

MSc in Biology/Neurosciences BIO506

Overall style and presentation of the Master thesis

The title page should contain the following information (see template in Infobox):

- Title of the thesis
- Master of Science in Biology/Neurosciences
- name of the student
- name of the supervisor(s)
- name of the responsible member of the Faculty of Sciences (MNF)
- University of Zurich, Institute/Department
- month and year

Introduction:

Give a detailed overview of the current knowledge in the field of research relevant to your thesis project. The reader should understand the significance of the research done in the Master project within this field. Clearly describe the problem/hypothesis that is addressed and state the goal of the project. **Important:** In contrast to Introductions of research papers, the introduction of a Master thesis is not limited to 1-2 pages. In contrast, show that you are familiar with the current knowledge and that you understand the context of your project with the relevant research field. A minimum of 10-15 pages is required.

Results:

Give a clear and logic description of the results of your experiments. The presentation should be clear and easy to understand also to a non-specialist. Give a short interpretation of your results in the context of the tested hypothesis. Longer in-depth interpretations should be included in the Discussion part.

Material and Methods:

Clear description of the methods and the materials used in your research, such that all the experiments can be reproduced by others.

Discussion and Conclusions:

Conclusion drawn from your results and discussion of the obtained results in the context of the goals stated in the Introduction. What do your results mean for the field of research? What would be the next steps, new hypotheses for future projects?

Additional parts:

The thesis has to contain a list of all references used in the text. Refer to guidelines of the University of Zurich and the standards in the field about plagiarism. A signed statement that you have correctly cited all sources of information has to be added to your thesis.

Abstract/Summary:

The abstract should be concise and summarize the hypothesis and the conclusion of your research results for a non-specialist.

The thesis must also include your curriculum vitae.

Optional: acknowledgements, index (list of contents)

Esther Stoeckli

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