

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE URBAN PLANNING
CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING**

**FINAL EXAMINATION ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
FOR THE LAUREA MAGISTRALE – LM (EQUIVALENT
TO MASTER OF SCIENCE) STUDY PROGRAMME IN
BUILDING ENGINEERING**

Art 1. Paper submitted for the Final Examination

The Final Examination of the MSc in Building Engineering consists of presenting and discussing a final Thesis.

This Thesis must have an original scientific (theoretical, numerical or experimental, design or technological) content, i.e. the complexity and interweaving of different disciplinary knowledge required to achieve a result and have adequate depth and methodological rigour.

Art. 2. Thesis preparation levels

The Thesis in Building Engineering, consistent with the principles set out in Article 1 above, may consist of:

- a highly complex dissertation, defining the problem, its theoretical framework, the presentation and critical discussion of the results and development prospects;

or:

- a paper containing some of the above aspects.

Before submission, the Thesis is assessed by a Supervisor and possibly a Discussant (Thesis with Discussant). In the second case, it is evaluated by a Supervisor (Thesis without Discussant).

The choice between the two Thesis preparation levels will be agreed upon with the Supervisor, who will make the final decision.

Art. 3. Thesis Supervisor, Co-supervisor and Discussant

As outlined in Article 5.1 of the AUIC School Final Examination Regulations, the Thesis Supervisor is a Politecnico di Milano professor, preferably chosen from among those with teaching duties within the Building Engineering Study Programme.

If the Thesis subject requires it, the Supervisor may be assisted by a Co-supervisor, who may be part of the Politecnico Faculty, who has recognised experience and expertise in the field.

The Supervisor shall assess the Thesis in writing and suggest a score increase under the following Art. 10.

The Discussant is a Politecnico Professor or a person external to the University with clear experience and expertise in the Thesis subject, to the level indicated above (article 5.2 of the AUIC School Final Examination Regulations).

The Course Coordinator appoints a Discussant after considering Supervisor suggestions. In addition to preparing an assessment report, the Discussant shall

express their opinion on the proposal for a score increase suggested by the Supervisor.

Art. 4. Number of Thesis Authors

There are usually a maximum of two Thesis authors. The Supervisor can request the Course Coordinator to increase the number of authors to three for particularly complex topics and studies, i.e., substantial laboratory work, numerical modelling, or project development.

Art. 5. Thesis Validity

The maximum validity of a Thesis prepared by more than one author is 18 months from the first discussion unless the Dean or their Delegate grants an exception at the Supervisor's request.

Art. 6. Thesis drafting

The final dissertation must be in A4 format, either vertically or horizontally, and bound. Any tables must be integrated into the Thesis within the relevant chapter, scaled to A4 or A3 format (in this case, to be folded to A4 format in the printed version). The Thesis must not exceed 500 pages, excluding tables.

Art. 7. Experts invited by the Degree Examination Board

External experts may be invited to participate without voting rights in the Board's work, particularly if they have co-supervised applicants' dissertations. The invitation to take part shall be sent by the Secretariat Office, on the recommendation of the Board's Vice-chairman, should the latter think it appropriate at the Supervisor's request.

Art. 8. Thesis discussion

During the Final Examination, applicants must submit to the Board:

- a paper copy in digital format, except for those parts for which there are confidentiality clauses;
- a printed copy of the Thesis which will be returned to the applicants after the discussion. To facilitate the Board consultation, any graphic tables may be printed and bound in addition to the Thesis in a separate album in A3 or larger format.

The Thesis must be presented using PowerPoint slides.

The presentation, preceded by a very brief introduction by the Supervisor:

- must focus on illustrating and explaining the most distinctive and original aspects of the work;
- shall last no longer than 15 minutes for Theses without a Discussant;
- Theses with a Discussant should last no longer than 20 minutes when involving one or two students, or 25 minutes for Theses with a Discussant involving three students.

These times do not include questions from the Board.

Only students regularly registered in the exam are admitted to present the Thesis and answer Board questions.

Art. 9. Thesis drafting and discussion language

In the MSc study programme in Building Engineering, the Thesis is written in Italian or, at the Supervisor (s) choice, in English. All Theses

must contain an Italian and English synopsis, as outlined in Art. 3.2 of the AUIC School Final Examination Regulations. The language to be used for the presentation is Italian.

Art. 10. Graduation score

The general rules for determining the graduation score are set out in Articles 6.2 e 6.3 of the AUIC School Final Examination Regulations.

For the Building Engineering Thesis, the maximum score is established as follows:

- -1 to +8 points for Theses with a Discussant;
- -1 to +5 points for Theses without a Discussant.