

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
ENGLISH STUDIES MASTER PROGRAMME
ENGLISH, EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND BUSINESS STUDIES
BACHELOR STUDY PROGRAMME

Formulated in line with the procedure for organisation of final examinations in study courses at the University of Latvia, approved by Decision No.211 of the Senate of the University of Latvia in 29.06.2015 with amendments effected until 26.04.2021. Amendments: Decision No.235 of the Senate of the University of Latvia in 02.07.2018, Decision No.2-3/50 of the Senate of the University of Latvia in 26.04.2021.

Level of acquisition	Grade	Decoding	Explanation
Very high	10	Outstanding	<p><i>Knowledge and skills exceed the requirements prescribed by the study course description.</i></p> <p>The abstracts in Latvian and English have been formulated according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>The introduction includes a logically defined hypothesis/research questions that are validated/answered during research. The aim of the research and enabling objectives have been formulated clearly and precisely; the methods applied in the research are described. The novelty of the research is described in the introduction of the research paper.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and the empirical parts) as well as the conclusion/conclusions are skilfully balanced.</p> <p>The theoretical part constitutes no more than 1/3 of the content. It presents an in-depth analysis of theoretical sources and the assessment of the latest theories, expressing the opinion of the author of the paper. The use of citations and paraphrasing are balanced and skilfully incorporated in the description of research ideas.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives formulated in the introduction and substantiates the choice of the research methodology.</p>

			<p>The conclusion of the paper highlights the main empirical and theoretical research findings. It clearly indicates if the research questions have been answered or the hypothesis has been validated. The conclusion includes specific and appropriate proposals concerning the further potential research. The conclusion of the research paper describes the applicability of research findings in Latvia. The theses of the paper present well-formulated basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>An extensive list of literature includes the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research, in full compliance with formatting and filing requirements.</p>
Very high	9	Excellent	<p><i>Knowledge and skills fully correspond to requirements prescribed by the study course description.</i></p> <p>The abstract has been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>The introduction presents clearly and precisely formulated aims and objectives of the research. A logical hypothesis/research questions achieved with the help of the research objectives and appropriate research methods. The undertaken research is given an appropriate evaluation in conclusions.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are skilfully balanced.</p> <p>The theoretical part presents an in-depth analysis of theoretical sources and the assessment of newer theories, expressing the opinion of the author of the paper. Citations are included in the discussion of the theme.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives formulated in the introduction.</p> <p>The conclusive part of the research paper provides independent conclusions concerning the issue researched.</p> <p>The theses of the paper present clearly formulated basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>An extensive list of literature includes the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research in full compliance with formatting and filing requirements.</p> <p>Excellent language proficiency. Rich language: an extensive and correctly used word-stock, diversity of sentence structures, an appropriate academic register. High text development culture (no orthographic and punctuation mistakes; citations and paraphrasing comply with paper writing standards).</p>

			<p>Full compliance with the Conventions. As for the structure of the research paper – each chapter begins with a brief outline of its content and ends with a brief summary of the content. During the defence of the research paper answers are given to questions, the student can substantiate his/her opinion in the discussion, a logical and comprehensive presentation. Some advisor's recommendations have been required during the research process.</p>
High	8	Very good	<p><i>Knowledge and skills fully comply with requirements prescribed by the study course description; however, at times there is evidence of lack of skills in independent application of knowledge in complicated situations.</i></p> <p>The abstract has been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>In the introduction, aims and objectives of the research as well as a logical hypothesis/research questions have been formulated with sufficient clarity, research methods applied in an appropriate manner, results clearly formulated. The undertaken research has been assessed in conclusions; the hypothesis has been validated.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are balanced.</p> <p>The theoretical part presents an analysis of theoretical sources of the respective field of research; however, it is not sufficiently comprehensive and does not reflect the opinion of the author. Citations have not always been successfully incorporated in the discussion of the theme.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives formulated in the introduction. The conclusive part of the research paper provides conclusions concerning the issue researched. The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is quite extensive and includes the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research in compliance with formatting and filing requirements</p> <p>The language is very good: a comparatively extensive word-stock, the academic register, diversity of sentence structures, no grammar mistakes; however, there are some spelling and punctuation mistakes.</p> <p>Full compliance with the Conventions for the structure of the research paper – each chapter begins with a brief outline of its content and ends with a brief summary of the content. The paper contains independent conclusions.</p> <p>The paper has been defended well, giving convincing answers to questions.</p>

			Recommendations of the advisor have been taken into account during the research process.
High	7	Good	<p><i>Knowledge and skills comply with requirements prescribed by the study course description; however, there is evidence of lack of skills in the independent application of the acquired knowledge.</i></p> <p>The abstract has been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>In the introduction aims and objectives tasks of the research as well as a hypothesis/research questions have been formulated with sufficient clarity, research methods applied in an adequate manner, results are clearly formulated.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are balanced, although citations have not always been successfully incorporated in the discussion of the theme.</p> <p>The theoretical part presents an analysis of theoretical sources of the respective field of research; however, it is not sufficiently comprehensive and does not reflect the opinion of the author.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives formulated in the introduction.</p> <p>The conclusive part of the research paper provides conclusions concerning the issue researched.</p> <p>The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is quite extensive and includes the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research in compliance with formatting and filing requirements</p> <p>The language is good: a comparatively extensive word-stock, a correct register, diversity of sentence structures, no marked grammar mistakes; however, there are some spelling and punctuation mistakes.</p> <p>Full compliance with the Conventions for the structure of the research paper – each chapter begins with a brief outline of its content and ends with a brief summary of the content. The paper contains independent conclusions.</p> <p>The paper has been defended well, convincing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required considerable support and recommendations of the advisor.</p>
Mediocre	6	Almost good	<p><i>There is evidence of sufficient knowledge of some problems and some skills in applying the acquired knowledge.</i></p>

			<p>The abstract has been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>In the introduction aims and objectives of the research as well as a hypothesis/research questions have been formulated with some clarity.</p> <p>In the theoretical part views expressed in theoretical sources have been compared and grouped; however, there is no in-depth analysis of these sources.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives and tasks formulated in the introduction. There are some interesting ideas that are not always supported by facts, with sometimes unconvincing argumentation. There is some consistency in the application of research methods.</p> <p>The research theme has been discussed in part, the formulation of the hypothesis/research questions is, overall validated; however, the conclusions drawn on the basis of the research are not convincing.</p> <p>The discussion of information is mostly logical; the introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are partially balanced.</p> <p>The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is limited and may have omitted the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research, formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with.</p> <p>Language usage is almost good although there maybe systematic problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes, the word-stock is somewhat limited, the register does not wholly correspond to the academic register. There are spelling and punctuation mistakes; citations are not successfully integrated in the discussion. There may be insignificant signs of unintentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The Conventions for the structure of the research paper have been complied with.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is mostly satisfactory – there are language mistakes, answers to questions have overall, been provided.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required considerable advisor’s assistance and guidance.</p>
Satisfactory	5	Satisfactory	<p><i>There is evidence of some knowledge of some problems and skills in applying the acquired knowledge.</i></p> <p>The abstract has been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>In the introduction aims, objectives and tasks of the research as well as a hypothesis/research questions have been formulated with partial clarity. In the theoretical part views expressed in</p>

			<p>theoretical sources have been compared and grouped; however, there is no in-depth analysis of these sources.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives and tasks formulated in the introduction; however, there is no convincing in-depth analysis. There is some consistency in the application of research methods.</p> <p>The research theme has been discussed in part, the formulation of the hypothesis/research questions is satisfactory, overall, validated; however, the conclusions drawn on the basis of the research are not convincing.</p> <p>The discussion of information is not always logical; the introduction, the presentation of the content and the conclusion are only partially balanced.</p> <p>The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is limited and does not include the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research, formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with.</p> <p>Language usage is mediocre: language is mostly simple; there may be problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes; the word-stock is limited; the register does not wholly correspond to the academic register. There are spelling and punctuation mistakes; citations are not successfully integrated in the discussion. There are signs of unintentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The Conventions. for the structure of the research paper have been complied with.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is satisfactory – language mistakes, difficulties in providing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required considerable advisor’s assistance and guidance.</p>
Mediocre	4	Almost satisfactory	<p><i>The minimum requirements prescribed by the study course have been met.</i></p> <p>The abstract has not been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>In the introduction aims and objectives tasks of the research have been formulated with partial clarity with a mediocre formulation of the hypothesis/research questions.</p> <p>In the theoretical part views expressed in theoretical sources have been compared and grouped; however, there is no in-depth analysis of these sources.</p> <p>The empirical part of the paper corresponds to objectives formulated in the introduction; however, there is no convincing in-depth analysis. There is no consistency in the application of research methods.</p>

			<p>The research theme has been discussed only in part; the formulation of the hypothesis/research questions is mediocre, overall, validated; however, the conclusions drawn on the basis of the research are not convincing.</p> <p>The discussion of information is not always logical; the introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are not completely balanced. The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is limited and does not include the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research, formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with. The Conventions for the structure of the research paper have not been followed.</p> <p>Language usage is almost mediocre: there are problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes; the word-stock is limited; the register does not wholly correspond to the academic register. There are spelling and punctuation mistakes; citations are not successfully integrated in the discussion. There are signs of unintentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is weak – the argumentation may be hampered by language mistakes, difficulties in providing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required very substantial advisor's assistance and guidance.</p>
Low	3	Weak	<p><i>Superficial knowledge of the most important basic problems of the study course.</i></p> <p>The abstract has not been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>The aims and objectives tasks of the research are not clear, or have not been understood; the hypothesis/research questions formulated in the introduction are unconvincing and superficial. There is no logic in the layout of the information presented in the theoretical part.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are not balanced; there is lack of interesting ideas, only some practice-based facts. The empirical part does not correspond to aims and objectives defined in the introduction; there is no in-depth analysis. The selected methods are not presented in the research paper; there is no clear target population.</p> <p>The research theme has not been discussed; the hypothesis/research questions have not been validated; conclusions presented in the conclusive part have not been substantiated.</p> <p>The theses of the paper present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The Conventions for the structure of the research paper have not been followed.</p>

			<p>The list of literature is negligible and does not include the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research; formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with.</p> <p>Weak language proficiency: many problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes, the word-stock is limited; the register does not wholly comply with academic standards. Low text development culture: many spelling and punctuation mistakes.</p> <p>There are signs of intentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is weak – language mistakes, difficulties in providing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required very considerable substantial advisor’s assistance and guidance.</p>
Low	2	Very weak	<p><i>Superficial knowledge of specific issues of the study course.</i></p> <p><i>Superficial knowledge of the most important basic problems of the study course.</i></p> <p>The abstract has not been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>The introduction does not present clearly defined aims and objectives of the research; the hypothesis/research questions are unconvincing and superficial.</p> <p>The selected methods are not presented in the research paper; there is no clear target population.</p> <p>The introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are not balanced; there is lack of interesting ideas, only separate practice-based facts.</p> <p>The information presented in the theoretical part lacks logic.</p> <p>The empirical part does not correspond to aims and objectives defined in the introduction; there is no in-depth analysis. The selected methods are not presented in the research paper; there is no clear target population.</p> <p>The research theme has not been discussed; the hypothesis/research questions have not been validated; conclusions presented in the conclusive part have not been substantiated.</p> <p>The theses of the paper do not present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is negligible and does not include the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research; formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with.</p> <p>The Conventions. for the structure of the research paper have not been followed.</p> <p>Very weak language proficiency: many problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes. Low text development culture: many spelling and punctuation mistakes.</p>

			<p>There are signs of intentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is very weak – language mistakes, difficulties in providing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required very substantial advisor’s assistance and guidance.</p>
Low	1	Very, very weak	<p><i>No understanding of the basic problems of the study course.</i></p> <p><i>Superficial knowledge of the most important basic problems of the study course.</i></p> <p>The abstract has not been written according to the Conventions for Writing Term / Bachelor / Master papers.</p> <p>The introduction does not present clearly defined aims and objectives of the research; the hypothesis/research questions are unconvincing; the selected methods are not presented in the research paper; there is no clear target population.</p> <p>The information presented in the theoretical part lacks logic; the introduction, the presentation of the content (the theoretical and empirical parts) and the conclusion are not balanced; there is lack of interesting ideas, only separate practice-based facts.</p> <p>The empirical part does not correspond to aims and objectives defined in the introduction; there is no in-depth analysis. The selected methods are not presented in the research paper; there is no clear target population.</p> <p>The research theme has not been discussed; the hypothesis/research questions have not been validated; conclusions presented in the conclusive part have not been substantiated.</p> <p>The theses of the paper do not present basic findings of the undertaken research.</p> <p>The list of literature is negligible and does not include the most important theoretical sources of the given field of research; formatting and filing requirements have not been complied with.</p> <p>The Conventions for the structure of the research paper have not been followed.</p> <p>Very weak language proficiency: many problems in sentence structure, grammar mistakes. Low text development culture: many spelling and punctuation mistakes.</p> <p>There are signs of intentional plagiarism.</p> <p>The defence of the research paper is very weak – language mistakes, difficulties in providing answers to questions.</p> <p>The undertaken research has required very substantial advisor’s assistance and guidance.</p>