

MS Economics Thesis and Project Process Flow

The process for thesis is as follows:

1. Selection of Thesis Topic and Supervisor:

The students are encouraged to brainstorm ideas and discuss with professors in earlier semesters to decide on a thesis topic and thesis supervisor. If the topic is multidisciplinary, student can have two supervisors for the thesis. The supervisor (or first co-supervisor in case of two supervisors) has to be a fulltime faculty member of IBA.

2. Submission of Thesis Proposal:

The student develops a strongly articulated thesis proposal under the guidance of supervisor. After receiving the approval of thesis proposal from the supervisor, the student (or supervisor) submits the thesis proposal and supervisor's approval via email to the program director during the last semester of coursework or after completion of coursework.

3. Defense of Thesis Proposal:

Upon receiving the thesis proposal along with supervisor's approval, the program director would organize thesis proposal defense.

4. Submission of Thesis:

The student works closely with supervisor and completes the thesis. When the supervisor is satisfied with the thesis draft and approves it, the student (or supervisor) submits the thesis and supervisor's approval via email to the program director.

5. Review of Thesis:

Upon receiving the thesis, the program director will submit the abstract of thesis to Board of Studies and Board of Advance Studies and Research (BASR) for the approval of an external reviewer and a viva examiner for thesis. After receiving the approval, the program director will send thesis to external reviewer and viva examiner. Upon receiving the positive evaluation report from external reviewer, the program director will share the report with the student and supervisor, and the program office will be in contact with the viva examiner to arrange a suitable date for the defense of thesis.

6. Defense of Thesis:

The student presents the thesis, and the viva examiner conducts the viva and provides comments and feedback. Faculty members and other participants may also provide feedback during the defense. After the defense of thesis, the viva examiner submits the evaluation report, which will also be shared with the supervisor and student.

7. Thesis Revision and Plagiarism Report:

In light of the comments from external reviewer, viva examiner and others during the defense, the student revises the thesis under the guidance of supervisor and submits it to the supervisor. If the supervisor is satisfied with the thesis draft, the student shares the thesis with the program director (cc to supervisor), and the supervisor will confirm to the program director through email that the comments of the external reviewer and viva examiner have been addressed. Then, the program director will share the review reports and final status of the thesis with BASR. Meanwhile, the thesis is sent for the plagiarism check.

8. Format Review:

If the similarity index in Turnitin is not more than 19%, the thesis is sent to the IBA library for the review of its format. Finally, the student will submit the bound copies of the thesis with the signature of the supervisor to the program office, and the supervisor will post the pass/fail grade in the ERP.

In the case of project, the process includes steps 1, 4, 6, 7 and 8 given above. Steps 2, 3 and 5 are not required for the project.

- The student is not required to submit the research proposal to the program director and there will be no defense of the research proposal.
- The student will directly submit the project report along with its approval from the supervisor to the program director.
- The project report will not be evaluated by the external reviewer and viva examiner.
- Upon receiving the project report along with the supervisor's approval, the program director will organize the defense of the project. Faculty members and other participants may provide feedback during the defense. The student revises the thesis under the guidance of the supervisor. The remaining steps are the same as those for the thesis.

Note: IBA requires that the thesis or project should be registered in the semester during which it is completed (rather than started).