

Maturity tests of undergraduate education in the Faculty of Science and Forestry

These instructions have been approved by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science and Forestry on 27 September 2016.

BACHELOR'S THESIS

For a lower university degree, a student must prepare a bachelor's thesis as part of the intermediate studies of his/her major subject. The student prepares the thesis independently.

The bachelor's thesis is written in Finnish. For a special reason, however, a student may write the bachelor's thesis in English with written permission of a person in charge of the academic subject in question.

MATURITY TEST REQUIRED FOR THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE

The Government Decree on University Degrees of 19 August 2004 stipulates that for a lower university degree a student must complete a maturity test to demonstrate his/her knowledge in the field of the thesis and his/her proficiency in Finnish or Swedish.

If a student completes the maturity test in the *language of his/her school education (Finnish or Swedish)*, the degree diploma mentions that he/she has demonstrated excellent proficiency in the Finnish/Swedish language required by the Civil Service.

If a student completes the maturity test in *L2 Finnish or L2 Swedish*, the degree diploma mentions that he/she has demonstrated good proficiency in Finnish/Swedish irrespective of the language of school education.

Within the limits of the decree on university degrees, the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Forestry may also grant the right to complete the maturity test in a language other than Finnish or Swedish. A free-form application for the language of the maturity test will be addressed to the Dean and filed at the faculty.

If the language of the student's school education is neither Finnish nor Swedish, he/she must file an application for the dean's decision on the language studies required from him/her and on the manner of completing the maturity test as early as at the beginning of his/her first year of studies. The dean's decision must also be applied for if there is no certainty of what the language of school education is.

The language of school education is Finnish if even one of the conditions below is met:

- Finnish comprehensive school (mother tongue Finnish)
- Finnish general upper secondary school syllabus (mother tongue Finnish)
- Finnish matriculation examination (mother tongue Finnish)
- IB/EB/RP examination + matriculation examination in Finnish + approved grade in the "Finnish as mother tongue" test

in which case the maturity test will be completed in Finnish.

The language of school education is not Finnish:

- IB/EB/RP examination including L1 Finnish
- Comprehensive school syllabus in a foreign language
- Finnish matriculation examination including an L2 Finnish test,

in which case the maturity test will be completed in a language determined by the university.

A student of the Faculty of Science and Forestry can complete a maturity test included in the bachelor's degree in two different ways:

1. the abstract of the bachelor's thesis may be accepted as a maturity test; or

2. the student may complete the maturity test as an exam.

1. A Finnish abstract of the Bachelor's thesis is accepted as a maturity test

A thesis supervisor accepts a Finnish abstract of the Bachelor's thesis as a Finnish maturity test when a student who has received school education in Finnish writes his/her Bachelor's thesis in Finnish, Swedish or a foreign language.

A thesis supervisor accepts a Finnish abstract of the Bachelor's thesis as an L2 Finnish maturity test when a student has received school education in Swedish. In addition, the student will complete a maturity test in Swedish as an exam.

A thesis supervisor reviews the abstract with regard to both grammatical correctness and content. The student will have an opportunity to edit the abstract based on feedback before submitting the Bachelor's thesis for a plagiarism check and to the thesis supervisor for final assessment.

2. A student completes a maturity test as an exam

A student who has received school education in a language other than Finnish or Swedish completes a maturity test as an exam in accordance with the curriculum.

A student who has received school education in Swedish and who writes his/her Bachelor's thesis in a language other than Swedish completes a maturity test in Swedish as an exam in accordance with the curriculum.

The student submits the final version of the Bachelor's thesis to the thesis supervisor for assessment and signs up for the maturity test. The supervisor gives the student 1–3 subjects related to the thesis. The student chooses one of the subjects and writes an essay-style answer.

The content of the maturity test will be approved by the thesis supervisor and for grammatical correctness by the Language Centre. The Language Centre communicates the result to the supervisor, who informs the recording officer that the student has passed the maturity test. The maturity test will be graded as “pass” or “fail”.

The maturity test is expected to be linguistically accurate, as well as have appropriate scientific content. The thesis cannot be assessed or saved in the study register before the student has passed the maturity test.

Instructions on the maturity test are available on the Language Centre's website at www.uef.fi/kielikeskus/kypsyysnayte.

The student must submit the Bachelor's thesis for assessment in good time before completing the maturity test, if he/she completes a separate maturity test for the Bachelor's degree.

MASTER'S THESIS

For an upper university degree, a student must prepare a Master's thesis as part of the advanced studies of his/her major subject. The student prepares the thesis independently. The Master's thesis is written in a language specified in the curriculum. For a special reason, however, a student who has received education in Finnish may write the master's thesis in English with the written permission of a person in charge of the academic subject in question.

MATURITY TEST REQUIRED FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE

If the student has completed a maturity test as part of an earlier, lower or higher university degree, a 1-page abstract of the Master's thesis will be accepted as a maturity test required for the Master's degree.

For a Master's thesis written in Finnish, an abstract in Finnish and English has to be provided. If the thesis is written in Swedish or in a foreign language, the abstract will be written in the same language and additionally in Finnish. When the master's thesis, including the abstract, has been approved, the maturity test will be marked as "passed" in the study register.

If the student has not completed a maturity test as part of an earlier, lower or higher university degree, he/she must complete the maturity test for the Master's degree to demonstrate his/her knowledge in the field of the thesis and his/her proficiency in Finnish or Swedish. A maturity test has to be completed before the assessment of the Master's thesis in the same way as in the Bachelor's degree. Within the limits of the decree on university degrees, the Dean may also grant the right to complete a maturity test in a language other than Finnish or Swedish if the student has received school education in a language other than Finnish or Swedish. A free-form application for the language of the maturity test will be addressed to the Dean and filed at the faculty.

In English Master's degree programmes, a maturity test will be completed in the manner confirmed in the curriculum.

A student of the Faculty of Science and Forestry who has not completed a maturity test as part of an earlier, lower or higher university degree, can complete the maturity test required for the master's degree in two different ways:

1. the abstract of the Master's thesis may be approved as a maturity test, or
2. the student may complete the maturity test as an exam.

1. A Finnish abstract of a Master's thesis is approved as a maturity test.

A thesis supervisor accepts a Finnish abstract of a Master's thesis as a Finnish maturity test when a student who has received school education in Finnish writes his/her thesis in Finnish, Swedish or a foreign language.

A thesis supervisor accepts a Finnish abstract of a Master's thesis as an L2 Finnish maturity test when a student has received his/her school education in Swedish. In addition, the student will complete a maturity test in Swedish as an exam.

The student will have an opportunity to edit the abstract based on feedback before submitting the thesis for a plagiarism check and to the thesis supervisor for final assessment.

2. A student completes a maturity test as an exam

A student completes a maturity test as an exam in accordance with the curriculum when he/she has received school education in a language other than Finnish or Swedish.

The student submits the final version of the thesis to the thesis supervisor for assessment and signs up for the maturity test. The supervisor gives the student 1–3 subjects related to the thesis, one of which may be a press release. The student chooses one of the subjects and writes an essay answer. The content of the maturity test will be approved by the thesis supervisor and grammatical correctness, if necessary, will be approved by the Language Centre, in which case the Language Centre communicates the result to the supervisor, who informs a recording officer that the student has passed the maturity test. The maturity test will be graded as "pass" or "fail". The maturity test is expected to be linguistically accurate, as well as have appropriate scientific content. The thesis cannot be assessed or saved in the study register before the student has passed the maturity test. Instructions on the maturity test are available on the Language Centre's website at www.uef.fi/kielikeskus/kypsyysnayte.

The student must submit the thesis for assessment in good time before completing the maturity test, if he/she is registered to complete a separate maturity test for the Master's degree.