

Project Plan for your Bachelor- or Master-thesis

In preparation of writing a bachelor- or a master thesis, I ask you to devise a “project plan”. This project plan serves the purpose of making sure that you are ready to start working on the thesis. The plan can be developed in several iterations of feedback and discussion. In the end, the plan should be sufficiently detailed that I can be confident that it is feasible as a bachelor’s or master's project.

The project plan should consist of the following points:

1. Topic: What are the questions you want to address?
2. Methods: How do you want to address these questions?
3. Data: Do you have access to the required data?
4. Status of knowledge: What do we know about this topic already?
5. Outline of your thesis.

While this are the general requirements, the structure may not fit all possible master projects. For example, if you want to collect data (e.g. in an experiment) as part of your master's project, you don't have to document that you have access to the data already, but that your plan for data collection is feasible (e.g. that you have funding for an experiment).

Here is a link to a commented project plan that has been used at the University of Oslo:

<http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/sv/oekonomi/ECON4090/projectplan12>

Remember that a good thesis is based on a contestable and supportable claim.