

ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

The Executive MBA

bm22233p - Master's thesis (dissertation)

Year of Study: 2nd Year elective

Semester and Period: 4th – 5th semester April - October

Number of ECTS: 18

1. Introduction

The last months of the program (April of 4th semester to October of 5th semester) is the time period where a student must work and delivery her/his dissertation. Reasons that student work and write a dissertation instead of 3 elective courses are:

It offers the opportunity to investigate in depth a subject that interests him/her. The student gets acquainted with the rigorous, systematic, academic approach to problem solving.

It facilitates students to get to approach and introduce himself/ herself at his/hers working environment, which may be extremely useful later in her/his career.

It allows the student to apply all the academic and scientific methods in problem solving at her/his work.

It requires frequent contacts with the supervisor and the rest of the teaching staff, which are necessary for the objective evaluation of the student's paper and abilities.

2. Dissertation topics

- ✚ Business Plan
- ✚ Case Study
- ✚ Comparative Analysis
- ✚ Historical Study
- ✚ Testing hypothesis Testing / Theory Development
- ✚ Industrial /Comparative analysis
- ✚ Marketing study
- ✚ Methodology development
- ✚ Model design (data, information)
- ✚ Policy study
- ✚ Strategy plan / study
- ✚ Analysis of technological infrastructure

Despite the subject of the dissertation, it should have a practical dimension, analysis and key findings on practical problems and, above all, it is highly suggested to be related to the company or the industry in which the student works.

3. Steps of dissertation / procedure

- Topic selection
- Choice and availability of supervisor
- Topic/ subject clarification
- Review of the literature
- Submission of the proposal at the administration of the program

1. *Timetable and work schedule*
2. *Writing and research of the dissertation*
3. *Presentation of the*
4. *Presentation of the dissertation*

Dissertation	Timetable
Selection of topic and supervisor, preparation of work plan	2 nd year - January to March
Submission of a thesis proposal	2 nd year April - June
Research, analysis, key findings	2 nd year June - September
Progress report	2 nd year May - June
Writing – editing	July – September
1 st draft paper sent to supervisor	5 th semester September
Final draft to supervisor	End of September
Submission at the administration of the program	October

Paper – content and length

- **15.000-30.000 words (75-150 pages)**
- **Dissertation structure**
 - Cover of the paper
 - Table of contents
 - Abstract
 - Review of Literature
 - Methodology (research design & methods)
 - Presentation of Research (Key findings)
 - Summary, Implications, Conclusions (discussion)

8. Presentation

The presentations of all dissertations take place at the mid-end of October of the 5th semester in front of the evaluation committees. Each student has 20-30 minutes at their disposal. After each presentation the evaluation committee has 15 minutes of questions.

The success of the presentation seals the completion of the students' studies.