**Begin of Master thesis**

## 1. Personal data of student

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First names (underline main)** | xxxxx | | |
| **Last name** |  | | |
| **Matriculation no.** | xx-xxx-xxx | **Birth date** | dd-mm-yyyy |
| **E-mail** |  | | |

## 2. Personal data of supervisor

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First names (underline main)** |  |
| **Last name, Title** |  |
| **E-mail** |  |
| **Institution** |  |
| **Address** |  |

## 3. Master thesis project

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Starting date** | dd-mm-yyyy |
| **Provisional title of thesis** |  |

## 4. Chosen specialisation (select one from pulldown menu)

With their signatures, **the supervisor and student testify their acceptance of the terms listed on the next two pages.** Moreover they will make every effort to keep in line with the faculty regulations, the study plan for Molecular Life Sciences and its appendix.

Location:       Signature supervisor:  
Date: dd-mm-yyyy

Location:       Signature student:  
Date: dd-mm-yyyy

**A typical MLS master thesis:**

* is written as monographic text and is structured in Abstract/Summary, Introduction, Results, Material & Methods, Discussion and References. On average an MLS master thesis is about **75 – 100 pages long** (font size 12, line spacing 1.5). Theses shorter than ~50 pages are below the expectation of the MLS master program of the science faculty.
* The potential use of **AI needs to be disclosed** (see 3rd page of this document for details).
* **Duration of the master thesis**: 60 ECTS = ~1’800 working hours = ~ 45 weeks (lab work & writing). If MLS lectures are attended in parallel to the lab work, the thesis extends up to 18 months.

**Duties of the supervisor:**

* to actively contribute to the student's education through scientific discussions, guidance during the practical work of the thesis, discussion of written thesis drafts, mentoring.
* to ensure that the student attends 2 hrs of seminars per week during the entire duration of the MSc thesis (these form a required and integral part of the thesis).
* to counsel the student, if necessary, in the selection of classes during the MSc program.
* to inform the study coordinator, one year after the starting date shown on page 1, whether the thesis has been completed (complete written thesis submitted to the supervisor) or whether the supervisor has granted an extension of up to 6 months (18 months total maximum).
* jointly with the student, to request any further extension, should it become necessary, from the faculty authorities with a written justification before the 18 month limit expires. This request must be filed via the study administration in Molecular Life Sciences.
* when the thesis has been completed, to write an evaluation (including grade) of the Master thesis to be submitted as signed pdf file to the faculty as well as to the MLS study administration.

**Duties of the student:**

* to actively contribute to the research of the supervisor's group through the practical work of the thesis, scientific discussions, active contributions to lab meetings and seminars.
* to attend 2 hrs per week of seminars (proposed by the supervisor) during the entire duration of the MSc thesis (these form a required and integral part of the thesis).
* to select the classes for the MSc program in accordance with the study plan and its appendix as well as the lists provided on the program webpages, taking into account any special wishes or recommendations that the supervisor may have. If necessary, the study coordinator can be approached for counselling. Any deviations from the lists provided on the program webpage or from the study plan and its appendix must be authorised by the study administration (some even by the faculty).
* jointly with the supervisor, to request any further extension, should it become necessary, from the faculty authorities with a written justification before the maximal 18 month limit for the thesis expires. This request must be filed via the study administration in Molecular Life Sciences.
* to avoid any scientific misconduct including the forging of data or plagiarism. Please note that the written thesis must contain a signed statement in accordance with article 28 of the faculty regulations.

*„Ich erkläre hiermit, dass ich diese Arbeit selbstständig verfasst und keine anderen als die angegebenen Quellen benutzt habe. Alle Stellen, die wörtlich oder sinngemäss aus Quellen entnommen wurden, habe ich als solche gekennzeichnet. Mir ist bekannt, dass andernfalls der Senat gemäss Artikel 36 Absatz 1 Buchstabe o des Gesetzes vom 5. September 1996 über die Universität zum Entzug des auf Grund dieser Arbeit verliehenen Titels berechtigt ist.“*

**Use of generative AI in writing MLS master theses**

In general, the MLS master program allows the use of AI assisted technologies in the preparation of written master theses.

However, when MLS students use AI and AI-assisted technologies (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, Microsoft Bing, DeepL, Grammarly, etc) in the writing process, these technologies**should only be used to improve readability and language of the work and not to replace key authoring tasks such as producing scientific insights or drawing scientific conclusions**. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control and **all work should be reviewed and edited carefully**. **The MLS students are ultimately responsible and accountable** for the contents of the work.

MLS students should disclose in their master thesis the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in a clear statement at the end of text. **We recommend placing it before the reference section.**  If more than one tool was used, they should be listed separately.

Template for disclosure statement:



During the preparation of this work, I have NOT used any AI-assisted technologies.

During the preparation of this work, I used the following tools:

1. [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] - reason for use
2. [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] - reason for use
3. [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] - reason for use

After using these tools/services, I reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of the master thesis. I am aware that in case of dis-compliance, the generated text is considered as plagiarism with its legal consequences.