

Writing a Master Thesis at Information Service Engineering (ISE)

As at 11th of March 2019

Who will be the student's supervisor?

The supervisor will be Prof. Dr. Harald Sack supported by his team¹. One of the ISE Ph.D. students or PostDocs will be the student's first contact concerning all questions and the general progression as well as being the general advisor.

How to be able to write a master thesis at ISE?

The ISE master thesis topics are published at the AIFB website², but of course own ideas and research interests are welcome. If students would like to write a master thesis, they can contact Prof. Sack or his team (e.g. during the office hour, via e-mail, etc.).

Once the first contact has been established, students are asked to write an **exposé** about their research topic and hand it in.

Your exposé should include the following:

Your name and e-mail-address, the current date, the department you are registered at, the title of the thesis, the name of the advisor (if you already have one).

It should be structured as follows and be no longer than **four pages**:

1. Problem statement and motivation
2. Goal
3. Steps to achieve this goal/methodology
4. Expected results
5. Related work
6. Schedule
7. References

How is the procedure during the writing time?

There will be one **midterm presentation** (15 minutes long, followed by five minutes of questions) and one **final presentation**, once the thesis has been completed (20 minutes, followed by ten minutes of questions), both attended by fellow master students and the ISE team.

¹ http://www.aifb.kit.edu/web/Information_Service_Engineering

² <http://www.aifb.kit.edu/web/AbschlussarbeitenOffen>

The student and his contact person (and, if needed, Prof. Sack, too) will have **regular meetings** throughout the completion of the thesis.

All progress will be put on record by the student and the ISE team to ensure that all parties have the same information at all times.

Is it possible to write a master thesis if you aren't a student of the WiWi faculty?

In general, yes, it is possible to write a master thesis at ISE, even if you aren't a student registered at the WiWi faculty, but rather at the Department of Informatics. There are, however, rules from the Department of Informatics applying if you are writing your thesis at ISE.

Can a master thesis be written in cooperation with a company?

If you are a student of the WiWi faculty, yes, you can write a master thesis in cooperation with a company. However, scientific quality has to be ensured and you will have to make sure that there is no information visible in your thesis that is confidential. This also means that your thesis shouldn't have lock flags.

Where do students find general information on how to write their theses?

All KIT departments offer information about how to write a thesis. If you are registered at the WiWi faculty, please check the AIFB website, there you can find guidelines, a LaTeX-template etc.³. If you are registered at another department, please check the according page. Whichever department you are registered at, please make sure that your declaration of authorship follows the exact wording.

What happens when the thesis is completed?

There is the option to publish the theses with KITopen⁴ when they have been completed as well as being published on the FIZ Karlsruhe website⁵, for all of which the students will receive support by the ISE team.

³ <http://www.aifb.kit.edu/web/Abschlussarbeiten>

⁴ <https://www.bibliothek.kit.edu/cms/kitopen-dokumenttypen.php>

⁵ <https://www.fiz-karlsruhe.de/de/forschung/information-service-engineering#masterarbeiten>