

**Guidelines on how to write the Master's thesis in the Master's degree programs  
Railway System Engineering (BSI); Air Transport and Logistics (LuLo);  
Air Transport and Logistics (ATL); Electrical Transportation Systems (EVS)**

1. The Master's thesis is an academic paper. The structure and layout as well as citations and references to literature must be in accordance with DIN 5008. The thesis must contain a table of contents and a bibliography and, if applicable, a list of annexes, abbreviations and images.  
You must submit two typed and bound copies of the Master's thesis as well as a digital version on a suitable storage device to the Examination Office by the given deadline. The entire Master's thesis must be suitable for copying.
2. The thesis must be submitted in German and in the Master's degree program ATL in English; upon request to the Examination Committee, it may also be submitted in another language. Deficiencies in expression, spelling and punctuation as well as in the external design - please observe the TUD corporate design - (including annexes) reduce the overall quality of the thesis. Any calculations made must be detailed in such a way that any expert is able to check their fundamental correctness. The formulas, coefficients and empirical values etc. used must be referenced. Physical quantities must be stated in units of the International System of Units (SI).
3. It must be apparent from the thesis which findings originate from the author and which have been taken from the literature. Text passages taken from the literature, even if only paraphrased, must be clearly identified and the sources cited.
4. Wherever possible, include tables and drawings in the text. Larger calculations, tables, plans and accompanying illustrations which you refer to repeatedly in the text should be added as an annex to the thesis.
5. Document any important discussions in minutes/protocols, consultations and coordination etc. held with third parties during the preparation of the thesis and attach them to the Master's thesis as an annex.
6. Coordinate with your supervising professor before carrying out traffic measurements, traffic surveys, etc. Prior to starting work on test stands, machines, equipment, etc., you must familiarize yourself with all the relevant health and safety regulations in detail. You need to obtain a health and safety instruction from the responsible health and safety officer of the company or TUD and have this confirmed by signature.
7. We recommend that you have at least three consultations with your supervising university lecturer while you are preparing your thesis.
8. The thesis must include:
  - the title page (according to sample, see appendix)
  - the research question of the Master's thesis,
  - the bibliographical reference and an author's report (maximum 20 typewritten lines) as the first page after the research question without page number,
  
  - the hypotheses for the Master's thesis, which should not exceed two pages (DIN A4 format) and should contain the main statements of the thesis as well as concrete starting points for the scientific discussion,
  - a declaration of originality (see sample) firmly embedded in the thesis between the text and the appendices,
  - in the case of joint theses, a declaration of the parts worked on.
9. You need to confirm receipt of the research question at the Examination Office. If possible, submit the Master's thesis in person to the Examination Office by 3 pm on the day of the submission deadline. If the submission deadline falls on a weekend or a public holiday, you must submit your Master's thesis on the following working day. If the thesis is submitted by mail, the date of receipt at TU Dresden counts as the submission date.
10. An extension of the time to complete the thesis can only be granted in special, justified cases. You need to request an extension at least 14 days before the deadline to the Chairperson of the Examination Committee via the Examination Office, with your supervisor having given prior approval. If you are ill (no longer than 28 calendar days), you must submit the original doctor's note to the Examination Office immediately; the period of illness is considered as an approved extension. If the illness lasts longer than 28 calendar days or if the total number of days of illness during the period in which you are working on your thesis is more than 28, you need to request that the deadline be postponed via the Examination Office to the Examination Committee. You will usually need to enclose an official medical certificate by a public health officer (*amtsärztliches Attest*) with your request. It is important that the medical certificate confirms the inability to take examinations (please contact the Examination Committee or the Examination Office if you have any questions). If you miss the deadline without a justified excuse, you will be deemed to have failed the Master's examination.

11. The Master's thesis is an important basis for the assessment of your studies.  
The Master's thesis must always be submitted in two mandatory copies (original copy + proofread copy), which will remain at the institution. The number of additional copies to be submitted must be agreed between the responsible university lecturer and the student.

The copies of the thesis to be submitted are the property of TU Dresden. Prior to the topic of the Master's thesis being issued, an agreement on the right of use must be concluded between TU Dresden, "Friedrich List" Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences and the student. This includes the examiners' decision to accept or reject the original copy of the Master's thesis for lending.

For a Master's thesis that the student prepares with the participation of a third party (e.g. partner from the professional world), the above regulation also applies to the third party, unless a more extensive tripartite agreement (TU Dresden, student, third party) has been concluded. The examiner and the student must inform the third party of this regulation.

You need to list all information, facts, theories and methods that are not part of the general state of knowledge and are made known to you in writing or verbally by the supervisor or other persons and used in the Master's thesis in full in the list of sources so as not to infringe the copyright of third parties (e.g. supervisors at the university and partners from the professional world).

12. You must always treat the materials and data provided or made available to you during the work carefully and, if necessary, as confidential. You must return them to the issuing body at the latest when you hand in your Master's thesis.
13. Each student must prepare a display board for their Master's thesis which presents the essential content of the thesis in a clear and generally understandable way. The design of the display board (including the dimensions) must be agreed with the supervisor. The latest submission date is three days before the defense of the Master's thesis, unless otherwise agreed with the supervisor.

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### **Declaration (sample)**

I, hereby, declare that I have written the Master's thesis submitted today independently and have not used any aids other than those specified.

Dresden, .....

.....  
Signature of the student

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### **Bibliographical reference (sample)**

Last name, first name:

Master's thesis

Title of the Master's thesis:

TUD Dresden University of Technology  
"Friedrich List" Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences  
Institute of ...

Degree program ...

... pages, ... images, ... tables, ... references - etc.

Design of the cover page of a Master's thesis (sample)

TUD Dresden University of Technology  
"Friedrich List" Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences  
Institute of ...

**Master's thesis**  
**Degree program**

*Topic according to the assignment*

Submitted by *first name and last name*

Date of birth: ..... Place of birth: .....

Supervisor:

- *Title and name of the examiner*

- *If applicable, title and name of a practical supervisor / employer*

Dresden, .....

.....  
Signature of the student