

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS REGARDING THE MASTER THESIS FOR MSc MARINE AND LACUSTRINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT 2024-2026

Timing schedule (*)

First master year	
Call for subjects among lecturers and research groups	1 October
Deadline for submitting subjects + submitting time of info-moments	15 January
Announcement of subjects to the students	3 February
Students sign in for info-moments/contact supervisor	3 February - 23 February
Students send top 3 of topics (+motivation)	24 February
Topic confirmed to students (Matix)	3 March
Student and supervisor sign thesis charter	15 March
Contact promoter/supervisor to discuss literature review timeline and draft content	1st week of March
Initial discussion of work plan for master thesis with promoter/supervisor	Before June exams
Submit draft literature review for feedback	After Easter holidays
Submission of final literature review	1 st day of June exams: 2 June (for January graduation: last Friday before Christmas break)
Register your thesis stay abroad in Mobility Online (if applicable)	before departure
Start of fieldwork of master thesis (facultative)	July or later depending on topic
Second master year	
Start of laboratory work (or equivalent)	September-October
Submission detailed work plan (template)	2 nd week of academic year
Submit thesis topic to VUB Faculty (via Canvas)	15 October
Submission of thesis update	Start of 2nd semester
Submission of manuscript	1 st day of exams: 02 June or 18 August (for January graduation: 6 January)
Submission of defense presentation	Day before 1st defense day (25 June or 2 Sept.)
Defense	26 and 27 June or 3, 4, 5 Sept.

(*) timing here is typically for a first evaluation session defence in June, or second evaluation session in September. Exceptionally, the defense can be scheduled in January. Please be aware of regulations regarding defence sessions, unless requested otherwise, students are scheduled for June or September (if not graduated in July) automatically. First or second session have equal academic value. Students graduating in January must register for this (via the faculty's website – VUB)