


Policy Group	Graduate Studies	Policy Number	ACA-GRA-07	 جامعة زايد ZAYED UNIVERSITY
Responsible Office	Office of the Provost	Distribution	External	
Date Approved	11 June 2019	Effective Date	1 August 2019	
Date Last Reviewed	20 April 2022	Due Date for Next Review	20 April 2025	

POLICY

Research Thesis and Dissertation

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define standards, rules, and regulations to govern all aspects of research theses and dissertations of students in graduate degree programs at Zayed University.

2. Application

This policy applies to all students who are enrolled in master's or Doctorate programs at Zayed University that have a research thesis/dissertation as a requirement for the degree.

3. Definitions

3.1 Master Thesis: A Master Thesis presents scholarly work produced by a student who is pursuing a master's degree with the thesis option. The thesis demonstrates the student's familiarity with the literature of the field of study and reflects the student's reasoned selection and careful execution of research methodology. If the thesis is based on empirical research, it will show the student's ability to analyze and interpret research data.

3.2 Doctorate Dissertation: A Doctorate Dissertation presents the results of the student's individual inquiry in a written document that demonstrates the student's acquaintance with the literature of the field of study and the proper selection and execution of research methodology. A dissertation for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program must comprise a genuine contribution to knowledge in the particular field. While a dissertation for a professional Doctorate program must make a practical/applied contribution to knowledge in the particular field of specialization.

4. Policy

4.1 To assist the university in achieving its vision and mission of academic excellence, the university shall establish standards for the preparation, review, evaluation and acceptance of research theses and dissertations required for graduate degrees.

4.2 A research thesis is a requirement in all research-oriented master's programs. However, a research dissertation is required by all Doctorate programs.

5. Related Policies and Laws

N/A

6. Administration

This policy is administered by the Graduate Studies Deanship.

7. Revision History

Date	Revision
20 April 2022	Approved by Provost.
11 April 2022	Non-substantive change: clarified thesis requirement for master's programs (4.2).
11 June 2019	Approved by the President (President's Decree No.17 of 2019)
6 November 2018	New policy drafted