



UvA Thesis Prize 2020 Rules and Regulations

1. Conditions of participation

1.1.

Final theses on the basis of which the participants obtained a Master's degree certificate at the University of Amsterdam between 1 April 2019 and 1 February 2020 qualify for assessment by the jury.

1.2.

Participants are expected to be aware of and agree to these regulations.

1.3.

The submitted thesis must have been written as a final thesis and have achieved a mark of at least 8.5 (eight and a half).

1.4.

The closing date for submissions is Wednesday 5 February at noon.

1.5.

If the thesis is submitted in the form of a scientific paper that is published on the basis of the thesis, the student submitting the thesis must be the first author of that paper. In addition, in the letter of recommendation the first thesis supervisor must indicate the student's share in the paper.

1.6.

The thesis is available unconditionally and in full for members of the jury and co-readers.

The thesis will be made public: there are no restrictions for interested parties who wish to peruse the thesis unless copyright, privacy or confidentiality exceptions apply. In such a situation, these restrictions must be submitted as a reasoned argument to the jury, who will then make a decision regarding the exception.

1.7.

Relations by blood or affinity of members of the jury and of the secretaries of the UvA Thesis Prize are excluded from participation.

2. Submission of the thesis

2.1.

Entries not submitted in digital format will be rejected.

The thesis, including all annexes (see section 2.5) can be sent in using the form on the webpage of the UvA Thesis Prize.



Alternatively, participants may store the documents on a USB stick and send this to the following address:

UvA Development & Alumni Relations Office
Attn.: UvA Thesis Prize jury
Postbus 94325
1090 GH Amsterdam
Tel.: 020-525 3131
scriptieprijs-alumni@uva.nl

It is also possible to submit the documents, on appointment by phone or e-mail, in person at the Alumni Relations and University Fund Secretariat, Spui 21 (Maagdenhuis), Amsterdam.

Submitted USB sticks will not be returned.

2.2.

The thesis must be written in Dutch or English.

2.3.

The jury may decide to drop the requirement of section 2.2, subject to a substantiated request to that effect. The closing date for such requests is 10 days prior to the deadline as stated under 1.4.

2.4.

The thesis must be accompanied by the following details:

- the name, address, telephone number(s), email address and date of birth of the author;
- the name of the study programme, title of the thesis, number of EC and graduation date;
- the names, titles and email addresses of the thesis supervisors and author(s) of the letters of recommendation.

2.5.

The submission must be accompanied by the following annexes in Word or PDF (the annexes must have a clearly recognisable document name, e.g. thesis [name] or letter of recommendation [name]):

1. written proof of the mark awarded to the thesis, signed by an authorised examiner, or, alternatively, a print-out from SIS signed by the Student Desk or a copy of the list of marks attached to the degree certificate;
2. documentary evidence of the graduation and graduation date (such as a copy of the degree certificate, or a signed print-out from SIS showing that the participant has graduated);
3. a lay summary of no more than one A4-size page in Dutch or English (covering at least the central research question, the research method and the results.
4. two letters of recommendation from experts, one of whom is not a thesis supervisor (the second reader/proofreader may write a letter of recommendation); the letters of recommendation should explain in what respects the thesis excels in terms of scientific quality and originality and preferably indicate the added value of the thesis to the specific discipline;
5. a curriculum vitae of no more than two pages.



2.6.

Participants will receive confirmation that their thesis has been received. The winners will be announced on University Day (Saturday 4 April 2020). Nominees and their thesis supervisors will be notified of the nomination well in advance. The winners will be mentioned in the UvA alumni magazine SPUI and in other UvA media.

2.7.

Theses that are not accompanied by all the required documents will be rejected. It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure that all documents are submitted to the UvA Thesis Prize secretariat in full and in time (before the deadline). Documents (including letters of recommendation) submitted after the deadline will not be considered, irrespective of the reason for late submission. It is the participant's responsibility to allow for any delay in postal delivery.

3. Assessment criteria

3.1.

Theses will be assessed on academic quality and originality.

3.2.

The jury's decision is final and not subject to debate.

4. Jury

4.1.

The jury will be appointed by the UvA Executive Board (College van Bestuur) on the recommendation of the director of the UvA Development & Alumni Relations Office. The jury will consist of seven deans of the faculties (or professors who will represent them). Each faculty has one vote on the jury.

4.2.

Nominees will be preselected from the entries under the responsibility of the jury. Up to seven entries will be presented to the jury for assessment (maximum of one per faculty).

4.3.

The jury reserves the right not to award the UvA thesis prizes in the event of an insufficient number of entries and/or an unsatisfactory quality of the entries.

4.4.

The jury may decide to engage external experts for advice in the assessment of the theses.

4.5.

The members of the jury award points to the nominees: from six points (best candidate) to one point (candidate in sixth place). Jury members may not award points to candidates from their own faculty. Jury members inform the official secretary of the points they have awarded to nominees prior to the final deliberation of the jury. The jury awards first prize based on the number of points collected (which is not made public) and the deliberation of the jury.

5. Prizes

5.1.

€3,000 (three thousand euros) for first place. The six other nominees are considered winners of the faculty prizes and will each receive €1,000 (one thousand euros).

6. Concluding provision

6.1.

The chair of the jury will decide on any cases not provided for in these regulations.