course

Within the structure of the Master's studies, the Final Master's Project constitutes a practical activity in which the student has to develop an activity that allows to develop the competences of the whole degree. In this case, the TFM is a subject organized around the realization of a research work supervised by a teacher belonging to the knowledge areas that are part of the degree.

1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

As it has been indicated, it is a compulsory subject that defines the research character of the master's degree and that requires having developed the competences that define the degree.

1.3.Recommendations to take this course

2.Learning goals

2.1.Competences

The Master's Thesis is conceived as the final part of the master's degree through which the competences acquired within it are developed. Given the workload assigned to it, it is distributed throughout the course, with three dates for possible defense, first call before the summer, second, after the same in September, and third in December. There will also be a February call for second enrollment TFM.

Its peculiarity is that the evaluation of the same has to be done in a court and once the rest of the subjects of the master have been passed, so even if the registration is made at the beginning of the course.

In the case of part-time students, enrollment is recommended in the second year, although throughout the first year, it is recommended to establish a possible line for the development of the same to limit the work within the subjects towards the same. The choice of research area and / or director for the TFM is made on the dates indicated in the academic calendar of the master each year.

2.2.Learning goals

1. Base, design and plan research and develop innovative proposals in the field of Lifelong Learning
2. Develop different procedures to carry out the investigation and collect the data
3. Analyze the data generated from the design of the research and draw the conclusions derived from them
4. Prepare research reports and defend them in public before specialized public

2.3.Importance of learning goals

1. Good knowledge of the concepts included in it, relating them and comparing them with others nearby, with the theories that support them and with the operational definitions that are derived.
2. An adequate argumentation of a sequence of ideas that lead him to identify a research problem, justifying the need to deepen in it.
3. Adequate support of the research carried out in the same field by other authors, providing both recent and classic data on the subject, which requires the use of scientific databases.
4. The formulation of the research objectives and the hypotheses derived from the justification of the subject.
5. The decision making about the research design, which requires determining a research methodology justifying the relationship between the method and the objectives and hypotheses, the delimitation of the variables, the selection of an accessible and valid sample, the determination of investigation procedures and data collection.

6. The analysis of the data based on the nature of the variables applying the technical or statistical procedures necessary in each case, justifying their use, proposing different alternatives and drawing conclusions derived from the data found.
7. Formulate some general conclusions of the research, integrate them with the knowledge and previous research and recognize both the contributions they entail and the critical aspects derived from the research procedure followed.
8. Present this process in a written format, following the existing agreements on scientific publications (for example the APA format and the publication norms of a scientific journal or congress), with an adequate and sufficient management of both oral expression and written.
9. Present in oral format, with the support of technologies, the decision-making process followed, the justification of the same and the conclusions obtained, adapting to a context limited by the exposure time, the technologies used and the target audience.

3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

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4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

The basic learning process planned for this subject involves the individual development of an investigation in an area of interest chosen by the student, counting on the supervision of a director who will guide and guide the student throughout the process. The task of direction may be assumed by one or several professors from areas of knowledge linked to the master who have offered research lines within it.

There are two options:

1. Master's Thesis following the structure of the research report.
2. Final Master's work by article.

See detailed information on this link

4.2. Learning tasks

As of the 2018/2019 academic year, students have the possibility of presenting their Master's Final Projects per article. The general rules of presentation of the manuscript as well as the traditional method of delivery, must follow APA regulations, whose general guidelines have been set out in previous pages.

This modality of TFM allows the student to present their work through a research article that will follow the norms of a scientific journal of recognized prestige in their field of knowledge (indexed in SCOPUS). This article may be sent to the journal in the course or courses in which the student is enrolled, although the research may have begun one year earlier. The article may be accepted for publication. This type of work should gather:

- Scientific impact
- Social impact

That is, not only will it be a scientific article, but it will also collect a part of social impact that we will later point out.

The decision to perform the TFM by article must be made by the student after reflecting on the characteristics of the same in comparison with the alternative of the other type of TFM. Once the decision to carry out the TFM by article has been made, the steps to be followed by the student will be:

- Present to the director of the TFM the object of their research project, the methodology, the information sources and the data collection so that together they determine the strategy to elaborate the TFM by article around a defined theme (Francis et al. 2009). The relationships between the student and the director must be more intense than the traditional TFM, both in the training and in the co-authorship of the article proposal (Dowling, et al., 2012).
- Realization of the research, writing of the article, which may be in Spanish, English or in both languages.
- Preparation of the report that must be submitted on the date set for it.

The conditions to present the TFM by article are:

? The student must be listed as 1st or 2nd author and will not exceed four authors.

? In the authorship will be the address and the student. If there is another author, there must be an express permission to be in the article.

The report that the student must present must include the following:

- Have the express authorization of its director and directors. And if it were the case, authorization of the other authors to appear in the article.
- Justification of the election of the TFM by article and of the journal that has been chosen (no more than 2 pages).
- Scientific article following the rules of the chosen scientific journal (it must be of recognized prestige in its field of knowledge (indexed in SCOPUS)).
- Justification of the social impact of the article (2 pages), that is, to indicate and describe what transferability has the work done in the socio-educational improvement.

4.3. Syllabus

4.4. Course planning and calendar

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources