



### Criteria for evaluation of the master thesis

EVALUATION CRITERIA	EXPECTATION	Max. points	Points
<b>STRUCTURAL QUALITY OF THESIS</b>			
Congruency of objective, layout and argumentation	The problem, objective and research topic are formulated in a clear manner. The resulting thematic priorities will be clearly identified and very well argued.	35	32
Mode of problem solving (approach, problem solving processes, applied method)	The scientific method is appropriately selected, displayed traceably and applied correctly. Data are clearly presented. Results are interpreted very well, in depth and linked to the research question.	35	25
Structure and outline (clear, logic, comprehensible)	The topic is differentiated (subdivided in the thematic fields relevant for the research scope) and elaborated consequently in a structured way (red thread) as well as justified scientifically. This is also shown in the index and the content of the thesis.	15	9
Linkage of theory and practice	A: The thesis deals with the research question far in excess of the basic literature and also shows clear and understandable instructions for the practice.  or  B: The thesis has an excellent empirical base and clearly leads to the research topic.  The relation (relevant exclusively for the research question) between the theoretical and practical part is very balanced.	15	13
<b>TOTAL POINTS STRUCTURAL QUALITY</b>		100	79

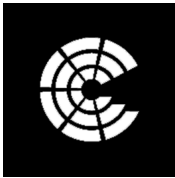


TOTAL POINTS QUALITY OF THESIS REGARDING CONTENT		100	90
EVALUATION CRITERIA	EXPECTATION	Max. points	Points
QUALITY OF THESIS REGARDING CONTENT			
Scientific foundation	<p>The thesis has a certain level of innovation. The thesis ties in with current research and expands it in a narrow research question.</p> <p>The author displays a strong understanding of scientific thinking (ie, no adoption or mentioning of opinions, views or positions without comment, etc)</p>	10	9
Quality and adequate spreading of used literature	<p>The thesis includes a bibliography appropriate to the research field and the state of the art.</p> <p>A use of the current scientific literature (journal articles and monographs) exceeding the basic sources with particular reference to foreign sources is to be emphasized. The sources are relevant and of high level (scientific journals rather than popular science; both classic and recent sources)</p> <p>Internet sources are only used in appropriate cases.</p>	30	28
Practical reference, respectively findings relevant for practice	The thesis covers a topic highly relevant to the practice in empirically sophisticated manner or on the basis of relevant literature. The thesis has a high added value for the practice.	10	8
Summary and reflection about thesis	Own views are justified logically and scientifically correct. The research question and the resulting hypotheses are scientifically very sound and verifiable.	30	26
Own contribution and independence in development of thesis	The thesis shows a high degree of independent thinking.	20	19



EVALUATION CRITERIA	EXPECTATION	Max. points	Points
<b>FORMAL QUALITY OF THESIS</b>			
Extent is consistent with specifications	The thesis complies with the specified size and meets the formal criteria laid down in the master thesis guidelines to a high extent.  Quality counts more than quantity. The author expresses him/herself briefly and concisely and shows ability to select what is relevant.	25	23
Correct mode of quoting; marking of ideas of others	External sources are consistently and uniformly identified and cited in a complete and correct manner. The mode of citation is consistent throughout the thesis.	25	18
Style and language	The language used is of a high, professional level (with no spelling or typing mistakes), the style is very good.	25	24
Formal overall impression	The formal overall impression (in the sense of the traditional grading scale) is very good. The content of graphs is understandable and displayed on a high graphical level.	25	23
<b>TOTAL POINTS FORMAL QUALITY OF THESIS</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>88</b>

EVALUATION CRITERIA	Points	Weighting factor	Weighted points
TOTAL POINTS STRUCTURAL QUALITY	79	1/3	26.33
TOTAL POINTS QUALITY OF THESIS REGARDING CONTENT	90	1/3	30.00
TOTAL POINTS FORMAL QUALITY OF THESIS	88	1/3	29.33
<b>TOTAL POINTS THESIS</b>			<b>85.66</b>



Joe Siroky

Master Thesis in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree "Master of Arts (MA)"

Supervisor Justification

This note should be read in conjunction with the "Criteria for evaluation of the master thesis".

Declaration: in my opinion, the student can be admitted for full consideration by the Commission.

Grading recommendation: my overall grade marking is 86%, placed within the "Good" category of the MCI grading system.

Summary opinion

For background, during the thesis development period, Joe was a pleasure to engage with: highly intelligent, diligent and interested. This made him easy to supervise, though he was quite prepared to challenge my views or advice as the work unfolded. We had a good relationship.

There is a huge amount written about Public-Private Partnerships. In the health sector, a lot of this even from the most prestigious sources is flavoured by political positioning rather than theoretical appraisal. Partly for this reason, and because of the inherent novelty of the academic approaches to PPP, the literature can be highly confusing. This makes it difficult to disentangle prejudice from hard analysis, and to unpick the assumptions which have led observers to their conclusions. Yet the subject is rather important economically and in service terms – that is, for health policy - and likely to become more so in the future. Joe has done a good job in navigating through the material, has clearly understood the main issues, and has been able to structure them in a conceptual framework.

In terms of the Evaluation Criteria:

1. Structural quality. A literature survey (at least, one that is not rigorously "systematic") is in my judgement fundamentally easier to do than a thesis based on original research such as surveying or modelling. The level of imagination required is simply less. That being said, Joe carried out thorough work and has articulated a good deal more than the vast bulk of the (repetitive) articles he will have read. His extensive treatment of "§1.3 Definition" of PPPs attached to stating the "§1.1 Problem" which he was addressing is probably the best I have seen for the area, indicating that he understood what he was aiming for.
2. Content. The material has been well-selected, arranged and set in context. He has read and used a wide range of literature from different sources. My only (slight) point of concern is that his "§5. Conclusion" could have done with more punch, though the area does not lend itself responsibly to simple sound-bite answers.
3. Formal quality. This is good, with the only area where I have marked him down a little being the referencing and Bibliography, where some are not full (journal name, for example), and where he has not been clear as the extent of reliance which can be placed on grey literature.

Stephen Wright  
Tuesday, 26 June 2012