



A/B/C Masters Coursework Thesis for students beginning Thesis A in 2020

COURSE DETAILS

Units of Credit	4 + 4 + 4
Contact hours	as agreed with supervisor
Course Coordinators	Terms 1 & 2: Dr Daniel O'Shea email: d.oshea@unsw.edu.au office: CE213 in Civil and Environmental Engineering Building (H20) Term 3: Dr Richard Collins email: richard.collins@unsw.edu.au office: CE103 in Valentine Annex (H22)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE

This course is in three parts. Thesis A is undertaken in the first Trimester of enrolment. Thesis A is a prerequisite for Thesis B and Thesis B is a prerequisite for Thesis C.

By default, students must ordinarily take Masters Thesis A, B and C in each consecutive term.

With School permission, students may request to take Masters Thesis A in the first term then Masters B + C together in the second term. This option is strictly limited only to students who can demonstrate the ability to progress. Further details are provided in the ASSESSMENT section below.

Students may be exempted of completing a Master's Coursework Thesis if they have previously completed a

You will have to find an academic supervisor within the school to assist with administration and assessment. This should be an academic from the appropriate discipline. Please see the link below.

<http://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/civil-engineering/academic-staff-list-a-z>

- Produce a self-contained research thesis, which may be understood and used by others with technical background knowledge in the same discipline area as the thesis topic, and may potentially be suitable for publication;
- Present their research in a seminar.

WHO IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A THESIS?

Program 8621: All students in program 8621 must complete the thesis project in their final year of study.

Program 8338: Students who have not completed a recognised Thesis in their undergraduate studies or further postgraduate studies are required to complete a Thesis in their Masters Coursework program. If you are unsure if you have completed one, or if the school is not aware that you have completed one, please contact the Student Centre so an assessment can be made.

WHAT IS A MASTERS COURSEWORK THESIS?

That depends quite a bit on your field of study. However, all Theses have at least two things in common:

- They are based on students' original research.
- They take the form of a written report, which presents the findings of that research.

WHY WRITE A MASTERS COURSEWORK THESIS?

- ***Satisfy your intellectual curiosity***

This is the most compelling reason to write a research thesis. You have studied courses during your degree that perhaps really piqued your interest. Now's your chance to follow your passions, explore further, and contribute some original ideas and research in your field.

- ***Develop transferable research skills***

Whether you choose to pursue further research (e.g. complete a PhD) or not, the process of developing and crafting a feasible research project will polish skills that will serve you well in almost any future job. After all, most jobs require some form of problem solving and oral and written communication. Writing a research thesis requires that you:

- ask smart questions
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In the event of an unsatisfactory assessment in Masters Thesis A or Thesis B, a student must submit a show cause. A plan of future action to improve student performance must be prepared and agreed upon by both the supervisor and course coordinator before progress to Masters Thesis B or Thesis C is allowed. Failure to receive the progress assessment by the due date will result in the student results being withheld and/or failure.

SUMMARY OF RESEARCH THESIS MARKED ASSESSMENTS

Research Thesis A:

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Component A1 | Week 7 | satisfactory/unsatisfactory |
| 2. | Component A2 | Week 10 | 10 % of Final Mark |

Research Thesis B:

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Component B1 | Week 8 (B+C: 3) | 5 % of Final Mark |
|----|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|

Research Thesis C:

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------|---|
| 1. | Seminar Abstract | Week 7 | 5 % of Final Mark |
| 2. | Research Seminar | Week 10 | 10 % of Final Mark |
| 3. | Thesis Submission | Week 11 | 70 % of Final Mark
(incl. 10 % Supervisor) |

Further details of the requirements for the Seminar Abstract and the format & scheduling of Seminars will be advised by the Course Coordinator during the term.

The Masters Thesis is to be submitted electronically as a single pdf by 4.00pm on Friday of the submission week via the School's web portal at: <http://intranet.civeng.unsw.edu.au/research-thesis-upload-page>

Further document requirements and upload instructions are available at this site. Students are encouraged to print for themselves a hard copy of their work, and supervisors may also request that they be provide a hard copy for their records. If you are conducting a thesis based at an employer, you are required to provide them with a copy of your thesis in Week 11.

Fail in Thesis B & C (when taken simultaneously) – Students must re-

- On-Line Green Lab Environment Compliance

There are additional courses for students who work with radiation or gene technology or in a PC2 Laboratory.

It is the responsibility of the student to self-enrol into these courses via this webpage:

MASTERS RESEARCH THESIS A COURSE PROGRAM

Week	Milestones	Suggested Activities	Assessment/Workshops
1	Confirm Thesis Topic and Enrolment	Attend Lunchtime Orientation Session	<i>Orientation Session</i> Date/time: Friday 21st February 12:00 – 1:00pm (week 1) Venue: Room 101, Level 1 CVEN Building (H20)
2	Arrange regular supervision meetings with Supervisor(s). Complete mandatory student health and safety training	Attend Lunchtime Workshop – ‘How to Write a Literature Review’	<i>Literature Review & Problem Statement Workshop</i> Date/time: Thursday 27th February 12:00 – 1:00pm (week 2) Venue: CLB1 Central Lecture Block

3 Work on Statement of the Problem and Literature Review with supervisor

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If students are seeking to apply for permission to enrol concurrently in Masters Thesis B + C in the following Trimester, then the additional requirement is that the A2 submission must also include a Thesis Outline (Chapters and indicative sub-headings) plus a description of Research Methodology.

MASTERS RESEARCH THESIS B COURSE PROGRAM

Week	Milestones	Suggested Activities	Assessment/Workshops
1	Receive review of Component A2 from supervisor(s)	Undertake thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance.	

2 Undertake thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance.

MASTERS RESEARCH THESIS C COURSE PROGRAM

Week	Milestones	Suggested Activities	Assessments
1		Complete remaining thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance. Analyse data.	
2		Complete remaining thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance. Analyse dat.	
3	Complete remaining research work.	Complete remaining thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance. Analyse data.	
4	Complete analysis of results.	Complete remaining thesis research with Supervisor(s) guidance. Analyse data. Work on thesis with Supervisor(s) guidance.	
5		Work on thesis with Supervisor(s) guidance.	
6	Prepare draft of Seminar Abstract		
7	Receive supervisor feedback on Seminar Abstract	Work on thesis ork on thesis	