

# Independent project

Master level, 30 credits (or 45, or 60)



All information is collected at

<https://internt.slu.se/nj-exjobb> (Swedish)

<https://internt.slu.se/nj-msc-thesis> (English)

Also this presentation

## Independent project at the NL-faculty, 30 hp



- **Taken as any ordinary course**
  - Application procedure as for all other courses!
- **Which course, which subject?**
  - Depends on what degree you want.
  - Your Masters degree is decided by the main subject area of your Individual project
    - If you want a **Master degree in Biology**, then choose an Independent project in **Biology**
  - Some study programs only have one option
  - Prerequisites must be fulfilled!



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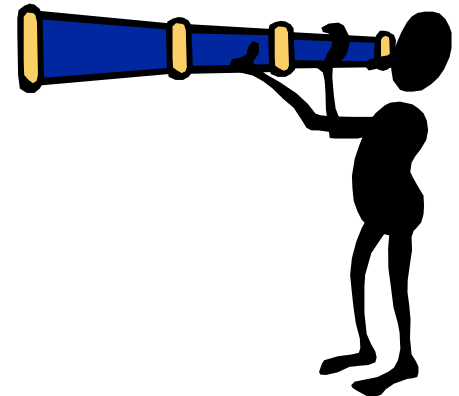
## **You will be conditionally accepted**

- The student must arrange with a supervisor and a subject!
- Not accepted without!
- You must have a main supervisor from SLU, even if the project is performed at a company etc. outside SLU!



## How to find a project and supervisor

- Start looking for supervisor already now among the teachers you meet!
- Available projects are listed at:  
<https://internt.slu.se/nj-msc-thesis>



## Working procedures

- Read the [guidance](#) that describes the working procedures
- At the start, fill the [registration form](#) together with your supervisor.
- **No one may start a thesis project without being admitted and registered!**
- During the first days, fill the [work plan](#), together with your supervisor.
- Take part in the [compulsory lectures](#).
- Check for plagiarism in Urkund (handled by the supervisor).
- Present your results at a seminar.
- Act as an opponent on another student's presentation.
- Publish the thesis in [Epsilon](#) (handled by your Department).

## Compulsory lectures

- Library, information search
  - Science theory,
  - Scientific writing
- 
- Together with students at all Indep. proj. courses
  - During the first weeks of the course
  - May be taken before the start of your project
  - Schedule at <http://www.slu.se/NJ/compulsory-parts>
  - Not necessary if already taken during the last years (decided by your Examiner).



## Compulsory parts for the thesis

- Check for plagiarism in “Urkund”, (handled by your supervisor)
- The thesis must be published in the Epsilon system (handled by your department)



## The oral presentation

- You should be opponent!
- You should have an opponent
- Start looking for a student opponent early!
- The oral presentation may take place whenever it suits all people involved in the presentation
- For some departments: may take place during the organised days for oral presentations
- Should preferably be done before the very final version of the written thesis, to be able to respond on comments





## **Examiner, not supervisor, is grading the course**

- The supervisor should find an examiner
- Graded marks;
- Grading criteria can be found on the web page for Independent Projects
- The examiner is not a second supervisor.



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## **Exceptions, special cases etc.**

If you **need** to start your project **before** the official start of the course, e.g. field work during summer etc.

At first hand:

- Use “Late application” on [universityadmissions.se](https://www.universityadmissions.se) for the course going on when you intend to start the project.
- e.g. for field work during summer, apply for the spring course

If no course is running when you intend to start

- use an internal SLU application paper form, available at the faculty web page for Independent projects,

**No one may start a thesis project without being admitted and registered!**

- Important for insurances etc.



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## **Exceptions, special cases etc. – part 2**

There are longer courses that can be taken if necessary:

- Biology: 45 and 60 credits
- Environmental science: 45 credits

Not announced on [universityadmissions.se](http://universityadmissions.se).

### **When?**

- On your way in to a PhD project
- Extensive project not possible to complete within 30 credits
- And other...

**Discuss with supervisor and Director of studies!**



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## Course evaluation

- The ordinary course evaluations (EVALD) do not work
- Another evaluation at “Fronter”
- Reached from the course page on the student web:  
<https://student.slu.se/en/studies/courses/>
- Also reached from the “student portal”
- **100% anonymous answers!!!**

## EnvEuro additions:

In addition to SLU guidelines, EnvEuro students must also follow the EnvEuro procedures

Particularly important aspects:

- Apply by sending an e-mail to [exchange@slu.se](mailto:exchange@slu.se)!
- You must take the course *Independent project in **Environmental Science**, EX0431*
- You must have a *co-supervisor at your home university*
- The co-supervisor must attend (usually on video link) the thesis defense

## EnvEuro additions:

Complete EnvEuro guidelines are available at:

<http://enveuro.eu/master-programme/masters-thesis/>

- *Master thesis guide* (for students)
- *Supervisor and co-supervisor guide* (including the *thesis evaluation form*)
- Make sure that both your SLU supervisor and your home university co-supervisor get the Supervisor and co-supervisor guide!

Contact Tobias Vrede ([tobias.vrede@slu.se](mailto:tobias.vrede@slu.se)) if you have any questions

## Who to contact?

- In most cases, contact the department where you are doing your project
  - Supervisor,
  - Director of studies
  - Course administration



Main subject	Main responsible	Department
Biology	Ulf Grandin	Aquatic Sciences and Assessment
Env. Science	Ulf Grandin	Aquatic Sciences and Assessment
Soil Science	Gerd Johansson	Soil and Environment
Agric. Sciences	Birgitta Båth	Crop Production Ecology
Food Science	Lena Dimberg	Food Science
Chemistry	Anders Sandström	Chemistry
Technology	David Ljungberg	Energy and Technology
Compulsory parts	Maria Kahlert	Aquatic Sciences and Assessment



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## Take home messages

- All information is available at:
  - <https://internt.slu.se/nj-msc-thesis>
  - <https://internt.slu.se/nj-exjobb>
- **Read the guide!**



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**Good luck with your project!!!**

Questions?

