

UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND

FACULTY OF LAW

13 June 2018

INTRODUCTION

The postgraduate degrees in Law are **Licentiate in Laws** and **Doctor of Laws**.

Postgraduate studies in the Faculty of Law involve supervised work completed in keeping with a personal study plan, drawn up by and for each student. Postgraduate studies require initiative and a considerable amount of independent work on the part of the student. During their studies, students take part in seminars as well as other educational opportunities and write their licentiate or doctoral thesis. In the case of both degrees, postgraduate studies promote the student's scientific thinking and ability to do research independently.

According to the Government Decree on University Degrees, the aim of postgraduate study is that the student

- (1) becomes well-versed in his/her own field of research and its social significance and gains knowledge and skills needed to apply scientific research methods independently and critically and to produce new scientific knowledge within his/her field of research;
- 2) becomes conversant with the development, basic problems and research methods of his/her own field of research; and
- 3) gains such knowledge of the general theory of science and of other disciplines relating to his/her own field of research as enables him/her to follow developments in them.

The licentiate and doctorate are separate degrees, although their requirements overlap to some extent. Where a postgraduate student completes both degrees, most of the required studies are completed as part of the licentiate.

One aim of the Licentiate in Laws degree is to provide practicing lawyers with valuable additional professional education. The degree may also be completed as a step towards eventual completion of the doctorate. In the latter case, it is advisable for students to choose a topic for their licentiate thesis that falls within the same field as that of their doctoral thesis; otherwise completion of the doctorate might be delayed. Completion of the licentiate degree requires an estimated two years of full-time study (120 study points).

The degree of Doctor of Laws is intended for those intending to pursue careers as researchers and legal experts. The projected time required to complete the degree for students studying full time is four years (240 study points).

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligibility for postgraduate studies and starting the studies

Postgraduate students are admitted twice a year, in spring and in autumn. Applications are to be submitted through the electronic Opintopolku application system. More detailed information on the application deadlines can be found on the web pages of the University of Lapland and the Faculty of Law.

Applications for the academic year **2018/2019** are to be submitted between **3 September and 23 October 2018** or between **1 March and 16 April 2019**. Under special circumstances students may be admitted outside of these periods.

For students admitted to complete postgraduate studies, the right to study is effective as of 1 January or 1 August.

Postgraduate studies in law develop the student's ability to carry out a profound analysis of legally relevant situations. Often this means formulating and investigating research questions that extend into more than one field within the discipline of law. Many issues might also require familiarity with other academic disciplines. Prospective postgraduate students should always discuss their research topic in detail with a professor or lecturer from the Faculty. This will enable them to submit a well-reasoned proposal as to who would be suitable as supervisor(s) when the time comes.

The right to complete a Licentiate in Laws degree may be granted to a student holding a master's or bachelor's degree in law or, where sufficient grounds can be presented, to an applicant who has completed another university degree in Finland or abroad. Eligibility for admission is presented in detail below.

Applicants must demonstrate that they fulfil the requirements necessary for completing the licentiate degree. The application documents are to be addressed to the Faculty and the admission decision is made by the Dean.

In their applications, applicants are to

-designate the major subject and research topic of the licentiate degree;

-provide an account of their qualifications for completing the licentiate (e.g. a copy of a diploma);
and

-present a research and study plan. This is the most important component of the application and should be prepared with care. A good research proposal contains not only an analytical presentation of the research theme but also an account of the methodology and implementation of the research. Additional information on how to draw up the research plan can be found in the relevant faculty guidelines.

Applications can only be accepted if the Faculty has a person who is suitable for and willing to take on the task of supervisor.

The right to complete a Doctor of Laws degree may be granted to an applicant holding the degree of Licentiate in Laws, directly to an applicant holding a master or bachelor of laws degree or, where sufficient grounds can be presented, to an applicant who has completed another university degree in Finland or abroad. Eligibility for admission is presented in detail below.

Applicants must demonstrate that they fulfil the requirements necessary for completing the doctoral degree. The applications are to be addressed to the Faculty and the admission decision is made by the Dean.

In their applications, applicants are to

-designate the major subject of the doctorate and the field of the research;

-provide an account of their qualifications for completing the doctorate (e.g. a copy of a diploma, a CV, a tentative plan for financing their studies, as well as any statements from their future supervisor(s) or other experts); and

-present a research study plan. This is the most important component of the application and should be prepared carefully. A good research proposal contains not only an analytical presentation of the research theme but also an account of the methodology and implementation of the research.

Additional information on how to draw up the research plan can be found in the relevant faculty guidelines.

Applications can only be accepted if the Faculty has a person who is suitable for and willing to take on the task of supervisor.

Eligibility of applicants holding a degree in a field other than law

Postgraduate degrees in law are based on profound legal expertise. The contents of the degrees have been planned in view of applicants who hold a basic degree in the field.

Notwithstanding, the right to complete a postgraduate degree can be granted to an applicant who holds a higher university degree or relevant higher degree from a university of applied sciences in a field other than law if the applicant is deemed to have sufficient capacity for postgraduate studies in law. Also eligible are persons whom the Faculty considers to have the requisite knowledge and capacity to pursue postgraduate studies. An application for the right to complete a postgraduate degree must include an account of this knowledge and capacity.

Eligibility for admission based on a foreign degree

Applicants seeking the right to complete postgraduate studies based on a foreign degree must attach to their application a certified copy of their diploma and of all other certificates on which their

application is based. If a certificate has been issued in a language other than Finnish, Swedish or English, the application must include an official translation of the document into one of these languages. Under special circumstances, the Dean may accept certificates in other languages.

The postgraduate-level instruction provided by the Faculty of Law is primarily given in Finnish and English. Applicants seeking the right to pursue postgraduate studies based on a foreign degree are required to demonstrate that they are capable of completing the degree in question and that they have a good knowledge of Finnish or English.

The language skills are assessed in accordance with the language proficiency requirements of the University or in another manner approved by the Dean. Under special circumstances, the Dean may decide that good skills or a master's degree in a language other than Finnish, Swedish or English is sufficient to fulfil the language requirement.

Admission decision

After an application is submitted, two decisions are made: the Dean's decision on granting the right to study and the Faculty Council's decision on approving the applicant's initial study plan, research plan, major subject, and supervisor/supervisors. If necessary, applicants will be asked to provide supplementary information. Negative admission decisions may be appealed through the procedure described in the Universities Act.

APPROVAL OF THE PERSONAL STUDY PLAN AND APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISOR(S)

Licentiate degree

Upon approving an application for the right to complete the licentiate degree, the Dean confirms the applicant's major subject and personal study plan and appoints his/her supervisor(s). The supervisor appointed by the Dean is either the person suggested by the applicant or, if no suggestion has been made, another suitable person. The appointment requires both the supervisor's commitment to the task and the student's consent to the arrangement.

Those eligible for appointment as supervisors are tenured professors, acting professors (provided they have completed a doctorate or studies entitling them to the title of doctor), associate professors, university lecturers, or adjunct professors. Also some other expert who has a doctor's degree may be appointed as a student's second supervisor. If a student has two supervisors, one is appointed as the principal supervisor and at least one must be a member of the Faculty.

The Faculty approves the research topic of the licentiate degree and maintains a register of research topics. If the student plans to write a licentiate thesis consisting of research articles, this must be mentioned when requesting confirmation of the proposed topic.

Doctoral degree

Upon approving an application for the right to complete the doctoral degree, the Faculty Council confirms the applicant's major subject, personal study plan, and research plan and appoints the

supervisor. The person(s) proposed as the applicant's supervisor(s) submit a written statement to the Faculty regarding the application. The Faculty confirms the proposed supervisor(s) or, if no proposal has been made, appoints a suitable person who has agreed to take on the responsibility. The appointment requires both the supervisor's commitment to the task and the student's consent to the arrangement.

Those eligible for appointment as supervisors are tenured professors, acting professors (provided they have completed a doctorate or studies entitling them to the title of doctor), associate professors, or adjunct professors (docents). Also another expert who has a doctor's degree may be appointed as a student's second supervisor. If a student has two supervisors, one is appointed as the principal supervisor and at least one must be a member of the Faculty.

The Faculty approves the research topic of the doctor's degree and maintains a register of research topics. If the student plans to write a doctoral thesis consisting of several research articles, this must be mentioned when requesting confirmation of the proposed topic.

SUPERVISION AND THE STUDY PLAN

Postgraduate students and their supervisors agree on a personal study plan (PSP), which then serves as a tool for future work between them. The basis for the PSP is the initial study plan that students submit to the Faculty for approval at the beginning of their studies. The content and updating of the plan is agreed on by the student and the supervisor. The PSP should describe the motivation for and objectives of the student's postgraduate studies, the timetable, the order in which the degree requirements will be completed, and the way in which communication will be carried out between

the student and the supervisor(s). Students who intend to complete their doctoral research/thesis as a series of research articles must also present a plan regarding the doctoral thesis as a whole and indicate the topics of the component studies.

Supervisors and their students meet at least once per term, depending on the research phase and the student's need for supervision. In the meetings the supervisor and the student update the PSP, discuss the progress of the student's research, and address any challenges the student has encountered. One suitable time for such meetings is the postgraduate study week in November.

Supervision is arranged in accordance with the Faculty's guidelines that are based on recommendations by the University's Teaching and Research Council. The guidelines are distributed to all supervisors and they are available in PDF format on the faculty web pages.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

The successful completion of postgraduate studies in the Faculty of Law requires initiative and a considerable amount of independent work on the part of the student. The thesis is a demonstration of the student's ability to independently and critically apply the methods of scientific research and to create new scientific knowledge. Students have supervision available throughout their studies and their progress is monitored. During their studies students attend lectures and/or seminars, participate in other education organized by the Faculty or accepted as fulfilling the degree requirements, and write their thesis. Postgraduate education is designed to improve the students' ability to think scientifically and to conduct research independently. An additional aim is to better prepare the students to work in expert duties in the field of law outside of the university.

Henceforth, the abbreviation sp stands for study points.

The structure of postgraduate degrees

1. Advanced Studies - Elective studies (20 sp)	20 sp (Licentiate 15 sp)
2. Method, Theory and History -A) Method (5 sp) - B) Theory (5 sp) - C) History (5 sp) - D) Elective studies (5 sp)	20 sp (15 sp)
3. Academic Expertise -A) Teaching experience (5 sp) - B) Internationalization (5 sp) - C) Workshop (5 sp) - D) Elective studies (5 sp)	20 sp (10 sp)
4. Doctoral thesis (Licentiate thesis)	180 sp (80 sp)

Content of postgraduate studies

1) Advanced studies (20 sp/15 sp)

Aims

The aim of the advanced studies is to increase students' knowledge of the field in which they are writing their thesis, in particular the general theories and special issues connected with their chosen research topic.

Requirements

Advanced Studies. This component is completed in a manner agreed with the supervisor. The starting point is a wide range of involvement in academic activity relating to the student's chosen field and topic. The number of study points that can be obtained from the different activities is determined on the basis of the credit equivalence table presented below. It is also possible to complete advanced studies through literature examinations, the material for which is to be agreed on with their supervisor.

The requirements for written literature examinations are determined for each student individually according to his/her needs. The basic rule in planning the literature exams is that one study point corresponds to some 200 pages of reading material. Some of the literature required must be in a foreign language.

It is recommended that students complete the advanced studies at the beginning of their postgraduate study, as they provide a basis for the upcoming research.

Responsible teacher

The confirmed postgraduate study supervisor is the responsible teacher. If the supervisor is not a member of the Faculty, then the Dean carries out the task.

2) Method, Theory and History (20 sp/15 sp)

The doctorate's Method, Theory and History component comprises three compulsory and one elective module, each of which yielding five study points. As for the licentiate, the scope of the component is 15 study points, five of which must be for courses on legal method or theory. The method and theory modules may be completed by taking part in the Faculty's postgraduate studies seminar that has a different theme each year.

Aims

Having completed the Method, Theory and History study component, the postgraduate student is able to

- identify issues relating to the methods used in legal research
- grasp the status and significance of the doctrine of the sources of law
- apply general methodological considerations to his or her research topic
- identify and apply discussions in the field of law to his/her own topic
- recognize the legal historical dimensions of his/her research topic.

Requirements

Method and Legal Theory. These modules are completed by participating in the annual postgraduate studies seminar (postgraduate studies week). The themes taken up in the seminar vary annually.

Alternatively, the student may complete the requirements by participating in courses or seminars offered elsewhere. The required courses cannot be completed solely by taking a literature examination or by writing an essay. However, the modules may be completed in part through an essay, where this will form part of the student's thesis.

Legal History. This module advances the postgraduate student's knowledge of legal history as it bears on his or her research topic. The studies are built around three components: history of law/society in general, history of a particular field of law, and international legal history.

The module may be completed by taking a literature examination, by writing an essay, or in another manner agreed on with the supervisor. Examples of equivalent work are seminars, lectures and essays. Other acceptable options include courses and seminars completed elsewhere than the University of Lapland. The responsible teacher determines the scope of credit to be granted for work completed, the basis being the credit equivalence table below.

Elective Studies. In this module the student is free to define the content in a manner that best supports his/ her postgraduate research. The content is determined in the same way as that of the three modules described above; for example, a student interested in legal theory may complete 5 additional study points of studies in legal theory.

It is recommended that students start the study component at the beginning of their postgraduate study, as they provide a basis for the upcoming research.

Responsible teacher

Modules A, B and D (Method, Theory and Elective): The responsible teacher is University Lecturer Samuli Hurri.

Module C (History): The responsible teacher is Professor Kirsi Kuusikko.

3) Academic Expertise (20 sp/10 sp)

This study component comprises three compulsory modules and one module whose content the student is free to determine. For students pursuing a doctorate the scope of each compulsory module and the elective module is five study points. For those working on a licentiate degree, the scope of the Academic Expertise component is 10 study points and the entire content of the component is elective.

Aims

The overarching goal of the Academic Expertise component is to activate the students to take part in various academic events and activities and thus to help them become members of the academic community. More specifically, the component is designed to improve their skills in giving presentations in scientific forums, writing academic articles, and pursuing opportunities to do research abroad. An additional objective is to better prepare the students to work in legal expert duties outside of the university.

Requirements

Teaching Experience. The required teaching experience may be acquired by participating in teaching duties at the University of Lapland or some other university. In addition to teaching proper, credit may be awarded for activities in support of teaching (e.g. work as a teacher-tutor), for planning of teaching, and for arranging further education. Credit for studies in university pedagogy may also be included in this module.

Internationalization. The module may be completed by participating in seminars abroad, doing research abroad, or publishing in international publications.

Workshop. Towards the end of their thesis research, all doctoral candidates are to organize a workshop on their topic. The workshop should be designed to support the student's research, with the student's supervisor and three or four legal experts invited to attend. The aim of the workshop is to deepen students' knowledge of their topic, develop their skills as authors, and assist them in finalizing their thesis research. In addition, the workshop provides experience in academic cooperation and in reaping the benefits of networks that have been created. The specific practical arrangements for the workshop are worked out on a case-by-case basis between the student, his or her supervisor, and the faculty office. As a rule, the Faculty will cover the costs of the workshop. The workshop may be held elsewhere than in Rovaniemi.

Elective studies. Students may choose the content of this module themselves. Credit may be obtained by taking courses corresponding to the other courses or by taking those mentioned in the credit equivalence table.

The module may be completed in a variety of ways: participating in courses offered at the University (e.g. writing skills; scientific communication; legal information management skills; and presentation, negotiation, project management and pedagogical skills), participating in scientific seminars and comparable events, writing academic publications, doing research abroad, or gaining teaching experience. Credit may also be obtained by practicing in a field of law that supports the student's research and writing a report on this experience.

The courses to be completed are agreed in keeping with each individual student's needs. Suitable courses for this module are offered in the University's Graduate School, for example. Credit can also be given for courses completed and seminars attended elsewhere, in which case the responsible teacher decides on the credit to be granted.

The student's supervisor determines the work that will be accepted as part of the degree. If the course/seminar has been assigned a particular value in terms of study points, completion of the course/seminar will be counted accordingly. If no value has been assigned, the student's supervisor will determine the credit to be awarded on the basis of the credit equivalence table.

If the supervisor is not a Faculty member, the Dean acts as the responsible teacher.

Recording of credit for postgraduate course work

Students should request the faculty office to record the study points for each component of the degree (1–4) when they have completed all the requirements for it. The professor responsible for the component then accepts the points recorded.

Students should themselves keep a record (CV, portfolio, list of publications) of the activities which they intend to present for credit towards the components of the degree. Descriptions of work completed elsewhere than the University may be submitted in a manner approved by the supervisor.

Credit equivalence table

The following list provides an indication of the credit granted for different forms of work and activities that may be applied towards the degree requirements. In unclear and borderline cases, students should contact the professor responsible for the relevant degree component.

Participation (less than 10 hours) in lectures, a seminar, a reading/study circle, or the like, and keeping of a learning journal	1 sp
Participation (less than 10 hours) in a seminar	2 sp

with presentation	
Participation (10 hours or more) in a seminar	1 sp
Participation (10 hours or more) in a seminar with presentation	3 sp
Article published in a scientific journal or manuscript judged to be of publishable standard by the student's supervisor (at least 8 pages)	3 sp
Article published in a Finnish journal with referee procedure (at least 8 pages)	5 sp
Article published in an international journal with referee procedure (at least 8 pages)	7 sp
Research work abroad	1 sp per week, to a maximum of 10 study points
The amount of credit received for teaching experience or other pedagogical activity is determined on a case-by-case basis. In assessing the amount of credit, attention is given to how demanding the teaching duties were and to the amount of preparation they required. The basic assessment is that ten hours of teaching and associated preparation carry five study points.	

LICENTIATE THESIS

The licentiate degree entails the writing of a thesis (80 sp) in which the student is to demonstrate a sound knowledge of his/her area of research as well as the capacity to apply scientific research

methods critically and independently. A professionally oriented thesis must demonstrate that the author is thoroughly familiar with the field and able to use legal research methods. The suggested length of the licentiate thesis is **100 to 150 pages** (12-point font, line spacing 1.5, not counting pages with lists).

The licentiate thesis may be composed of a number of scientific publications or manuscripts accepted for publication that deal with the same topic and a summary of these. As a rule, the publications are to have passed the peer review process. The publications may be joint publications provided that the author's independent contribution can be clearly demonstrated.

Before the licentiate thesis is submitted for assessment, the author must defend it in a public seminar. The opponent is to be either the teacher appointed to be the examiner of the work or another expert.

Examination and assessment of the licentiate thesis

After the supervisor's approval to start the examination process, the Faculty Council appoints two examiners for the thesis, one of whom may be the student's supervisor. Efforts are made to engage a second examiner who is not affiliated with the Faculty of Law at the University

When the examiners have issued their statements of approval, the author makes the necessary changes and corrections and delivers three bound copies of the thesis to the Faculty for assessment. Summary page forms are available at <http://www.ulapland.fi> and in the faculty office.

Thereafter, a public defence seminar is arranged for the licentiate thesis. The seminar is chaired by the supervisor, while one of the examiners acts as the opponent.

The licentiate thesis is assessed on a scale from **5 to 10**. Both the topic and the grade are marked on the licentiate diploma.

After the licentiate thesis has been approved, if not before, the student must submit five additional copies of the work to the faculty office. These will be distributed to the libraries of the Faculties of Law at the Universities of Helsinki, Turku, Lapland and Eastern Finland and to the Library of Parliament.

Doctoral thesis

The most important component of the doctoral degree is the doctoral thesis (180 sp). The thesis must demonstrate that the author has the ability to independently apply scientific research methods and that he or she has a sound knowledge of the chosen field and a profound knowledge of the area of research. The suggested length of a doctoral thesis submitted as a monograph is **250 to 300 pages** (12-point font, line spacing 1.5, not counting pages with lists).

The doctoral thesis may be composed of a sufficient number of scientific publications or manuscripts accepted for publication that deal with the same topic and a summary of these. As a rule, the publications are to be peer-reviewed. The publications submitted may be joint publications provided that the author's contribution can be clearly demonstrated.

Before the doctoral thesis is assessed, the author must defend it in a public defence.

Public defence, approval and assessment of the doctoral thesis

Examination and permission to defend the thesis

The Faculty Council will appoint the examiners for the doctoral thesis upon application by the student. As a rule, the request should not be processed until the student's supervisor has issued a statement recommending that the thesis be accepted, as the supervisor has an obligation to make sure that the work fulfils the requirements set for a doctoral thesis. Where two supervisors have been designated, it is primarily the main supervisor who judges whether the examination may begin. It is the supervisor's responsibility to see to it that the quality of the language in thesis is of the standard required in a doctorate. If necessary, the supervisor is to advise the student to ensure that the language is checked and proofread appropriately.

If the student so insists, examiners may be appointed even where the supervisor has not approved the appointment. In such cases, the Faculty Council will request a statement on the matter from the student's supervisor(s).

The principal criterion in choosing examiners is to find persons with the requisite expertise for the task. Only persons who have completed a doctorate or a foreign degree of comparable standard may act as examiners. One of the examiners must be a member from an institution other than the Faculty of Law at the University of Lapland. Qualified examiners can be found not only in the student's own faculty (mainly professors and adjunct professors) but in other faculties of law and other universities where law is taught, including foreign universities. Interaction between the Finnish and international scientific communities should be promoted in the examination process, and it is therefore recommended that foreign experts act as examiners. At least one of the examiners should

nevertheless be familiar with Finnish academic practices and the assessment criteria for doctoral theses. However, both examiners may be from foreign universities if suitable experts cannot be found in Finland or if the engagement of two foreign examiners can be justified on some other grounds.

The examiners' task is to determine whether the manuscript submitted for acceptance as a doctoral thesis meets the standards for such a work. Normally the examiners are given three months' time for their task, during which period the doctoral candidate may not make changes in the manuscript. Each examiner sends an assessment of the manuscript to the Faculty Council in the form of a written statement.

The examination must apply to the manuscript version submitted. The examiner statement must express clearly whether or not, in his or her view, the manuscript fulfils the criteria for a thesis as submitted for examination. The examiners must present grounds for positive as well as for negative statements. The statement may suggest changes to the manuscript, but making the suggested corrections cannot be set as a requirement for an examiner statement recommending permission to defend the thesis.

The examination procedure may be extended for a reasonable time after the prescribed deadline pursuant to an agreement between the examiners and the degree candidate in order to allow the candidate to make any necessary corrections. Extensions of the examination period must be reported either orally or in writing to the Dean and the faculty office. The examination procedure will lapse if the examination does not result within the prescribed time in a statement recommending that permission be granted to defend the thesis and if no other arrangement is made. However, even in such cases the degree candidate may turn to the Faculty Council and request a

new examination when the changes to the manuscript indicated in a statement rejecting the work or other changes have been made.

When the examination procedure results in statements recommending that the thesis be accepted, the Faculty Council proceeds to decide on the basis of the statements whether or not to grant permission to defend the thesis. When the candidate has been granted permission, he or she has the right to defend the manuscript in a public defence. The Faculty Council rules the date of the defence and appoints the opponent(s), the custos and an assessment board. In addition, the Council decides on the theses to be accepted for publication in the series Acta Universitatis Lapponiensis.

Public distribution of the thesis

The degree candidate is to ensure that the thesis is publicly distributed prior to the defence in printed or other appropriate form.

It is recommended that doctoral theses in law be published in book form prior to the defence. If the thesis is for a special reason published solely in electronic form, it must be published in an electronic publication series approved by the University of Lapland, another university, or a commercial publisher. This series must have publishing practices with clear, established, and publicly available rules and standards.

The degree candidate must always provide the University with a required number of copies of the thesis. If the thesis has been published in electronic form only, the Faculty will inform the candidate before the public examination and approval of the thesis in what form the work must be submitted

to the Faculty. The candidate should be prepared to provide the required number of copies of the thesis to the Faculty in bound, paper form.

Opponent

Normally, one of the examiners is appointed as opponent at the defence. Two opponents may be designated where necessary. The assessment of degree work should also be a forum for encouraging interaction between the international and national scientific communities. In assessing the standard of the doctoral thesis on the basis of the examination and the defence, it must be ensured that the criteria applied in the assessment are those used in Finland.

Assessment board

Unless special reasons exist for proceeding otherwise, the assessment board will be composed of the opponent(s), the examiners, the Custos, the candidate's supervisor, and the tenured professor of the relevant subject at the University of Lapland.

Assessment of the thesis

Within six weeks of the defence, the opponent must submit to the Faculty Council a statement either accepting or rejecting the thesis. The opponent must present the grounds for his or her assessment and, in particular, it should be clear from the statement what criteria the opponent has applied in assessing the quality of the work.

The assessment board appointed by the Faculty Council submits a tentative assessment, in which it proposes that the thesis be either accepted or rejected. No grade is given to an accepted thesis. If an approved thesis is considered particularly commendable, the Assessment Board, setting out the grounds in its statement, may propose that the Faculty Council award the thesis the distinction “accepted with honours”.