

## Guidelines for grading M.Sc. thesis

### Leiden Institute for Advanced Computer Science

Grading a thesis project can look at the following:

- Thesis work (including software, papers)
- Project Execution
- Final presentation
- Defense
- Other products delivered (exhibit, ...)

Criteria that are used to quantify the result:

- Quality of the thesis work
  - o Originality of the research question
  - o Soundness of the approach
  - o Structuring of complex matter
  - o Depth of Analysis
  - o Creativity in creating a solution
  - o Quality of the reporting (structure of the thesis, grammar)
  - o Critical Thinking: the student does not take presented information for granted, but challenges this.
- Characteristics of executing the project
  - o Autonomy (self-propelling): student has performed the work largely autonomously with little input required from the supervisors
  - o Systematic application of methods and techniques
  - o The student has made a good planning and largely stuck to this planning
- Final presentation:
  - o Clarity of conveying the main message (quality of slides, speaking)
  - o Creativity in presenting
- Defense:
  - o The candidate is knowledgeable about the wider area of his thesis
  - o The candidate knows the limits of his knowledge

In order to be able to obtain a M.Sc. degree, a candidate must have adopted academic values in his thinking and acting.

Awarding a 9 for a M.Sc. project can be considered if the work is published at a scientific venue which is peer-reviewed (workshop, conference or journal). If the paper writing is under review then it is up to the thesis-committee to judge the chances of success.

Uit het OER:

De betekenis van de cijfers is als volgt:

4 = onvoldoende      6 = voldoende      8 = goed      10 = uitmuntend  
5 = juist onvoldoende      7 = ruim voldoende      9 = zeer goed

NB. Er mogen 'halven' gegeven worden (6.5, 7.5 etc) , behalve 5.5.