Bachelor Thesis (Economics)

Academic Year: (2022 / 2023) **Review date: 11-05-2022**

Department assigned to the subject: Economics Department, Social Sciences Department, Statistics Department

Coordinating teacher: ALONSO BORREGO, CESAR

Type: Bachelor Thesis ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 6 Semester :

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

In order to apply for registering in the Bachelor Thesis, students must be registered in all remaining courses that they need to pass to complete their Bachelor studies.

For students on an exchange program, the University administration will accept provisionally their application and will check their eligibility at the end of the exchange period.

In order for his/her work to be evaluated, the student must not have more than 30 ECTS credits still to pass to obtain the degree, including in this calculation the external internship credits.

OBJECTIVES

KNOWLEDGE:
-Apply theoretical knowledge acquired during the Bachelor studies to the understanding of real economic phenomena and situations, either present or historical.
-Analyze realistic scenarios of research in Economics or Economic History.
-Collect and summarize all relevant information that is necessary on order to conduct an appraisal of an economic issue.
-Assess the causes and consequences of a given economic or industrial policy, either public or private, present or historical. On the basis of such assessment, the student shall be able to provide a reasoned conclusion, substantiated by an empirical analysis of the problem.

SKILLS:
-Apply the teoretical background achieved during the degree studies to the understanding of real economic phenomena and situations (current or historical).
-Search, select and process the necessary information to study an economic issue. The student will be able to summarize all relevant diagnostic information and reject redundant or irrelevant information.
-Contribute new ideas, make suggestions and take decisions in order to solve economic problems.
-Use discernment about the collected information and the ambiguity of economic situations.

APTITUDES:
-Inititative to undertake new research challenges.
-Commitment to his/her research proposals.
-Ability to motivate, prove and defend his/her approach.
-Commitment to cooperation, willingness to share ideas and results.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The objective of the TFG (Bachelor thesis) is to allow the student to carry out a research project in the field of Economics or Economic History.
For that purpose, the student will apply the scientific methodology learned during the Bachelor in Economics.

In order to write a TFG (Bachelor thesis), students will first choose a topic of their interest, then they will

identify a research problem that can be approached on the base of one or different questions. In the thesis, the student will offer answers based on a logic reasoning and using the analytical methods learned during the Bachelor studies.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The teaching-learning methodology for the TFG (Bachelor thesis) is based on tutorial sessions. The tutor will advise the student about the options available as for the choice of a topic, the formulation of research questions, the required data and the most appropriate analytical methods.
1. In the general modality, the tutor will provide a list of topics and readings as a preliminary guide to the choice of a topic for the thesis. In the specific modality, the student must propose his/her potential tutor a topic of research with specific question/s of interest in Economics, as well as a preliminary research plan.
2. Once the student has selected a topic of research, the tutor will advise the student about the process to follow in order to work efficiently and obtain quick results of high scholarly quality.
3. The student will be advised about the sources of information that are required in order to formalize the research problem and will construct his/her own data sets, in the light of the objectives to achieve. Then the student will collect and read the relevant bibliographical references for the selected research topic.
4. The thesis must be written as an academic text in which the student will describe his/her research work. The objective is to explain clearly and thoroughly the methodology and the results of the research work in a written document with a standard scientific format (e.g. an academic journal's article).
5. Presentation and defense. The studend will present a summary of the basic features of his/her thesis (research questions, bibliographical references, data, methods, results) in an oral presentation (VIVA) in front of an examining committee. The presentation will be based on slides with a standard format.

Following the guidelines set by the university for this course, the tutorials can be done in person or online.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The final grade of the Bachelor thesis will be the weighted average of the grade given by the tutor (30%) and the final grade given by an examination committee (70%).

The tutor will complete a detailed report that will numerically assess the level reached by the student in terms of planning and organizing the tasks, the effective follow-up of the tutor's recommendations and the presentation of the final version submitted by the student.

The final evaluation will be done in a public oral defense session conducted by an examination committee, who will assess the content, structure and methodology of the work, as well as the achievement of abilities and skills specific to the degree, which should be reflected in the elaboration of the document submitted by the student.

The University uses the Turnitin Feedback Studio program within the Aula Global teaching platform to analyze the final version of the Bachelor thesis document delivered by each student. This program compares the originality of the text in the document delivered by each student with millions of electronic resources and detects those parts of the text that are copied and pasted. If the student has correctly included the citing and the bibliographic reference of those documents used as sources, Turnitin will not mark it as plagiarism.

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- C. Lipson How To Write A BA Thesis. A Practical Guide from Your First Ideas to Your Finished Paper, University of Chicago Press, 2005
- G. Koop Analysis of Economic Data, Wiley, 2013