

**Rules and guidelines for writing a seminar paper and
bachelor/master thesis
at the Chair of Statistics and Econometrics,
University of Freiburg**

1. Rules for writing a thesis at the chair

If students are interested in writing a thesis under the supervision of one of the members of the chair, they should pay attention to the following steps and information (see also the website <https://uni-freiburg.de/econ-econometrics/theses/>):

Step 1: They should send the request form to the chair's assistant, namely Conny Hupfer (conny.hupfer@vwl.uni-freiburg.de), together with their CV and their most recent Transcript of Records. The request form can be found on the website <https://uni-freiburg.de/econ-econometrics/theses/>.

Step 2: They will receive an email from Conny Hupfer with the acceptance or rejection of the request. Upon being accepted, the students will receive an appointment with the supervisor.

Step 3: The topic of the thesis will be discussed during the first meeting with the supervisor. Afterwards, the student must formally register his/her thesis with the examination office.

1.1 Requirements and language for bachelor thesis

- Successful completion of the classes Statistik and Ökonometrie
- Some knowledge of a programming language (R, Python, Matlab, etc.) is highly desired.
- Before the thesis registration, students must guarantee that they meet the requirements of the examination office.
- The thesis can be written in German or in English (and should include a German summary in the latter case)

1.2 Requirements and language for master thesis

- Successful completion of the class Intermediate Econometrics.
- Successful completion of one of the master's optional lectures offered by the chair or other econometrics related classes (covering material beyond the one of Intermediate Econometrics) completed at other universities AND of one of the seminars offered by the chair are compulsory.
- Good knowledge in a programming language (R, Python, Matlab, etc.) is compulsory.
- Before students register for a thesis, they need to make sure that they meet the requirements of the examination office.
- The thesis must be written in English. Students of M.Sc. VWL program should include a German summary.

Students must follow the rules provided by the examination office for the maximum number of pages and the format of the bachelor or of the master thesis. Theses that are registered with the examination office from October 1, 2025 onward only need to be submitted in PDF format.

In terms of the appropriate thesis format, students should follow the structure presented in Section 5 below. On the website of the chair, <https://uni-freiburg.de/econ-econometrics/theses/>, students may find a LaTeX template for a thesis that they can use. The thesis in PDF format should be submitted to the examination office together with the accompanying codes, the data and the Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity (see Section 5.9). This declaration should also include declaration on AI Use as detailed in Section 11 below.

Students are expected to make a presentation to the members of the chair of their intermediate results of their thesis. Section 4.2 below provides details about the presentation.

Students should pay a very good attention to the supervision rules described in Section 3 below.

2. Rules for writing a seminar paper at the chair

In order to register to the seminar, please follow the timeline from the seminar's website of the chair that is updated every semester.

2.1 Requirements

- Successful completion of the class Intermediate Econometrics.
- Parallel enrolment on, or the successful completion of, one of the optional lectures offered by the chair or other econometrics related classes (covering material beyond the one of Intermediate Econometrics) completed at other universities is compulsory.
- Good knowledge of a programming language (R, Python, Matlab, etc.) is compulsory.

2.2 Topics, data and timeline

- The topics for the seminar are presented during the first meeting at the beginning of the semester.
- It is highly encouraged that students work on a topic jointly with another colleague.
- Students should submit their topic preferences (in order of priority) and the name of their group partner to the chair's assistant, namely Conny Hupfer (conny.hupfer@vwl.uni-freiburg.de), after the first meeting at the beginning of the semester and no later than a certain deadline (announced on the chair's website).
- Afterwards they will receive an email from Ms Hupfer with the topic that has been assigned to them. If students are not satisfied, they should contact the respective supervisor at once.
- Students have time until a certain deadline (announced on the chair's website) to deregister from the seminar. In the event that they deregister after this deadline, they will receive the grade 5.0.
- Students should pay attention to the related deadlines that are presented in the first meeting and posted on the seminar's website.
- Students should pay attention to the supervision rules described in Section 3 below.
- The data for the seminar will be uploaded on ILIAS together with a 'readme' PDF.

2.3 Seminar paper and grading

- The joint seminar papers should not exceed 25 pages (without appendix).
- The stand-alone seminar papers should not exceed 15 pages (without appendix).

- To write their seminar papers, students should follow the structure presented in Section 5 below.
- The seminar paper in PDF format together with the accompanying codes, the data generated for the work and the Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity (including AI Use) (see Section 5.9 and Section 11 below for details) must be uploaded in ILIAS one week before the presentations. They should **not** be sent by email.
- Submissions after the deadline will be graded with 5.0 for the seminar paper.
- The instructions on the formal upload of the files can be found on ILIAS.
- **AI use:** See **Section 11 (AI Use Policy)** for permitted uses, required declaration, and consequences.
- The final grade is a weighted average obtained from the grade of the seminar paper (40%) and that of the presentation (60%). More details about the presentation can be found in Section 4.1 below. In order to receive a pass, students must get at least 4.0 for each component, meaning the seminar paper and the presentation.

3. Supervision

Students are expected to contact the supervisor immediately after being assigned the topic in order to discuss how to further proceed. It is also very important to keep contact with the supervisor **on a regular basis** throughout the duration of the supervision in order to get feedback on the work's progress. Please be advised that the supervisor is not supposed to verify the codes of the students or read drafts of the paper/thesis during the supervision period. The supervisor will commit to answering the questions of the student and directing his/her research progress.

4. Presentations

4.1 *Presentation of the seminar paper*

- The dates of the presentation will be listed on the seminar's website.
- The presentation should consist of a short introduction and motivation of the topic, followed by a short literature overview, the description of the methodologies and of the data, as well as of the empirical application and empirical results and should contain conclusions and remarks on future research.
- Presentations are done in **presence**. Online presentations are **not** allowed.
- The students are expected to begin their presentation with a slide with the Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity including the AI use as specified at points 5.9 and 11.4 below
- If coding is part of the work, students need to include 2-3 slides that outline/sketch their code (algorithm, data processing, etc) at the end of their presentation. Should questions on the code be asked during the presentation, students are expected to comment adequately and relate them to the results and statements in the paper. Inability to do so leads to grade 5.0 for the presentation.
- Students are expected to deliver a natural presentation without reading from slides, personal notes or scripts.
- Illustrating results in the form of software outputs (R, Python, Matlab, etc.) is not permitted. All results must be organised in table or graph format.
- Students should bring the presentation slides on a stick and upload them before the seminar presentations start.
- All authors must attend the presentation and present. Any author that does not present will be awarded a grade 5.0.

- All presentations will consist of 25 minutes of paper presentation plus 10 minutes of open discussion for one single authored paper and 35 minutes per paper plus 10 minutes of open discussion for jointly written papers.
- It is highly recommended that students practice their presentation in advance and make sure that it fits into the time constraint. As a general recommendation, one should avoid more than 7 lines of text per slide as well as too many slides.
- Active participation in seminar presentations by students, through questions and discussion, is strongly encouraged.

4.2 Presentation of preliminary thesis's results

- Students are expected to prepare and deliver a 35 minutes presentation on their intermediate results.
- The presentation is usually online and the students are expected to contact the chair's assistant, namely Conny Hupfer (conny.hupfer@vwl.uni-freiburg.de), after receiving their topic to fix the date of their presentation.
- The presentation should take place after the student finished the empirical work and before writing the thesis (rule of thumb: after 2/3 of the time available for writing the thesis).
- The presentation should consist of a short introduction and motivation of the topic, followed by a short literature overview, the description of the methodologies and data, as well as that of the empirical application and results. The presentation should also stress on possible difficulties and problems (if at all!) the author(s) encounters during the project.
- The presentation will not be graded, but it aims at helping students in staying on track with their work and improving their thesis before submitting.
- The students are expected to begin their presentation with a slide showcasing the Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity including the AI use as specified at points 5.9 and 11.4 below. They also need to include 2-3 slides that outline/sketch the code (algorithm, data processing, etc) at the end of the presentation. Should questions on the code be asked during the presentation, students are expected to comment adequately and relate them to the results and statements in the paper.
- Students are expected to deliver a natural presentation without reading from slides, personal notes or scripts.
- Illustrating results in the form of software outputs (R, Python, Matlab, etc.) is not permitted. All results must be organised in table or graph format.
- The presentations will consist of 25 minutes of presentation plus 10 minutes of discussion.
- It is highly recommended that students practice the presentation in advance and make sure that it fits into the time constraint. As a general recommendation, one should avoid more than 7 lines of text per slide as well as too many slides.

5. Structure of the seminar paper/thesis

The formal structure of the seminar paper/thesis should meet the following scheme:

1. Title page
2. Table of contents
3. List of figures (when applicable)
4. List of tables (when applicable)
5. List of abbreviations
6. Text

7. Bibliography
8. Appendix (when applicable)
9. Declaration of Independent Work and Academic (see sections 5.9 and 11.4 below)

5.1 Title page

For a seminar paper, the title appears centred in the upper part of the title page, beneath appears the text 'Seminar paper for the Seminar [*here title of the seminar*]', the name of the university, the name of the lecturer and the term in which the paper is written. In the lower part of the page the name(s) of the author(s) should appear, together with their complete address(es) and their matriculation number(s) as well as the place and date of completion of the seminar paper/thesis.

With regard to the formatting of the title on the first page of the bachelor/master thesis, please see the official indications of the examination office.

5.2 Table of contents

The table of contents contains the outline of the paper/thesis with page numbers. The outline is composed by the headings/names of the chapters/sections of the paper/thesis. The structure of the outline should be logically comprehensible and non-overlapping.

The names of the sections whose contents have equal priority should be placed at the same level of structure, which is not to say that the length of the sections must be the same. The headings/names should indicate the aspects mentioned in the related (sub)section and they should be short. If one chooses to have subsections in a section, then the section should have at least two subsections. It is not advisable to divide the paper into too many subsections; one page per subsection should be the minimum. Within the scope of a paper/thesis, at most two levels of structure are appropriate (i.e., sections and subsections).

Formally, the division of the table of contents should follow the Dewey decimal classification or the mixed alphanumeric classification.

5.3 List of figures

If the paper contains several figures, it is advisable to make a list of them, which should be placed after the table of contents. In this list, all figures are enumerated with their heading, number and page number.

5.4 List of tables

If the paper contains several tables, it is advisable to make a list of them, which should be placed after the table of contents and list of figures. In this list, all tables are enumerated with their heading, number and page number.

5.5 List of abbreviations

The abbreviations that are used in the paper are to be listed and explained in the list of abbreviations in alphabetical order, which should be placed after the table of contents, list of figures and list of tables. The use of abbreviations should be constrained to general linguistic usage and common abbreviations in the specific field.

5.6 Text

The text is the **core** of the paper. In this part, the author deals with the thesis/seminar paper topic in an explicit way. One should strive for a precise scientific formulation. The general structure of the text is:

- I. *Introduction*
- II. *Methodology*
- III. *Empirical results*
- IV. *Conclusion*

- I. *Introduction*: In this section, one introduces and motivates the topic of the paper/thesis, integrates it into the appropriate literature by pointing out their own contribution, and surveys the literature on the topic. The last paragraph should provide a short description of each of the sections that follow (in general one sentence for each section).
- II. *Methodology*: In this section, it is custom to present the econometric methodological framework used in the thesis. The methodology should be presented **not by copying and pasting** the formulas from literature sources, but by writing them in the way the **student(s) understand(s)** it. Very special attention should be paid to the mathematical notation and symbols, which should remain consistent throughout the paper/thesis. The student(s) are expected to put effort in interpreting with their own words the choice and meaning of the methodologies as well as the associated advantages and disadvantages.

In general, the description in this section should cover the **minimum necessary concepts** that are directly used in the paper/thesis and required to interpret the paper's methodology and results.

- III. *Empirical results*: In this section, one provides first the description of the real data used in the paper/thesis. If the paper/thesis presents Monte Carlo simulation results, a special subsection should elaborate in detail on the simulation designs.

This section presents the empirical results derived from applying the chosen econometric methodologies to real or simulated data. It is very important that the results are not only presented in tables and figures, but also discussed at length and interpreted.

The tables/figures with the most relevant results for the discussion are included in this section, while the rest should be directed to the appendix. In the main text, it is advised to avoid having tables and figures on multiple consecutive pages. Please note that it is not permitted to present the empirical results in the form of software outputs. All results must be organised in the form of tables and/or graphs.

The author(s) should discuss the results in the context of the existing results in the literature. All estimation results must include measures of uncertainty such as standard errors, t-tests, p-values, or other appropriate possibilities. Furthermore, any comparisons between empirical results must be supported by formal statistical tests. The empirical results should also include various empirical robustness checks.

- IV. *Conclusions*: In this section sums up the findings of the paper/thesis by shortly introducing the topic and summarizing the empirical results. This section should also include a description of the limitations of the paper/thesis and indications of possible future research avenues

In all parts of the text of the paper/thesis, very special attention should be paid to correctly citing and naming the references. Parts of the texts, ideas and ways of description that are adopted from various literature resources need to be explained clearly and the original sources must be cited accordingly.

5.7 Bibliography

The list of bibliography should be placed at the end of the seminar paper/thesis and of presentations. Very special attention should be paid to correctly citing and writing the

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references both in the seminar paper/thesis and in the presentation. Deviations from this requirement can lead to grade 5.0.

Reference drifts are not allowed.

The author should make sure that he/she read the papers listed in the bibliography and not just copy them from other papers.

The bibliography lists all references cited in the paper/thesis in alphabetical order according to the author's surname. If one author is cited several times, their publications are put in chronological order. The publications of the same author with the same year of issue are listed alphabetically according to their title.

5.8 Appendix

The appendix should contain supplementary background information, such as mathematical proofs, tables, or figures, that cannot be integrated into the main text due to space limit. This content must be organized by type into distinct sections (e.g., proofs, tables, and figures). Each section within the appendix should be labeled with a sequential letter, such as A, B, or C.

5.9 Declaration of independent work and academic integrity

All theses must end with the following declaration: "I hereby declare that I have written this thesis without any unauthorized help and without using any means other than those indicated. All passages that are taken verbatim or in spirit from publications have been marked as such. The submitted bachelor/master thesis was neither completely nor in essential parts subject of another examination. The electronic version of the submitted bachelor/master thesis is consistent in content and formatting with the printed paper copies."

All seminar papers must end with the following declaration: "I hereby declare that I have written this paper without any unauthorized help and without using any means other than those indicated. All passages that are taken verbatim or in spirit from publications have been marked as such. The submitted paper was neither completely nor in essential parts subject of another examination."

All presentations must begin with the following declaration "I hereby declare that I have written this presentation without any unauthorized help and without using any means other than those indicated. All passages that are taken verbatim or in spirit from publications have been marked as such."

A paper/thesis should represent the original intellectual work of the student(s). Hence, it is paramount that all external ideas, data, or text phrasing be properly cited to give credit to the original author(s) and avoid plagiarism. Fabricating or falsifying data and/or results is also a severe ethical breach and is not permitted. It will Be graded with 5.0

Moreover, it is compulsory that these declarations also include statements about the AI use. For this, follow Section 11.4 below.

6. Technical Details

6.1. Layout

In the text, the font size 12 should be chosen and the footnotes should be written in font size 10. Line-spacing of 1.5 is recommended. The left margin should measure 6 cm. The top margin should measure 1 – 1.5 cm up to the page number and 2 cm up to the first line of text. The right and bottom margins should measure 1 – 1.5 cm.

6.2. Footnotes and quotations

In scientific papers, footnotes represent the most frequently used form of notes. They serve as a reference to information that would disrupt the text's coherence if placed directly, such as references to supplementary literature, references to other parts of one own's manuscript and deviations from the main line of arguing.

For reasons of readability, it is recommended to employ footnotes only for documentation of sources, meaning that students should not use footnotes for long explanations of marginal problems. The spot of reference in the text should be marked by a superscript Arabic numeral. The text of the footnote should be placed at the bottom of the same page. The footnotes are to be numbered consecutively.

The references in the text contain the author's last name, year of publication and, if necessary, the page number/section referenced. Several authors of one source are connected by 'and' or '&'. If more than three authors are mentioned, only the first one is given with the addition 'et al.'.

Examples: Friedman (1983)
Friedman and Clark (1986)
Friedman & Clark (1986)
Friedman et al. (1988)

In case of verbatim quotation, i.e., the quote is taken from the source word by word, the quote appears in inverted comma. The intentional omission of one word is denoted by two dots, the omission of several words is shown by a triple-dot. Deviations from the original source have to be marked clearly. The reference to the source is located directly behind the quote and should contain the author's last name, year of publication and the page number (where the quote can be found) in parentheses.

Example: (Friedman, 1983, p.154)

6.3. Formulas

Symbols used in mathematical formulas are defined clearly at their first appearance in the text. Consistent notation of formulas enhances readability. Further, all formulas should be numbered to allow for consistent cross referencing between them. The numbering should appear consistently on either the left or right side of the text. Formulas should be positioned centre justified and offset from the text by blank lines.

7. The Bibliography List

Monographs or books are listed by giving in the last name and the first name of the author, the year of issue, the title, the possible name of the series, the volume, the edition (if it's not the first one) and the place of issue.

Example: Koenker, Robert (2005). *Quantile Regression*, Cambridge University Press, United States.

Papers/articles in a collected volume are listed by giving in the last name and the first name of the author, the year of issue, the title of the article, *in:* the first and the last name of the editor, the title of the book, the possible name of the series, the volume, the edition (if it's not the first one), the place of issue and the pages covered.

Example: Chib, Siddhartha (2001). 'Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methods: Computation and Inference', *in:* J. Heckman and E. Leamer (eds.): *Handbook of Econometrics*, Volume 5, Amsterdam: Elsevier Science, 335 – 356.

Articles published in journals are labelled with the first and the last name of the author(s), the year of issue, the title of the article, the journal, the volume, the number of the issue (in parentheses) and the page references.

Example: Stock, James (1988). 'Estimating Continuous Time Processes Subject to Time Deformation', *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 83(401), 77 – 85.

If more authors exist, all need to be mentioned in the bibliography.

Examples: Tauchen, G. E. and Pitts, M. (1983). 'The Price Variability – Volume Relationship on Speculative Markets', *Econometrica* 51(2), 485 – 505.

Patton, A. J., Ziegel, J. F. and Chen, R. (2019). 'Dynamic Semiparametric Models for Expected Shortfall (and Value-at-Risk)', *Journal of Econometrics* 211(2), 388 – 413.

References to internet pages are only acceptable in exceptional cases, especially when their use is inevitable (an exception to this rule are regular online publications with digital identification DOI). Utterly unspecific internet references to the homepage of a department, professorship or else are strictly forbidden. One should preferably include published works in the bibliography and avoid unpublished sources. Do not quote Wikipedia!! To guarantee the authenticity of each bibliography entry, students may accompany each citation with the corresponding DOI. Academic publications are almost always matched with a unique DOI, which can be looked up, for instance, using Crossref Metadata Search.

8. Yet another good advice

If you are doubtful or insecure about some formalities, it is advisable to have a look at current papers in the field of econometrics and statistics (e.g. as published in leading journals) and follow these references.

9. Information on literature research

Start your literature research on certain topics preferably using survey articles in renowned handbooks, appropriate textbooks, or articles in leading international journals that have appeared **recently**. In general, it is easy to find earlier published literature on the topic by means of these works' bibliographies.

As starting point for literature research, you should consider Google Scholar and academic papers (and references therein!), but also other databases such as ResearchGate, arXiv.org, SSRN, EconPapers or EconLit (avoid MDPI). Do not rely exclusively on AI tools, like ChatGPT to provide you with references. They often provide inexistent or incorrect citations.

10. Data, programming codes and processing power

Along with your thesis or seminar paper, please submit all relevant data and code (accompanied by a README file for reproducibility purposes) via USB or email to ls.statistik@vwl.uni-freiburg.de. All files must be organized into a single folder. The folder name should include your name(s), the type of work (Thesis or Seminar Paper), and the submission semester:

Examples of names of the folder: Becker_MasterThesis_WS2021
Becker&Mueller_SeminarPaper_WS2021

Please communicate with the supervisor(s) when accessing the data for your study. In the financial econometrics area, you should avoid using data from Yahoo Finance or any other

free-of-charge sources due to reliability concerns. Our chair may provide you with financial data for stocks and exchange rates at both low and high frequencies. For all other data types, you must verify the source and reliability with your supervisor before beginning your empirical analysis.

If your project requires additional processing power for large datasets or complex computations, the chair can provide **access to a virtual machine** and the necessary technical instructions.

If you use integrated codes (libraries) or codes written by other sources, it is compulsory that you mention it in your thesis together with their sources. This regards also AI (e.g., by ChatGPT) generated codes. See Section 11 about AI Use Policy.

Data collection and analysis must be conducted with honesty and a commitment to reproducibility. Please be advised that the chair reserves the right to perform replication experiments using the data and codes provided by the student(s) to verify the integrity and trustworthiness of the results in the thesis/paper.

11. AI Use Policy

Principle. All intellectual work (argumentation, interpretation, writing) must be performed by the student(s). AI tools may only be used under the conditions below and must be declared transparently.

11.1 Definitions

- **Autonomous content (prohibited):** AI-generated **academic content** submitted as student's own (e.g., paragraphs/sections, theoretical arguments, interpretation of results, literature review the student did not read, figures/tables designed by AI).
- **Auxiliary use (conditionally allowed):** AI may be used to support **form** or **workflow** without replacing student's authorship. Permissible uses include code debugging, syntax assistance, language polishing of the student's own writing, and brainstorming outlines that the student subsequently rewrites in full. Students are responsible for carefully reviewing all AI-generated revisions to ensure that the editing process does not alter the intended meaning or introduce new academic content.
- **Rule of thumb:** Students must be able to independently explain and defend their work without the assistance of AI. This requirement also applies to submitted code; students must demonstrate a complete understanding of its logic, functionality, and expected outputs. Failure to explain or defend any part of the submitted work – including, but not limited to, the underlying code - will be treated as a breach of academic integrity, resulting in a failing grade of 5.0.

11.2 What is allowed (and to be specified within the Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity. See sections 5.9 above and 11.4 below)

- **Code assistance:** syntax help, debugging, optimization suggestions. AI-suggested code is permissible **only if** the student reviews, adapts, and fully understands it.
- **Language editing:** grammar/clarity/style of drafts produced by the student(s).
- **Formatting & logistics:** converting to LaTeX/tables, reference formatting, file hygiene.
- **Idea structuring:** outlines/brainstorming that the student **substantively rewrites**.

11.3 **What is not allowed and it will be graded with 5.0**

- AI-written **paragraphs/sections/drafts** of the thesis, seminar paper or seminar's or thesis's slides.
- AI-generated **arguments, interpretations, or conclusions**.
- AI-produced **literature reviews/summaries** of sources the student has not read.
- AI-generated **tables/figures** that the student did not personally design and document.
- Delegating the **analysis** (e.g., "explain these regression results") to AI.

(Reminder: Showing raw program outputs is disallowed for all tools; students must present results as organised tables/graphs.)

11.4 **Written declaration** (required for seminar paper/thesis & seminar/thesis presentation)

The **Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity** from point 5.9 **should be titled Declaration of Independent Work and Academic Integrity (including AI Use)** and should also include

- for papers and theses also the following statement:

Template (paper):

"I/we used [Tool, version] **only** for: (a) code debugging in Section X; (b) language editing of my/our draft. No AI-generated academic content (text, arguments, interpretations, figures) is included. I/we reviewed and take full responsibility for all content." and

- for presentations the following statement:

Template (presentation slide):

"AI use: [Tool] for [brief purpose]. No AI-generated academic content."

11.5 **Consequences & procedure**

- **Minor breach (e.g., missing but remediable declaration, no content impact):**
Administrative correction required within 1 day after submission; failure → grade penalty.
- **Substantive breach (AI-generated academic content submitted as own work): Fail (5.0)** for the affected component (seminar paper/thesis and/or seminar presentation) and reporting per examination regulations.
- **Non-cooperation in clarification** (e.g., cannot explain code/analysis): treated as substantive breach.
- **No declaration/disclosure:** treated as substantive breach.

11.6 **Quick check list (non exhaustive)**

- **OK:** "ChatGPT (or other tool) helped me fix an R error and I tweaked the code; I can explain every line."
- **Not OK:** "ChatGPT wrote my literature review / discussion section."
- **OK:** "I wrote the text; Grammarly-style edits applied and declared."
- **Not OK:** "LLM produced my tables/figures or the narrative around them."
- **Not OK:** Missing or erroneous references, adding references generated by AI or adding not existent references.

12. **Grading**

- Grading is based on the following criteria, among others:

- Academic quality and scientific rigor of the work (correctness and methodological level of the work, depth of interpretation, limitations of study and validity of conclusions);
- Scope and originality of the contribution to the literature;
- Clarity, structure, and coherence of the written thesis/paper and/or oral seminar presentation.
- Reproducibility of well-commented, efficient and properly organised codes and the inclusion of robustness checks (if applicable);
- Adherence to citation standards and academic formatting guidelines;
- Use of high-resolution graphics with suitable labelling and description.
- For all these criteria, it is entirely the student's responsibility to demonstrate that the requirements have been met. See Section 11 (AI Use Policy) for the permitted use of AI, which in no case replaces the student's academic responsibility. It is entirely up to the supervisor to decide whether the student has fulfilled this condition.