Prof. Dr. Martin Biewen University of Tübingen

Master Thesis Formal Guidelines

- The thesis should follow the usual structure of a scientific paper (e.g., Introduction, Literature, Methods, Data, Results, Conclusion, References, Appendix,...).
- The length of the main text must not exceed 40 pages including the main figures and tables (but excluding references and appendix).
- The total length of the thesis must not exceed 80 pages including the main text, references and appendix.
- References must use the APA style (see Wikipedia)
- The main text must be set in a 12-point font with a 1.5 line spacing.
- In addition to the requirements of the Examination Office, an electronic copy of the thesis together with computer codes, data (unless confidential) and other essential information has to be sent by email to us (alternative ways of transmission are possible if file sizes too large).
- **Plagiarism and academic fraud:** The following is forbidden: i) Copy/paste text from existing publications outside a regular quote. ii) Copy essential thoughts or structures from existing work without acknowledging their sources. iii) Use substantial help from other persons without acknowledging this. iv) Produce fake research results. Any violations of these rules may lead to exmatriculation. Academic fraud may also destroy your career if discovered later in your life. We will use software to detect potential academic misconduct.
- **Use of generative AI-tools:** You are allowed (and expected) to use generative AI-tools. The following rules apply when using generative AI-tools: i) It is your responsibility to fully check the validity of any output generated by AI-tools. ii) It is your responsibility to include references to the sources of knowledge used in generative AI-output, even if these sources are not named in the output. iii) Rules on plagiarism still apply. It is your responsibility to check whether AI-output contains copied text. Reformulate if in doubt. iv) Given that the use of AI-tools saves time on low-level tasks, we expect you to substantially add to your work by spending more time on high-level tasks.