NNLE GIPA-Georgian Institute of Public Affairs The rule of planning, implementation and evaluation of the research component of master's educational programs

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NNLE GIPA-Georgian Institute of Public Affairs

The rule of planning, implementation and evaluation of the research component of master's educational programs

Article 1. Research component of master's education programs

- 1.1. The purpose of the research component of the Master's educational programs operating at NNLE GIPA- Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the University) is to develop the ability of the student to conduct research independently, by using the latest methods and approaches, adhering the principles of academic integrity.
- 1.2. Mandatory research component of master's educational programs is master's project/thesis (hereinafter master's thesis).
- 1.3. Completion of the mandatory research component of the master's educational programs is confirmed by the presentation and defense of the master's thesis (presentation and discussion).
- 1.4. The goal of completing and defending the master's thesis is to develop the student's ability to independently conduct research in the selected field, to present the results of his studies and to present his reasoning based on the research results in an argumentative manner.
- 1.5. A master's thesis is a student's individual, independent, original research/thesis, and responsibility for maintaining standards of academic and research integrity of it rests with the student.
- 1.6. The literature citation in the research project/prospectus and the master's thesis should be done according to APA 7 or Chicago Style. The decision as to which style should be used in relation to a particular Master's program is made by the academic council of the respective school.

Article 2. Prerequisite for admission to the research component

2.1 Only those students who meet the requirements established by the curriculum of the relevant educational program can complete the mandatory research component of the master's educational programs.

Article 3. Registration of the title and supervisor of the master's thesis

- 3.1. The title and supervisor of the master's thesis are registered with the supervisor/coordinator of the respective program.
- 3.2. The selection of the subject and supervisor of the master's thesis must be made no later than 14 calendar days after the beginning of the fourth/relevant semester in agreement with the head/coordinator of the master's program.
- 3.3. The registration of the title of the master's thesis must be carried out by the student no later than 7 calendar days after the selection of the topic and supervisor of the master's thesis.
- 3.4. The title of the master's thesis may be changed during the subsequent work period in agreement with the supervisor of the master's thesis, which should be reported to the head/coordinator of the relevant program.
- 3.5. After registration of the master's thesis title and supervisor, the student starts working on the project/prospectus of the master's thesis in consultation with the master's thesis supervisor.

Article 4. Postponement of master's thesis defense

4.1 The student has the right, based on a personal statement, to postpone the defense of the master's thesis to the next semester/semesters in accordance with the rules governing the educational process of the university.

Article 5. Master thesis supervisor and co-supervisor

- 5.1 The supervisor of the master's thesis can be a doctor or a person with an academic degree equivalent to it, who is confirmed to have the experience of conducting research in the scientific field related to the topic of the master's thesis selected by the student and relevant publications.
- 5.2 The supervisor of the master's thesis is obliged to give direction and advise the student regarding the research design of the master's thesis, research methodology and the planning and implementation of the research project, as well as monitor the implementation of the student's research project and give feedback in order to improve the master's thesis. (Additional rights and duties of the supervisor of the master's thesis are determined by the agreement to be signed with him).
- 5.3 If necessary, the student may have a consultant who is an expert in the field and/or a person with practical experience and the confirmed relevant knowledge/experience related to the topic of the master's thesis selected by the student.
- 5.4 In the case provided by paragraph 5.3 of this article, the consultant is identified as the co-supervisor of the master's thesis.
- 5.5 The co-supervisor of the master's thesis is chosen by the student in agreement with the head and coordinator of the relevant program.
- 5.6 The master's thesis supervisor and co-supervisor should work in a coordinated manner to improve the quality of the master's thesis.
- 5.7 Taking into account the requirements of this article, the same person has the right to simultaneously supervise no more than 5 (five) master's theses, and in the case of co-supervision, no more than 8 (eight) master's theses.
- 5.8 For the purpose of periodic formative assessment of the student's progress on the master's thesis, the supervisor of the master's thesis evaluates the student's work in accordance with Annex No. 20 of the regulations governing the educational process of the university.
- 5.9 The supervisor of the master's thesis, according to the Annex provided for in paragraph 5.8 of this article, must conduct a formative assessment of the student after the student submits the project/prospectus of the master's thesis in accordance with this rule.

Article 6. Master thesis project/prospectus and its design

- 6.1 Master's thesis project/prospectus is a pre-developed plan of research to be carried out by the student, which the student submits to the sectoral commission for evaluation.
- 6.2 Defense of the project/prospectus of the master's thesis is a periodic formative assessment of the student's progress, which is a prerequisite for the admission of the student to the defense of the master's thesis.

- 6.3 The student is obliged to submit the master's research project/prospectus to the head/coordinator of the relevant program no later than 45 calendar days after the registration of the title of the master's thesis.
- 6.4 The completed master's research project/prospectus must be accompanied by a written statement from the supervisor of the master's thesis that he/she has familiarized himself/herself with the master's research project/prospectus and the thesis is ready for submission to the sectoral committee.
- 6.5 The project/prospectus of the master's thesis must be made on A4 format paper. The main text should be printed on one page only.
- 6.6 When formatting the project/prospectus of the master's thesis, the font Sylfaen, font size -12 should be used and in the titles of chapters and sub-chapters, a larger font can be used, but not more than -14. 1.5 spacing should be maintained between lines of main text. The main text should be aligned both on the right and on the left side (layout paragraph Alignment left/right).
- 6.7 The fields in the project/prospectus of the master's thesis should be kept as follows: 3 cm on the left side, 2 cm on the top side, 1.5 cm on the right side. and 2 cm on the lower side.
- 6.8 Master's thesis project/prospectus is numbered with Arabic numerals, on the lower side in the middle. Pages are numbered with the same font size 12. Introduction pages are not numbered.
- 6.9 The names of all chapters and sub-chapters in the project/prospectus of the master's thesis must be presented in the table of contents. All chapters should start on a new page and sub-chapters should continue from the same page. In case of numbering of chapters and sub-chapters, it is possible to use Roman numerals.
- 6.10 The first page of the project/prospectus of the master's thesis must indicate the name and logo of the university, the title of the master's thesis, the name and surname of the student, the name(s) and surname(s) of the supervisor/co-supervisors of the master's thesis, the academic degree to be awarded, for which the project/prospectus of the master's thesis is made, year and place of performance.
- 6.11 The project/prospectus of the master's thesis shall consider the components provided for in Annex 1, 2, and 3;
- 6.12 The administration of the relevant program shall set the date of defense of the projects/prospectus of the master's theses after the expiration of the deadline for submission of them.
- 6.13 The academic councils of the respective schools determine the sectoral commissions according to the educational programs of the master's degree in order to evaluate the projects/prospectus of master's theses. The sectoral commission must consist of at least 3 members and must be mandatorily staffed with the following members: the head of the program and representative(s) of the academic and/or guest staff of the relevant direction/sector, it is also possible for the commission to include other experts in the relevant field
- 6.14 The session of the sectoral commission is valid if more than half of the list of the sectoral commission is present. The sectoral commission makes a decision by the majority of votes, each member of the sectoral commission has one vote. In case of an equal number of votes, the head of the program, who at the same time is the chairman of the sectoral commission, has the decisive vote. In the event that the head of the program cannot participate in the activities of the sectoral commission, the sectoral commission is headed by a person designated by him.
- 6.15 In the event that a member of the sectoral commission is at the same time the supervisor of the student's master's thesis, he/she does not participate in the evaluation process of the project/prospectus of the student's master's thesis.

- 6.16 The supervisor of the master's thesis, who does not participate in the evaluation process, should be present at the process of evaluation of projects/prospectuses of students' master's theses by the sectoral commission.
- 6.17 On the day set by the administration of the relevant school for the defense of master theses projects/prospectus, the student is obliged to present the master thesis project/prospectus in the form of a presentation to the sectoral commission, demonstrate the work performed by him/her and give argumented answers to the questions posed by the members of the sectoral commission.
- 6.18 The sectoral committee, taking into account the introduction, presentation and question-and-answer of the submitted master's thesis project/prospectus, makes a decision to approve or disapprove the master's thesis project/prospectus.
- 6.19 In case of approval of the project/prospectus of the master's thesis, the student continues to work on the master's thesis. In the event that the project/prospectus of the master's thesis is not approved by the sectoral committee, the student is given no more than 10 working days, during which time he is obliged to submit the revised project/prospectus of the master's thesis to the head/coordinator of the relevant program.
- 6.20 In case of submission of revised master's thesis project/prospectus by the student, the head of the relevant program in agreement with the members of the sectoral commission determines the date of redefense of the master's thesis project/prospectus.
- 6.21 The sectoral commission, taking into account clauses 6.14 and 6.18 of this article, re-evaluates the student's reworked master's thesis project/prospectus and makes a decision on its approval or disapproval.
- 6.22 In the event that the student does not submit a revised draft/prospectus of the master's thesis within the period specified in paragraph 6.19 of this article, does not appear for the defense of the project/prospectus of the master's thesis, or the sectoral commission repeatedly disapproves the project/prospectus of the revised master's thesis, he loses the right to protection of the master's thesis in the current semester.

Article 7. Requirements for the master's thesis

- 7.1 Master's thesis requirements (detailed structure, volume, format, style, evaluation criteria and other technical data) are defined in the relevant appendices of this rule according to educational programs (see Annex 1, 2, and 3;).
- 7.2 The completion of the master's thesis must be carried according to the requirements established by clauses 6.5-6.10 of Article 6 of the present rule.

Article 8. Submission of master's thesis

- 8.1 According to the decision of the academic council of the relevant school, the term in which the student must submit the completed master's thesis to the coordinator of the relevant program is determined for each master's educational program.
- 8.2 The master's thesis must be submitted in two copies, in printed (bound) form. Master's thesis should also be submitted in electronic (PDF) form.
- 8.3 Along with the master's thesis, the student must submit to the relevant program coordinator a written statement from the supervisor of the master's thesis, which should confirm that he/she has read the

finished version of the master's thesis and believes that the master's thesis is ready or not ready for submission to the final assessment.

- 8.4 In the event that the supervisor of the master's thesis determines that the master's thesis is not ready for submission to the final assessment, the student loses the right to defend the master's thesis in the current semester.
- 8.5 In order to avoid plagiarism and comply with citation standards, the student must be guided by the instructions for students of the GIPA Georgian Institute of Public Affairs on the prevention of plagiarism at each stage of work on the master's thesis.
- 8.6 The finished master's thesis is checked for plagiarism using appropriate software. If plagiarism is not confirmed in the master's thesis, it will be sent to a reviewer for evaluation.
- 8.7 In case of confirmation of plagiarism in the master's thesis, the student loses the right to defend the presented master's thesis in the current semester and is subject to disciplinary liability stipulated by the university's internal regulatory documents.

Article 9. Master thesis review

- 9.1 The head of the relevant program shall determine the reviewer to whom the master's thesis will be submitted for evaluation within 5 working days after the expiration of the deadline set by the academic council of the respective school for the submission of completed master's theses.
- 9.2 The purpose of reviewing a master's thesis is to objectively assess its research value in accordance with pre-established criteria.
- 9.3 The reviewer of the master's thesis can be an academic/guest staff member of the university or an expert in the relevant field who has research or practical experience in the scientific field related to/adjacent to the master's thesis.
- 9.4 In order to ensure an impartial, fair and objective evaluation of the master's thesis, the university ensures that the reviewers are given the master's thesis in such a way that the identity of the student and the supervisor of the master's thesis are unknown to him. Also, the identity of the reviewers should be unknown to the student.
- 9.5 An appropriate agreement is signed between the reviewer and the university, which defines the rights and obligations of the parties and sets a deadline, in which the reviewer must submit a written conclusion regarding the master's thesis.
- 9.6 After signing the agreement with the reviewer, the relevant program head/coordinator provides him with the electronic version of the master's thesis and the evaluation criteria of the master's thesis.
- 9.7 The reviewer is obliged to evaluate the master's thesis in accordance with the predetermined form and criteria and provide the evaluation to the head/coordinator of the relevant program no later than 5 working days after receiving the master's thesis, if no other deadline is established by the agreement signed with him/her.
- 9.8 The relevant program coordinator must provide the evaluation received from the reviewer to the student within a reasonable time before the defense of the master's thesis.

Article 10. Determination of the date of defense of the master's thesis and the composition of the commission

10.1 Based on the submission of the head of the program, the academic council of the respective school makes a decision about the date of the defense of the master's thesis and the composition of the commission for the defense of the master's thesis.

10.2 The master's thesis defense commission must consist of at least 5 members, it must include: the head of the program and representatives of the academic/guest staff of the master's program or an adjacent field, and it can also include experts from the relevant/adjacent field, who have proven research and/or practical experience in the field

10.3 The master's thesis defense commission is headed by the head of the relevant program or another person determined by the academic council of the school.

10.4 The relevant program coordinator provides information to the students about the date of defense of the master's thesis and the composition of the commission.

10.5 The student has the right to request the expulsion of the member/members of the master's thesis defense commission based on a written statement addressed to the dean within 2 working days after receiving information about the composition of the master's thesis defense commission.

10.6 If the student's written application lacks justification, the dean of the relevant school has the right to request the student and specify a deadline (no more than 2 working days) to justify in writing why the student requests the expulsion of the member/members of the master's thesis defense commission. In the event that the student does not submit a substantiated application within the specified period, the dean has the right to refuse to accept the submitted written application, in such a case the master's thesis defense commission remains unchanged.

10.7 The dean of the relevant school, together with the head of the program, reviews the submitted application within a period of no more than 5 calendar days and makes a decision to accept or refuse to accept the submitted application.

10.8 In cases where the application provided for in clause 10.5 of this article is satisfied, the dean of the school will determine the new member/members of the master's thesis defense commission in agreement with the head of the relevant program within 5 working days from the decision on expulsion.

10.9 If the dean of the relevant school meets the request to exclude a member of the commission for the protection of the master's thesis, and if at the same time the number of members of the commission remains not less than 5, it is possible for the dean of the school not to determine a new member of the commission and the existing composition of the commission may evaluate the student's master's thesis without the excluded person.

10.11 Within no more than 5 calendar days from the determination of the composition of the Master's Thesis Defense Commission, the coordinator of the relevant program ensures that the electronic versions of the Master's theses are sent to the members of the commission.

10.12 The academic council is authorized to determine in relation to the master's degree educational programs of the relevant school in a specific academic year set different dates of the deadlines in accordance with Article 3.2 stipulated by clauses 3.3, clauses 6.3 and 6.19 of Article 6, clause 9.1 of Article 9, clause 10.11 of article 10 of the present rule .

Article 11. Master thesis defense

11.1 The meeting of the master's thesis defense commission is valid if more than half of the commission's list members are present.

- 11.2 The supervisor of the master's thesis should preferably be present at the master's thesis defense process. If he is unable to attend the Master's Thesis Defense Commission session for an honorable reason, he must inform the program head in advance.
- 11.3 In the event that a student who has submitted a completed master's thesis in accordance with this rule to the coordinator of the relevant program and failed to pass the defense of the master's thesis for a documented and honorable reason, or the quorum of the commission was not met, or the defense of the master's thesis did not take place due to other objective reasons independent of the student, the revised date of defense of the master's thesis is appointed by the decision of the commission.
- 11.4 During the defense of the master's thesis, each student must individually present the results of the research carried out by him/her in the form of a presentation and answer the questions of the members of the commission for the defense of the master's thesis. The defense of each master's thesis should not exceed, as s rule, 30 minutes.
- 11.5 During the presentation of the master's thesis, the student must use visible material (which may include slides, posters, video-film etc.). The duration of the presentation, as a rule, should not exceed 15 minutes.
- 11.6 The duration of the question-and-answer session after the master's thesis presentation should not exceed 15 minutes.
- 11.7 Photo-video recording and audio recording of the master's thesis defense process is not permitted without the prior consent of the head of the master's thesis defense committee. In case of violation of this clause, the committee has the right not to allow the student to defend the master's thesis.
- 11.8 The members of the master's thesis defense commission, based on the presented master's thesis, the presentation and the answers given by the student to the questions, in accordance with the individually predetermined form and criteria, evaluate the master's thesis.
- 11.9 The assessment of the commission for the defense of the master's thesis is determined based on the calculation of the arithmetic average of the evaluations carried out individually by the members of the commission (the sum of the received points divided by the number of members of the commission).

Article 12. Evaluation of master's thesis

- 12.1. The master's thesis, in accordance with the pre-established criteria for the relevant master's educational program, must be evaluated entirely, as a whole by the final evaluation.
- 12.2. The master's thesis must be evaluated in the same or the next semester in which the student completes work on it.
- 12.3. The evaluation of the master's thesis includes the reviewer's evaluation in accordance with the present rule and the evaluation carried out by the commission for the defense of the master's thesis.
- 12.4. According to the master's educational programs, the criteria used for the evaluation of the master's thesis, as well as the specific share of the evaluation of the master's thesis defense commission and the reviewer are determined in the relevant appendices of this rule (see Annex 1, 2, 3).
- 12.5. Master's thesis evaluation system of the master's educational program:
- 12.5.1 The rating system allows five types of positive ratings:
- a) (A) Excellent 91-100 points;

- b) (B) Very good 81-90 points;
- c) (C) Good 71-80 points;
- d) (D) Satisfactory 61-70 points;
- e) (E) Sufficient 51-60 points.
- 12.5.2. Two types of negative evaluation:
- a) (FX) Failed(with the right of re-submisson) 41-50 points.
- b) (F) Failed 40 points and less.
- 12.6 If the master's thesis receives the evaluation provided for in subsection "a" of clause 12.5.2 of this article, the student is allowed to submit the revised master's thesis during the next semester, and in case of receiving the evaluation provided for in subsection"b" of clause 12.5.2 of this article, the student loses the right to submit the same master's thesis.

Article 13. Appealing the assessment received in the master's thesis

13.1 The student has the right to appeal the assessment received in the master's thesis, in accordance with the rules governing the educational process of the university.

Annex N1

Public administration, local self-government, environmental protection management, public relations, applied psychology; international relations, interational law master's education program requirements

Master Thesis Project/Prospectus Structure

The mandatory constituent parts of the project/prospectus of the master's thesis are:

- Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), year and city of completion of the master's thesis project/prospectus; name of the university and title of the master's thesis project/prospectus should be written in font Sylfaen, font size 14, other entries on the title page should be written in font Sylfaen, font size -12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);
- Table of contents;
- Number of abbreviations (if necessary);
- Definition of terms (if necessary);
- Relevance, novelty and significance of the research;
- Research purpose and research subject;
- Literature review;
- Research methodology methods, technical description of the research and limitations of the research;
- Research implementation plan;
- Preliminary bibliography.

Master thesis structure

The mandatory necessary constituent parts of the master's thesis are:

• Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the

master's thesis, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), name of the qualification with indication of the level for which the master's thesis was completed, year and city of completion of the master's thesis; name of the university and title of the master's thesis should be indicated - font - Sylfaen, font size - 14, other entries on the title page should be indicated in font - Sylfaen, font size - 12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);

- Student's application according to which the student confirms that the master's thesis is the
 result of the author's individual research and that the standards of research ethics and integrity
 are respected in it;
- Resume/abstract in Georgian and English;
- Number of abbreviations (if necessary);
- Definition of terms (if necessary);
- Introduction (relevance, novelty and need of the research; purpose of the research);
- Literature review/theoretical framework;
- Research methodology (research question, methods, technical description of the research and limitations of the research);
- Description of research results;
- Interpretation of research results;
- Conclusion;
- Bibliography;
- Appendices.

Evaluation of master's thesis:

The finished master's thesis is evaluated by the reviewer and the master's thesis protection commission, the specific weights of the evaluation are distributed as follows: the reviewer's evaluation - 50%, the reviewer writes the evaluation out of 100 points. Evaluation of the members of the master's thesis defense commission - 50%, each member of the master's thesis defense commission writes an evaluation out of 100 points, the commission's evaluation is calculated on the basis of the arithmetic average (sum of received points divided by the number of commission members)

If the student fails to pass the minimum competence level in the review of the master's thesis, the master's thesis will no longer be accepted for defense.

Evaluation criteria for a master's thesis (for reviewer)

1 20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
The	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevant	poorly, The
relevance,	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	research problem	research
focus and	problem for the field	problem for the field is	problem for the field is	problem for the field	problem for the field	for the field is	problem is
clarity of the	is clearly and	mainly clearly and	largely clearly and	is formulated more or	is not clearly and	vague, the focus of	poorly or not
research	argumentatively	argumentatively	argumentatively	less argumentatively,	argumentatively	the paper is poorly	generally
	formulated, the focus	formulated, , the focus	formulated, the focus	the focus of the paper	formulated, the	defined, the	defined, the
problem, the	of the paper is clearly	of the paper is mainly	of the paper is largely	is partially	focus of the paper is	selected master's	focus of the
originality of	defined, the selected	clearly defined, the	clearly defined, the	determined, the	poorly defined, the	topic is not	paper is not
the topic	master's topic is	selected master's topic	selected master's topic	selected master's topic	selected master's	characterized by	present.
	distinguished by a	is distinguished by	is mainly characterized	is less characterized	topic is not	originality.	
	high degree of	originality.	by originality.	by originality.	characterized by		
	originality.				originality.		
2 20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
Review of	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The
the	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	theoretical
literature/rele	framework is in full	framework is largely	framework is partially	framework is less	framework is in	framework is	framework/lit
vance of the	compliance with the	relevant to the research	relevant to the	relevant to the	weak compliance	vague and not	erature review
theoretical	research issue and is	issue and is related to	research issue and is	research issue and is	with the research	backed up by	is poorly or
framework	related to the relevant	the relevant literature,	related to relevant	related to a limited	issue and is hardly	relevant literature.	not presented
Hamework	literature, including	including the latest	literature.	number of relevant	backed up by		at all.
	the latest literature.	literature.		literature.	relevant literature.		
3 20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
The paper is	The main reading/sub-	The main	The main	The main	The main	The formulation	The
methodologic	questions of the study	questions/sub-questions	questions/sub-	reading/subsets of the	reading/subsets of	of the main	methodologic
al and the	are effectively	of the study are largely	questions of the study	study are less	the study are poorly	questions/sub-	al side of the
	formulated, the	formulated, the relevant	are formulated more or	properly formulated,	formulated, the	questions of the	paper is
excellence of	relevant variables and	variables and their level	less properly, the	the relevant variables	corresponding	study, the relevant	flawed or not
	their level of	of interoperability are	relevant variables and	and their level of	variables and their	variables and their	

the research	interoperability are	high, the selected	their level of	interoperability are	level of	level of	presented at
carried out	high, the selected	method/s are relevant,	interoperability are	less relevant.	interoperability are	interoperability	all.
	method/s are highly	the technical	more or less relevant.	The technical	weak. The technical	are vague. The	
	relevant, the technical	description of the study	The technical	description of the	description of the	technical	
	description of the	and the limitations of	description of the	study and the	study and the	description of the	
	study and the	the study are presented	study and the	limitations of the	limitations of the	study and the	
	limitations of the	in a large way. The	limitations of the study	study are incomplete.	study are	limitations of the	
	study are presented	selection used in the	are outlined. The	The selection used in	incomplete. The	study are	
	perfectly. The	research process is	selection used in the	the research process	selection used in the	incomplete. The	
	selection used in the	substantiated and	research process is	is less substantiated.	research process is	methodological	
	research process is	transparent. The study	substantiated,	The study is less	not substantiated.	and ethical	
	substantiated,	is largely implemented	although imperfect	relevant through the	The relevant	standards of	
	complete and	through the relevant	and less transparent.	relevant method(s).	method(s) used in	conducting	
	transparent. The study	method(s), and the	The study is	However, ethical	the study	research are	
	is carried out through	ethical standards for	implemented through	standards are met.	It's vague.	almost non-	
	the relevant method(s)	conducting research are	a more or less relevant		The ethical	compliant.	
	and the ethical	observed.	method(s) and ethical		standards of research		
	standards for		standards are observed.		implementation are		
	conducting research				almost non-		
	are observed.				compliant.		
20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
Interpretatio	The results obtained	The results obtained on	The results obtained	The results obtained	The results obtained	The results	The results
n of survey	on the basis of the	the basis of the study	on the basis of the	on the basis of the	on the basis of the	obtained and their	obtained in
results and	study and their	and their interpretation	study and their	study and their	study and their	interpretation are	the study are
level of	interpretation respond	largely respond to the	interpretation more or	interpretation more	interpretation are	almost	almost non-
	to the objectives of the	goals of the study, are	less respond to the	or less respond to the	less consistent with	inconsistent with	responsive of
justification	study, are clearly and	consistently	goals of the study, are	goals of the study, less	the goals of the	the objectives of	not presente
of presented	consistently	described/analyzed and	consistently	confirmed by relevant	study, not	the study, not	in complianc
findings	described/analyzed	confirmed with	described/analyzed	valid data. The	consistently	consistently	with the goa
	and confirmed with	relevant valid data.	and confirmed with	reasoning is less	described/analyzed.	described/analyze	of the study.
	relevant validated	Reasoning is	relevant validated	objective and critical.	Reasoning is devoid	d. The objectivity	
	relevant validated	Reasoning is	refevant vandated	objective and critical.	reasoning is devoid	d. The objectivity	

	distinguished by high objectivity and the level of critical analysis.	objectivity and the level of critical analysis.	more or less objective and critical.		level of critical analysis is low.	the reasoning is not confirmed.	
20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
Structural Alignment, Consistency and Academic Style of the Thesis	The paper is logically structured and each part of it is related to each other, the reasoning is perfectly proper and tampering, the writing style corresponds to a high academic level, and each relevant source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.	The paper is largely logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent, the writing style is largely academic, and each source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.	The paper is more or less logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent. The writing style is more or less academic, and the sources are referenced in compliance with the relevant standards of citations.	The paper is poorly structured. The constituent parts of the work are poorly connected to each other. The reasoning is weak and less thorough and consistent. The writing style is less academic. However, the relevant citation standards are mostly protected.	The structure of the work and its The relevance of the constituent parts to each other is vague. The reasoning is weak and not consistent. The writing style is less academic. However, the relevant citation standards are partially followed.	The structure of the paper is not maintained, the connection of the constituent parts of the work is weak. The reasoning is vague. The writing style is less academic and the relevant standards of citations are less	The paper is almost or completely not structured. The writing style is non-academic and the relevant standards of citations are mostly violated.

Criteria for Evaluating Master's Thesis (Master's Thesis Defense Commission)

1	20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
	The	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevance of the	The relevant	The
	relevance,	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	relevant research	research problem	research
	focus and	problem for the field	problem for the field is	problem for the field is	problem for the field	problem for the field	for the field is	problem is
	clarity of the	is clearly and	formulated in a basic	largely clearly and	is formulated more or	is not clearly and	vague, the focus of	not poorly
	research	argumentatively	clear and argumentative	argumentatively	less argumentatively,	argumentatively	the paper is poorly	or overall
	problem, the	formulated, the focus	manner, the focus of	formulated, the focus	the focus of the paper	formulated, the	defined, the	defined, the
	-	of the paper is clearly	the paper is mainly	of the paper is largely	is partially	focus of the paper is	selected master's	focus of the
	originality of	defined, the selected	clearly defined, the	clearly defined, the	determined, the	poorly defined, the	topic is not	paper is not
	the topic	master's topic is	selected master's topic	selected master's topic	selected master's topic	selected master topic	characterized by	present.
		distinguished by a	is distinguished by	is mainly characterized	is less characterized	is not characterized	originality.	
		high degree of	originality.	by originality.	by originality.	by originality.		
		originality.						
2	15 points	15-14	13-11	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-3	2-0
	Review of	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The literature	The
	the	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	review/theoretical	theoretical
	literature/rele	framework is in full	framework is largely	framework is partially	framework is less	framework is in	framework is	framework/l
	vance of the	compliance with the	relevant to the research	relevant to the	relevant to the	weak compliance	vague and not	iterature
	theoretical	research issue and is	issue and is related to	research issue and is	research issue and is	with the research	backed up by	review is
	framework	related to the relevant	the relevant literature,	related to relevant	related to a limited	issue and is hardly	relevant literature.	poorly or
	Hamework	literature, including	including the latest	literature.	number of relevant	backed up by		not
		the latest literature.	literature.		literature.	relevant literature.		presented at
								all.
3	20 points	20-18	17-15	14-12	11-9	8-6	5-3	2-0
	The paper is	The main reading/sub-	The main	The main	The main	The main	The formulation	The
	methodologic	questions of the study	questions/sub-questions	questions/sub-	reading/subsets of the	reading/subsets of	of the main	methodolog
	al and the	are effectively	of the study are largely	questions of the study	study are less	the study are poorly	questions/sub-	ical side of
	excellence of	formulated, the	formulated, the relevant	are formulated more or	properly formulated,	formulated, the	questions of the	the paper is
		relevant variables and	variables and their level	less properly, the	the relevant variables	corresponding	study, the relevant	faulty or not
		their level of	of interoperability are	relevant variables and	and their level of	variables and their	variables and their	

411-	interoperability are	high, the selected	their level of	interoperability are	level of	level of	presented at
the research	high, the selected	method/s are relevant,	interoperability are	less relevant.	interoperability are	interoperability	all.
carried out	method/s are highly	the technical	more or less relevant.	The technical	weak. The technical	are vague. The	all.
	relevant, the technical	description of the study	The technical	description of the	description of the	technical	
	description of the	and the limitations of	description of the	study and the	study and the	description of the	
	study and the	the study are presented	study and the	limitations of the	limitations of the	study and the	
	limitations of the	, ,	limitations of the study			limitations of the	
		in a large way. The selection used in the	are outlined. The	study are incomplete. The selection used in	study are		
	study are presented				incomplete. The	study are	
	perfectly. The	research process is	selection used in the	the research process	selection used in the	incomplete. The	
	selection used in the	substantiated and	research process is	is less substantiated.	research process is	methodological	
	research process is	transparent. The study	substantiated,	The study is less	not substantiated.	and ethical	
	substantiated,	is largely implemented	although imperfect	relevant through the	The relevant	standards of	
	complete and	through the relevant	and less transparent.	relevant method(s).	method(s) used in	conducting	
	transparent. The study	method(s), and the	The study is	However, ethical	the study	research are	
	is carried out through	ethical standards for	implemented through	standards are met.	It's vague.	almost non-	
	the relevant method(s)	conducting research are	a more or less relevant		The ethical	compliant.	
	and the ethical	observed.	method(s) and ethical		standards of research		
	standards for		standards are observed.		implementation are		
	conducting research				almost non-		
					1 1 1		
	are observed.				compliant.		
4 20 points		17-15	14-12	11-9	-	5-3	2-0
4 20 points	20-18	17-15 The results obtained on	14-12 The results obtained	11-9 The results obtained	8-6	5-3 The results	2-0 The results
Interpretatio	20-18 The results obtained	The results obtained on	The results obtained	The results obtained	8-6 The results obtained	The results	The results
Interpretatio n of survey	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the	The results obtained on the basis of the study	The results obtained on the basis of the	The results obtained on the basis of the	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the	The results obtained and their	The results obtained in
Interpretatio n of survey results and	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their	The results obtained and their interpretation are	The results obtained in the study
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the	The results obtained and their	The results obtained in
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with	The results obtained in the study are almost non-
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification of presented	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the study, are clearly and	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are consistently	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, are	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, less	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with the goals of the	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with the objectives of	The results obtained in the study are almost
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the study, are clearly and consistently	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, are consistently	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with the goals of the study, not	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with the objectives of the study, not	The results obtained in the study are almost non-responsive or not
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification of presented	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the study, are clearly and	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are consistently described/analyzed and	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, are	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, less confirmed by relevant valid data. The	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with the goals of the study, not consistently	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with the objectives of the study, not consistently	The results obtained in the study are almost non-responsive
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification of presented	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the study, are clearly and consistently described/analyzed and confirmed with	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are consistently described/analyzed and confirmed with relevant valid data.	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, are consistently described/analyzed and confirmed with	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, less confirmed by relevant valid data. The reasoning is less	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with the goals of the study, not consistently described/analyzed.	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with the objectives of the study, not consistently described/analyze	The results obtained in the study are almost non-responsive or not presented in line with
Interpretatio n of survey results and level of justification of presented	20-18 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation respond to the objectives of the study, are clearly and consistently described/analyzed	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation largely respond to the goals of the study, are consistently described/analyzed and confirmed with	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, are consistently described/analyzed	The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation more or less respond to the goals of the study, less confirmed by relevant valid data. The	8-6 The results obtained on the basis of the study and their interpretation are less consistent with the goals of the study, not consistently	The results obtained and their interpretation are almost inconsistent with the objectives of the study, not consistently	The results obtained in the study are almost non-responsive or not presented in

	distinguished by high objectivity and the level of critical analysis.	objectivity and the level of critical analysis.	more or less objective and critical.		level of critical analysis is low.	the reasoning is not confirmed.	
5 15 points	15-14	13-11	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-2	1-0
Structural Alignment, Consistency and Academic Style of the Thesis	The paper is logically structured and each part of it is related to each other, the reasoning is perfectly proper and consistent, the writing style corresponds to a high academic level, and each relevant source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.	The paper is largely logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent, the writing style is largely academic, and each source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.	The paper is more or less logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent. The writing style is more or less academic, and the sources are referenced in compliance with the relevant standards of citations.	The paper is poorly structured. The constituent parts of the work are poorly connected to each other. The reasoning is weak and less thorough and consistent. The writing style is less academic. However, the relevant citation standards are mostly protected.	The structure of the work and its The relevance of the constituent parts to each other is vague. The reasoning is weak and not consistent. The writing style is less academic. However, the relevant citation standards are partially followed.	The structure of the paper is not maintained, the connection of the constituent parts of the work is weak. The reasoning is vague. The writing style is less academic and the relevant standards of citations are less protected.	The paper is almost or completely not structured. The writing style is non-academic and the relevant standards of citations are mostly violated.
6 10 points	10	9-8	7-6	5-4	3-2	2-1	0
Oral presentation	The visual and structure of the presentation are understandable and easily perceived. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is highly effective. The work	The visual and structure of the presentation are largely understandable and easy to perceive. The ability to convey an issue and communicate with an audience is largely effective. The work done within the	The visual and structure of the presentation are more or less understandable and easily perceivable. The ability to convey an issue and communicate with the audience is more or less effective. The	The visual and structure of the presentation are less understandable and perceivable. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is partly effective. The work	The visual and structure of the presentation are perceived poorly. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is weak. The work done within the	The visual and structure of the presentation are not perceptible. The ability to convey an issue and communicate with an audience is ineffective. The work done within	The presentation is not presented at all or fully complies with the requirement s for the input.

	framework of the	is mainly present. The	framework of the	framework of the	study is	the study is	
	study is presented	reasoning is proper and	study is more or less	study is	underestimated. The	imperfect. The	
	perfectly. The	understandable.	present. Discussion	underestimated.	reasoning is not	reasoning is vague	
	reasoning is proper	The answers to	and answers to	Discussion and	valid, and the	and the answers to	
	and understandable.	questions are largely	questions are more or	answers to questions	answer to questions	questions are not	
	The answer to the	argumentative.	less argumentative.	are more or less	is less	confirmed.	
	audience's questions is			argumentative.	argumentative.		
	argumentative and						
	complete.						

Requirements for the Master's Program in Business Administration

Project/Prospectus/Structure of the Master's thesis:

The essential constituents of the master's thesis project/prospectus are:

- Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), year and city of completion of the master's thesis project/prospectus; name of the university and title of the master's thesis project/prospectus should be written in font Sylfaen, font size -14, other entries on the title page should be written in font Sylfaen, font size -12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);
- Brief information about the business selected within the framework of the study (100-250 words);
- The relevance of the topic the justification of why this business is interesting to research;
- Structure of the paper Table of contents of Business document
- Justification and summary of the significance of each paragraph/element of the paper (80-150 words);
- Time horizon the period by which the business plan is covered with appropriate justification;
- Plan and description of the work to be carried out review of the tools planned and used by the master's student in the research process (150-250 words);
- Schedule of the paper;
- Preliminary Bibliography.

The structure of the master's thesis:

The essential constituents of the master's thesis are:

- Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the master's thesis, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), name of the qualification with indication of the level for which the master's thesis was completed, year and city of completion of the master's thesis; name of the university and title of the master's thesis should be indicated font Sylfaen, font size 14, other entries on the title page should be indicated in font Sylfaen, font size 12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);
- Student application according to which the student confirms that the master's thesis is the result of the author's individual research and the standards of research ethics and integrity are observed in it;
- Resume/abstract in Georgian and English (80-150 words);
- Table of Contents;

- Definition of terms and/or list of abbreviations (if necessary);
- Review of the paper the so-called "Executive Summary" (400-450 words maximum 2 pages);
- The purpose of the plan and the relevance of the research topic;
- "Company Today" and its present value;
- Analysis and development prospects of the field of the chosen company;
- Company development strategy;
- Business value growth initiatives;
- Financial plan increase in value;
- Plan for withdrawal from business;
- Conclusion;
- Bibliography;
- Appendices.

Master's thesis assessment: The master's thesis is evaluated for once, based on a 100-point assessment by the reviewer and the Master's Thesis Defense Commission. The appraisal is distributed as follows: assessment of reviewer - 60%, assessment of the Master's Thesis defence Commission - 40% (the assessment of the commission will be calculated on the basis of the average arithmetic).

Criteria and Form of Master's Thesis Evaluation

25 points	4.0 mainta	0.5 maints	15 10 points	20 16 points	25 21 points
Current situation overview	4-0 points The author poorly or does not describe the current situation, market situation, strategy, plans for the future, financial forecasts and their interconnectedness. Poorly answer or can't answer questions at all. There is a poor overview of one's own and competitors' strengths and weaknesses; ; Limited information is provided about efficiency.	The author partially reasonably reviews the current situation, market situation, strategy, plans for the future, financial forecasts and their interconnectedness. The author discusses less complex issues, mainly gives an argumentative representation of his/her views and expresses his/her opinion on broad issues with an in-depth summary of competition, strengths and weaknesses. The author's strategy and tactics are less likely to cover more of them; The results are mostly well reviewed, although the author focuses only on the good and covers the bad.	The author mainly reasonably reviews the current situation, market situation, strategy, plans for the future, financial forecasts and their interconnectedness. The author mostly discusses complex issues well, mainly gives an argumentative representation of his views and expresses his opinion on broad issues with an indepth summary of competition, strengths and weaknesses. The author's strategy and tactics cover more of them, but not everyone; The results are mostly well reviewed, although the author focuses only on the good and covers the bad.	describes the current situation with the state of the market, strategy, plans for the future, financial forecasts and their interconnectedness. The author discusses complex issues well, mainly gives an argumentative representation of his views and expresses his opinion on broad issues with an in-depth summary of competition, strengths and weaknesses. The author's strategy and tactics cover some of them, but not everyone.	The author perfectly describes the current situation, market situation, strategy, plans for the future, financial forecasts and their interconnectedness. The author confidently discusses complex issues, makes an argumentative representation of his views and expresses his opinion on broad issues with an in-depth summary of competition, strengths and weaknesses. The author's strategy and tactics cover all of them; There is a good overview of the results, with a balanced submission of good and bad.
30 points	4-0 points	10-5 points	17-11 points	23-18 points	30-24 points
Strategy Strength	Limited strategic thinking is confirmed. The author identified goals, strategies and tactics, although the connections between them are not clearly developed, tactics are	The "less clear" strategy of the business is confirmed. unclear goals. Some of the tactics are related to the goals, although they do not fully cover the strategies. Key tactics are not presented or poorly conveyed.	The "largely bright" strategy of the business is confirmed. Specific goals. Tactics are derived from strategies and goals.	The "clear" strategy of the business is confirmed. specific goals. Tactics are derived from strategies and goals.	The "clear" strategy of the business is confirmed. specific goals. Tactics are derived from strategies and goals. The author presented an innovative approach.

	unintegrated and unsynergized.				
20 points	4-0 points	9-5 points	13-10 points	17-14 points	20-18 points
Using Business insight and managemen t tools	The author uses a small number of business concepts and principles, business thinking is limited to the author to enhance the analysis The data is not presented.	The author used various business concepts and principles. However, business thinking and vision are limited, the author has insufficient data to enhance the analysis.	The author is largely well versed in business concepts, principles, and business thinking when arguing about his own analysis and plan. The author presents data to enhance the analysis, but uses them less for argument.	The author makes good use of business concepts, principles and business thinking when arguing on his own analysis and plan. The author presents data to enhance the analysis, but does not use them perfectly for argument.	The author is free to apply business concepts, principles and business thinking when arguing about issues related to his own analysis and plan. The author presents data to enhance the analysis and makes a complete argument based on them.
15 points	2-0 points	6-3 points	10-7 points	13-11 points	15-14 points
Structural Performanc e, Consistency and Academic/P rofessional Style of the Work	The structure of the work and the relevance of its constituent parts together are ambiguous. The reasoning is weak and not consistent. The writing style is less academic and professional, and the relevant standards of citations are mostly not followed.	The paper is more or less logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent. The writing style is more or less academic and professional, and the sources are referenced in compliance with the relevant citation standards.	The paper is largely logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is proper and consistent, the writing style is largely academic and professional. Each source is referenced in compliance with the relevant citation standards.	The paper is mainly logically structured and each part of it is related to each other, the reasoning is well-maintained and consistent, the writing style is mainly relevant to the academic and professional level, and each relevant source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.	The paper is logically structured and each part of it is connected to each other, the reasoning is perfectly proper and consistent, the writing style corresponds to a high academic and professional level, and each relevant source is indicated in compliance with the relevant standards of citation.
10 points ¹		5-4 points	7-6 points	8-7 points	10-9 points

¹ In case of evaluation by the reviewer of the master's thesis, the share of the oral supervision (10 points) will be equally distributed to the remaining evaluation criteria and will be added to the relevant scores of the last column/higher grade.

Oral presentation

The visual and structure of the presentation are perceived poorly. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is weak. The work done within the framework of the study is underestimated. The reasoning is not true, and the answer to the questions unargumentative.

The visual and structure of the presentation are more or less understandable and easily perceivable. The ability to convey an issue and communicate with the audience is more or less The effective. work performed within the framework of the study is more or less satisfactorily presented. Discussion and answers to questions are more ōr less argumentative.

The visual and structure of the presentation are largely understandable and easy to perceive. The ability to convey an issue and communicate with an is audience largely effective. The work done within the framework of the study is presented in a proper way. The reasoning proper and understandable. The answer to questions is largely argumentative.

The visual and structure of the presentation are basic to understand and easily perceivable. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is largely effective. The work done within the framework of the study is largely presented in perfection. The reasoning is proper and understandable. The answer to questions is mainly argumentative.

The visual and structure of the presentation are understandable and easily perceived. The ability to convey the issue and communicate with the audience is highly effective. The work done within the framework of the study is presented perfectly. The reasoning is proper and understandable. The answer to the audience's questions is argumentative and complete.

Requirements for the Master's Program in Multimedia Journalism and Media Management

Master's thesis/project description:

Master's thesis/project combines the student's practical skills and theoretical knowledge and is a synthesis of practical and theoretical works. Master's thesis/project paper consists of two components:

- 1) <u>Conceptual application of the master's thesis/project:</u> The conceptual application of the master's thesis/project is based on the general principles of academic writing. It covers 4000-5000 words. The topic of conceptual application of the master's thesis should be related to the new practical component selected by the student. In the conceptual application of the master's thesis, the student must demonstrate existing and/or new opinions on the topical issue Based on academic sources; Conceptually use independently sourced and original data. The conceptual application of the master's thesis/project also includes information on the methodology of the works prepared within the practical component of the master's thesis/project.
- **2)** <u>Practical component of the master's thesis/project Portfolio and original (new) practical project:</u> Within the framework of the practical component of the student master's thesis/project, it is obliged not only to combine the practical works created by him/her, but also to select the appropriate platform and also the concept of how he will unite and represent these works in the web space.

<u>Portfolio</u> - The student under the creative concept combines at least six practical works created during the master's program and the original (new) practical Project; The works are presented by the student using digital narrative methods in the web space. The concept of portfolio should be thought out in depth and should also include the creative/professional biography of the student.

The mandatory formats of six practical works created in the learning process are:

- In-depth article;
- Photo History Multimedia Story;
- Multimedia story;
- Video reporting or short documentary;
- Radio reporting;
- Non-financial business plan of a journalistic startup.

The assessment of the portfolio is carried out taking into account its conceptual side and not with the above six practical works, the assessment of which has already been carried out during the studying period.

The optional formats of the original (new) practical project are:

• In-depth article - including 2000-3000 words/10-12 source documents on the current/topical topic selected within the framework of the Master's thesis/project;

- Photo history (20-35 photos) with small texts (annotations) on the topical topic selected within the framework of the master's thesis/project;
- Multimedia story a combination of photos (not less than 10), text (1000 words) and video (2-3 short video stories) on the current/topical topic selected within the framework of the master's thesis/project;
- In-depth video report 7–10-minute report on the current/topical, acute topic selected within the framework of the master's thesis/project;
- Short documentary 15-30 min. With a distinctive creative approach
- Narrated visual history on the topical topic selected within the framework of the master's thesis/project;
- In-depth radio report 7–10-minute report on the current/topical, acute topic selected within the framework of the master's thesis/project;
- Journalistic Star-Up Business Plan (Financial) on the current business idea selected within the framework of the Master's thesis/project.

Structure of the conceptual application/prospectus of the master's thesis:

The essential constituents of the prospectus of the master's thesis/project conceptual application are:

- Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), year and city of completion of the master's thesis project/prospectus; name of the university and title of the master's thesis project/prospectus should be written in font Sylfaen, font size -14, other entries on the title page should be written in font size -12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis project/prospectus, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);
- Copyright page;
- Justification of the importance of research;
- Literature Review;
- Research question/purpose;
- Research plan;
- Technical description of the study;
- Schedule of the paper;
- Preliminary Bibliography.

Structure of the conceptual application of the master's thesis/project:

The necessary constituents of the conceptual application of the master's thesis/project are:

• Title page (the following should be indicated consistently and centered: name of the university, name of the school, name of the educational program, university logo, title of the master's thesis, name and surname of the author, name and surname of the master's thesis supervisor, name and surname of the master's thesis co-supervisor (if any), name of the qualification with indication of the level for which the master's thesis was completed, year and city of completion of the master's thesis; name of the

university and title of the master's thesis should be indicated - font - Sylfaen, font size - 14, other entries on the title page should be indicated in font - Sylfaen, font size - 12; name of the university, title of the master's thesis, name and surname of the author, year and city should be indicated in bold; other entries on the title page entries should be indicated without bolding);

- Student application according to which the student confirms that the master's thesis is the result of the author's individual research and the standards of research ethics and integrity are observed in it;
- Resume/abstract in Georgian and English;
- List of abbreviations (if necessary);
- definition of terms (if necessary);
- Introduction (relevance of research, novelty and need);
- Literature Review;
- Research question/purpose;
- technical description of the study and research limitations;
- Description of the results of the study;
- Interpretation of research results;
- Conclusion;
- Bibliography;
- Appendices.

Master's thesis assessment: The master's thesis is evaluated for onece, based on a 100-point assessment by the reviewer and the Commission for the defense of the Master's Thesis. The appraisal is distributed as follows: assessment of reviewer - 70%, assessment of the Master's Thesis defense Commission - 30% (the assessment of the commission will be calculated on the basis of the average arithmetic).

Criteria and Form of

Master's thesis/project evaluation (100 points)

Evaluation	Evaluation Scheme	Points
criterion		
	Conceptual application (40 points)	
Focus (5 points) All parts of the paper are related to the research question	5 points- the focus and structure of the paper are precisely disrupted, the format is preserved; The thought is conveyed correctly; 4 points - the focus and structure of the paper is largely clearly and accurately disrupted, the format is protected; The opinion is mostly conveyed correctly; 3 points - part of the focus and structure of the paper is clearly and accurately disrupted, although specific components are missing; Format protected; In the satisfactorily executed part, the opinion is mostly conveyed correctly; 2 points - the focus and structure of the paper are more or less clearly and accurately disrupted, although significant is missing components; The format is partially violated; The opinion is conveyed in fragment; 1 point - the focus and structure of the paper lack important components, the format is partially violated; The opinion is fragmented and vague, not adequate for the request.	5
Research (5 points) methodology; Quality of performance	5 points – the methodology used corresponds to the research task; The study is structured according to the requirements; The analysis of the results is complete; Document formatting, bibliography and citation style do not contain errors 4 points – the methodology used is consistent with the research style contains minor errors 3 points – the methodology used is largely consistent with the research task; The study is structured mainly according to the requirements; The analysis of the results is more or less adequate for small errors; Document formatting, bibliography and citation style contain errors; 2 points – the methodology used does not correspond to the task of the study; The study is mostly not structured according to requirements; The analysis of the results is not adequate; Document formatting, bibliography and citation style contain a number of errors; 1 point – the methodology used does not correspond to the task of the study; The study is not structured according to the requirements; The analysis of the results is not adequate; Document formatting, bibliography and citation style contain multiple errors.	5

Literature (10	10 - 9 points - the literature presented in the paper is academic and corresponds to the topic of study; The student uses the	10
points) relevance	theoretical knowledge gained within the program; Research, critical analysis and evaluation are visible;	
of the literature	8 - 7 points - the literature presented in the paper is academic and mostly corresponds to the subject of research; The	
used; Critical	student mostly reveals the theoretical knowledge gained within the program; Critical analysis and evaluation of the study	
analysis	is largely seen;	
	6-5 points - the literature presented in the paper is academic and its compliance with the subject of research is satisfactory;	
	The student partially reveals the theoretical knowledge gained within the program; Critical analysis and evaluation of the	
	study is partially visible;	
	4-3 points – the literature presented in the paper is academic and less correlates with the subject of research; The student	
	reveals the average level of theoretical knowledge gained by the program; The ability to critically analyze and evaluate research is less visible;	
	2-1 point - the literature presented in the paper is not academic and mostly does not correspond to the research topic; The	
	student does not reveal the theoretical knowledge gained within the program; No critical analysis and evaluation of the	
	study is visible.	
Argumentation (10	10-9 points - the recommendations obtained from the study are in full compliance with the conclusion and the findings of	10
points)	the study;	
argumentation	8-7 points - the recommendations obtained from the study are mostly in line with the conclusion and the findings of the	
skills;	study;	
	6-5 points - the recommendations obtained as a result of the study are partially in line with the findings of the study and	
	the findings;	
	4-3 points - the recommendations received as a result of the study are not fully formulated and are less in line with the	
	conclusion and research findings;	
	2-1 points - the recommendations obtained from the study are not in line with the conclusion and the findings of the study.	
information,	5 points – the language of the paper is balanced and academic;	5
<u>Data</u>	Maintained. The structure is maintained and complies with the standards of the academic paper;	
Presentation (5	4 points – the language of the paper is mostly balanced and academically;	
points) Structure,	Maintained. The structure is maintained and complies with the standards of the academic paper;	
consistency and	3 points – The language of the paper lacks balancing and is academically faulty. The structure is not preserved;	
ability to convey	2-1 points – the paper lacks components; The language is non-academic and faulty; The structure is faulty.	

opinion, information		
Oral	5 points - the information is fully sought and the presentation covers the entire material; During the discussion, the student	5
Presentation (5	cites argumentative conclusions and reveals the ability to improvise;	
points) ² Ability to	4 points- The information is well researched and the presentation covers the main part of the material; During the	
convey	discussion, the student cites argumentative conclusions and, in most cases, reveals the ability to improvise;	
information in an	3 points - part of the information is retrieved and the presentation covers a certain part of the material; The arguments	
oral form	presented by the student during the discussion lack persuasion; In most cases, the student exhibits the ability to improvise;	
	2 points - information is incomplete and the presentation lacks content components, which is why it is difficult to	
	understand the essence of the findings; The arguments presented by the student during the discussion lack persuasion/do	
	not rely on relevant data; The student more or less demonstrates his ability to improvise;	
	1 point - the information is incomplete and the presentation is not able to convey the components of the paper; The	
	arguments presented by the student during the discussion are weak and inconclusive/do not rely on relevant data; The	
	student does not have the ability to improvise.	
Practical Compone		
Portfolio	15 - 12 points: The web platform presented by the student has an original concept. It is distinguished by its findings and	15
(15 points)	vision. Proper design. Contently, visually;	
	And programmatically absolutely manageable. Consists of 6 non-specific components (artwork). Information about the	
	author is effectively submitted;	
	11 - 8 points: The web platform presented by the student has a certain concept, although it is not distinguished by special	
	originality. The content is maintained, but there are software flaws. The visual concept is not well understood. Consists of	
	no less than 6 components (artwork). The page contains the author's submission, but is limited to a standard biography and	
	does not attract special attention, although it provides detailed information;	
	7 - 4 points: The web platform presented by the student includes all the necessary works, although there is no content and	
	visual logic between them (there are no connections between individual components). The lead of materials is imperfect,	
	as is the submission of the author (requires additional information). Despite this drawback, all five essential components	
	are presented on the web, although there are also software flaws;	

 $^{^{2}}$ In case of evaluation by the reviewer of the practical component of the master's thesis, the share (5%) of the oral presentation will be equally distributed to the remaining evaluation criteria.

	3 - 1 point: The student has only presented individual works on different platforms, it is also incomplete and has not created any web space/platform.	
New practical project (40 points)	40 – 32 points – In-depth topical reporting on a heated issue, with a clearly defined focus, presents a unique history, based on verifiable facts and diverse sources, syntactically and morphologically sound text, in keeping with journalistic ethics and balance. Technically perfect, and video and audio are presented. 2000-3000 words (in the case of the article); 7-10 minutes in case of video/audio; 20-30 photos with annotations (in the case of a photo project). The student presented a well-organized business plan for the startup. All components of the business plan are thoroughly reviewed, analyzed and substantiated. The idea is innovative. The student presents proper sources to substantiate his own decisions. The structure of the paper is maintained; 31 - 24 points - in-depth topical reporting on an acute issue, with a clearly defined focus, verifiable facts, based on several sources. There are a small number of grammatical errors in the text. The norms and balances of journalistic ethics are respected. In the case of video and audio there are slight technical shortcomings. The material meets professional standards, but does not stand out in its uniqueness and original terms.2000-3000 words (in the case of the article); 7-10 minutes in case of video/audio; 20-30 photos with annotations (in case of photo project). The student presented a well-organized business plan of the startup. Almost all components of the business plan are well reviewed, analyzed and substantiated. The idea is interesting, though not innovative. The student presents proper sources to substantiate most of his own decisions. The structure of the paper is maintained; 23 - 16 points - in-depth topical reporting on the acute issue, although the focus is not clearly defined. Use of insufficient reliable sources. There are grammatical errors in the text. The norms of journalistic ethics are observed. There is a problem with balancing the material, the perspective of the other side is missing. In the case of video/audio; the business plan presented	40
	annotations (in the case of a photo project). The business plan presented by the student lacks the main components and data. Sources are insufficient or inadequate. The structure of the paper is either not intersected or very weak;	

	7-1 point - there are factual errors in the report, is superficial, its focus is unclear, the credibility of the sources has not	
	been confirmed. The material is biased, unbalanced. Video and audio do not comply with the standard. The text is faulty,	
	with many grammatical errors. number of words - cannot reach 1000 (in the case of an article); The duration of the	
	video/audio (number of photos) also does not comply with the requirement (less than 3 minutes). The project is presented	
	in violation of the deadline. The student is unable to present an acceptable business plan. The paper lacks key components,	
	data, analysis, discussion, justification, and logical links. Sources are insufficient or not presented at all.	
Oral presentation	5 points - the presentation is held both verbally and visually. The material is well prepared and the presentation covers the	5
(5 points)	essence of both the total portfolio and the main component. Clearly presents the main findings;	
	4 points – the presentation is held visually, although there are minor gaps in the verbal presentation. The material is well	
	prepared and the presentation covers the essence of both the total portfolio and the main component. Clearly presents the	
	main findings;	
	3 points – the presentation has visual flaws, and the student has difficulty to express the main topic without questions. The	
	presentation covers a certain part of the portfolio;	
	2 points - the material is incomplete and the presentation fails to convey the concept of portfolio;	
	1 point - the material is inadequate and the presentation fails to convey the concept of the portfolio.	
ALL		100