



Belgian Nuclear higher Education Network

BNEN MASTER THESIS – PROJECT WORK/INTERNSHIP

General

- The master thesis is an essential part of the post-graduate ('master-after-master') programme for Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering.
- The master thesis is rated 20 ECTS corresponding to 13 to 14 weeks of effective load.
- Students are reminded to have regular contacts, not only with their mentor, but also with their academic promoter, all along the thesis project.
- For more details consult the thesis guidelines in the restricted area of the BNEN website.

Proposing a thesis subject

- [BNEN Master thesis topics at SCK CEN](#)
- By mid-November, students have to submit to the Teaching Committee a thesis proposal, presenting the context, objectives, methodology and expected results of their work, and mentioning a possible academic promoter (if already known) and mentor(s).
- Young professionals can propose a subject in their company, provided the work is significantly different from their daily duties and is performed in the perspective of an academic work.
- During the Teaching Committee meeting scheduled mid-November, the proposals are discussed. Complements of information or adaptations may be asked to the students, before accepting the proposal. The Teaching Committee designates for each student the thesis jury, composed of the promoter and (at least) two assessors. A reasonable spread of the thesis jury members over the participating universities is attempted.



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Submitting the thesis

- Students are not allowed to defend their master thesis before **the promoter has signed the thesis abstract page** (see BNEN website, Thesis section). For this purpose, a preliminary version of the thesis must be made available to the promoter, **4 weeks** before the presentation at the latest.
- Once the promoter has approved the thesis work for defense, a complete **paper version** of the thesis report must be made available to all jury members **2 weeks** before the presentation at the latest.

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is the act of using any part (text, graphs, pictures...) of a written document authored by a third party (or one self), without properly referencing it.
- Students guilty of plagiarism in any course report or in the thesis report of their BNEN programme put themselves at the risk of severe penalties, which can range from a nil mark for the concerned course to an adjournment, with explicit mention of "fraud" on the formal records. Electronic checks for plagiarism of all theses are performed by the university administrations.

Prizes on final year thesis (for information only)

- SCK CEN annually allots an award of € 1000 for the best university thesis carried out in its laboratories. <http://www.sckcen.be>
- The Belgian Nuclear Society – Young Generation allots several prizes for a thesis or paper in the field of nuclear sciences. <http://www.bnsorg.be>
- The Belgian Physical Society annually awards three scientific prizes, € 250 each, to reward the best master thesis in the field of physics. <http://www.belgianphysicalsociety.be>