



INRM Master thesis orientation

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One way to proceed

- General objective: Conduct own scientific or science-oriented research, guided by a supervisor
- Summer/Autumn: Contact possible main supervisors
 - Check for fit of their topics, competences and availability in relation to your interests and skills
 - Know specific procedures, depending on potential supervisor
 - Be pro-active: In Germany, professors usually don't approach you for a thesis
- Autumn: Agree on topic, read background material, plan your research
 - Plan needs to be agreed with the supervisor
 - Formally, the supervisor suggests the topic, not you
 - After some reading and thinking, adjustments of topic might be possible (but not after official registration)
 - If you consider field work or collecting own data, schedule additional time (sufficiently ahead)





One way, ctd.

- Winter/Spring: Conduct your research
 - Intensity of supervision depends on topic, supervisor and possible co-supervisors
- Spring: Register your thesis
 - Find 2nd reviewer
 - Passing of the compulsory modules 1–4 is a requirement before registration
 - Hand in official form at Prüfungsbüro, with signature from supervisor, 2nd reviewer & final title
 - Official time left after registration: 6 months
- Spring: Write your thesis
- Summer: Submit & defend
- Find important forms and information (now also available in English) on:
 - https://fakultaeten.hu-berlin.de/en/lewi-en/studiesandteachingx/Studies%20and%20teaching/examination-matters/keyword-register?set_language=en
 - https://fakultaeten.hu-berlin.de/en/lewi-en/studiesandteachingx/Studies%20and%20teaching/examination-matters/downloads?b start:int=0





Possible supervisors/reviewer

- Two reviewers, one of them the official supervisor, the other just for review
- One reviewer needs to be a professor at Thaer
- The other reviewer needs to be
 - 1. Either: a prof/privatdozent (PD) at Thaer/in INRM/another faculty at HU
 - 2. Or: an otherwise eligible teacher from a specific list (see "Betreuer-innen-Liste-Agrar-Gartenbau..." https://fakultaeten.hu-berlin.de/de/lewi/studiumlehre/PrfAng/downloads?b start:int=0)
 - 3. Or: external supervisor with appropriate professional experience (usually: PhD or above, including external professors)
 - Option (3) eases a master thesis in collaboration with other organizations (e.g. extramural research institutes, firms, NGOs and public administration)
 - Option (3) requires approval by the Prüfungsausschuss (including an application when registering)
 - In the case of such a thesis: check early for qualification of external supervisor
- One supervisor primarily acts as reviewer
- Please find information on thesis regulations on: https://fakultaeten.hu-berlin.de/en/lewi-en/studiesandteachingx/Studies%20and%20teaching/examination-matters/keyword-register/final-theses-bachelor-and-master-theses

Lebenswissenschaftliche Fakultät Bereichsleitung Studium und Lehre Stand: 12.06.2025



Zulässige Prüfer:innenkonstellationen für Abschlussarbeiten (Bachelor/Master)

- > Alle unten genannten Statusgruppen beziehen sich auf Mitglieder der HU.
- Mind. eine:r der beiden Prüfer:innen muss ein Mitglied der HU sein.
- Externe Prüfer:innen, d.h. Prüfer:innen anderer Hochschulen (national und international) und Prüfer:innen, deren hauptberufliche Tätigkeit an anderen Institutionen, wie z.B. außeruniversitären Forschungseinrichtungen, liegt, müssen in jedem Fall per Lehr-/Prüfauftrag zu Prüfer:innen bestellt werden. Dies gilt nicht für Hochschullehrer:innen im Sinne des § 45 Absatz 1 Satz 2 Nummer 1 BerlHG (Prof., J-Prof., S-Prof.).
- Sollte Ihre Prüfer:innenkonstellation <u>trotz Beachtung der oben genannten Punkte</u> in dieser Tabelle nicht zu finden sein, wenden Sie sich bitte an Ihr zuständiges Prüfungsbüro.

Legende:

Prof. = Professor:in an der HU

J-Prof. = Juniorprofessor:in an der HU

S-Prof. = Sonderprofessor:in (Gemeinsame Berufung) oder Seniorprofessor:in an der HU Apl.-Prof. = Außerplanmäßige:r Professor:in an der HU

H-Prof. = Honorarprofessor:in an der HU (stehen in keinem Dienstverhältnis zur HU, extern)

Gastprof. = Gastprofessor:in an der HU

PD = Privatdozent:in an der HU

NWGL = Nachwuchsgruppenleitung an der HU

Lfc	d. Nr.	Prüfer:in 1	Prüfer:in 2	Anmerkung
	1.	Hochschullehrende	Hochschullehrende	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)	(Prof./J-Prof.)	
	2.	Hochschullehrende	S-Prof.	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)		
	3.	Hochschullehrende	H-Prof.	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)		
	4.	Hochschullehrende	Gastprof.	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)		
	5.	Hochschullehrende	Apl. Prof. (hauptberufliche	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)	Lehrkraft)	
	6.	Hochschullehrende	PD (hauptberufliche	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)	Lehrkraft)	
	7.	Hochschullehrende	NWGL	
		(Prof./J-Prof.)		
	8.	Hochschullehrende	Habilitierte wissenschaftliche	
	*	(Prof /I-Prof)	Mitarheiter innen	

Please always compare with the current version on the Thaer Institute website:

Prüfungs-angelegenheiten Downloads

https://fakultaeten.hu-berlin.de/de/lewi/studiumlehre/PrfAng/downloads

"2025-06-12-Prüf-Konstellationen-Abschlussarbeitenfinal.pdf "

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Writing the thesis

- Research ≠ writing; both are not "linear"
- Conventions not quite general, depends on topic and epistemic community
 - Clarify early on with your supervisor
 - Always: standards of good scientific practice, including referencing and no plagiarism
- Some typical components
 - Introduction: Motivation of the topic; statement of research question
 - Background on the topic, scientific state-of-the-art for the research question
 - Theoretical background you work with
 - Methodology and research design
 - Results, based on methodology and theory
 - Discussion and broader interpretation of the results / clarifying your contributions to state-of-the-art / critical assessment of limitations / suggestions for further research / policy implications
 - Summary and conclusions
 - References
- Schedule time for final editing