



澳門大學
UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU
UNIVERSITY OF MACAU

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING PROGRAM

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES OF ACADEMIC THESIS

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

To be eligible for thesis proposal submission, students from 2013 intake and before are required to achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.30 for the course work part of the program. For students from 2014 intake and onwards, the research course, Accounting Research Methods, must be completed before thesis proposal submission, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 after completion of course work and thesis oral defence 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

Date of submission

Date of entering the program (optional)



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II. Abstract (no more than 200 words)

The abstract should clearly identify the research problem(s)/question(s), background information and the relevant research methodology. Emphasis should be put on the expected significance of the research findings.

III. Introduction (within one page)

The introduction is to provide readers with the background information for the research. Its purpose is to establish the issue(s), concern(s), or motivation(s) leading to the research question(s) and objective(s), so that readers can understand the significance and the rationale underlying the study.

IV. Literature Review (preferably one page, and no more than two pages)

The literature review should not only be a presentation or description of available theories. It should also contain findings from related studies conducted by other researchers. Most important of all, from these descriptions, you must be able to critically demonstrate congruencies as well as discrepancies and to argue on them. The literature review is especially important because it is from this you develop your **theoretical framework/conceptual model** out of which **hypotheses/propositions** are generated to be tested (for quantitative study) and to answer your main **research questions** (for qualitative study). Despite this, the literature review section should be kept short, and therefore does not need to be exhaustive.

V. Research Questions

Research questions, theoretical framework/conceptual model related to your study, hypotheses to be tested, of propositions should be discussed in this section.

VI. Research Design/Methodology (within two pages)

In this section, you should provide a detailed description of the research methodology and the data to be used in the study.

VII. References

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



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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.***