

Methodological Guidelines for Completing the Thesis for the Master's Degree

- 1. Organization of thesis preparation**
- 2. Technical requirements for the formatting of the master's thesis**
- 3. Requirements for the defense of the master's thesis**
- 4. Appendices**

In accordance with the Higher Education Standard for specialty C4 Psychology and the study program *Psychology*, the Master's thesis is an integral component of the mandatory part of professional training for master students.

Master's theses completed within the field of *Psychology* must have the character of applied scientific research aimed at solving various psychological problems of individuals in different spheres and at different stages of life; developing comprehensive approaches to improving the processes of education and personality development; and implementing the recommendations developed by the students into the practical work of organizations and institutions of various types.

The master's thesis performs a qualification function, meaning that it is prepared for public defense and the awarding of the academic degree of Master. It must address a complex specialized task or practical problem in the field of psychology, requiring the application of fundamental psychological theories and methods, and characterized by complexity and uncertainty of conditions. The master's thesis must not contain academic plagiarism, falsification, or fabrication. It must be made publicly available on the official website or in the institutional repository of the higher education institution.

The main purpose of completing a Master's thesis is to finalize the training of a specialist and to evaluate their professional competencies during the defense of an independently completed project before the Examination Committee; to integrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities acquired throughout the educational process, and to develop the ability to conduct independent scientific and practical activities in the field of psychology.

The main objectives of completing the Master's thesis are:

- systematizing, consolidating, and expanding theoretical knowledge acquired during studies within the study program;
- developing skills in working with professional literature, conducting independent scientific research, and creatively solving academic and practical tasks;
- forming the ability to apply theoretical knowledge in practice when

addressing specific applied issues in various fields of professional activity, mastering research methodology and modern methods of mathematical statistics;

- acquiring experience in presenting theoretical concepts clearly and logically in written form;
- developing the ability to correctly analyze, generalize, classify, and interpret key theoretical and practical research results;
- determining the compliance of the graduate's level of preparation with the requirements of the educational standard, as well as their readiness and ability to work independently under the conditions of a market economy, modern production, and the advancement of science, technology, and culture.

1. Organization of thesis preparation

Choosing a topic

The first and most important step in preparing to write a master's thesis is choosing its topic (and, accordingly, the academic supervisor, who is appointed by the department from among specialists in the relevant field, taking into account the student's preferences). The topic must be relevant, meaning that it should correspond to the current issues of scientific research in the respective field, be clearly problem-focused, demonstrate novelty and a deep yet differentiated approach, and reflect the individual academic interests of the student. When selecting a thesis topic, it is also necessary to consider the feasibility of conducting the planned research under existing real conditions and within the time allotted for its completion.

Students independently choose the topic of the thesis from an indicative list approved annually by the graduating department, and agree on it with the academic supervisor, specifying and updating it. The topic must be stylistically formulated as a single declarative sentence. Two or more students of the same group are not allowed to choose the same topic.

The topic becomes official after the issuance of an institutional order approving the topics and academic supervisors of theses no later than 6 months before the defense for part-time (distance) students and no later than 1 year before the defense for full-time students.

Requests to change (adjust) the topic of the master's research, the work plan, or the academic supervisor are resolved at meetings of the graduating departments no later than 2 months before the submission deadline for the preliminary defense of the thesis (one month before the final state attestation).

Stages of thesis completion

The completion of the thesis after selecting and formulating the topic is conditionally divided into the following stages:

1. Preparation of an individual calendar work plan.
2. Search for scientific primary sources on the topic, their analysis, and compilation of the bibliography.
3. Preparation of a detailed plan of the thesis.
4. Preparation of the first version of the theoretical part:
 - a) justification of the relevance of the chosen topic;
 - b) formulation of the aim and specific research objectives;
 - c) definition of the object and subject of the research;
 - d) selection of research methods.
5. Conducting empirical research and describing the research process.
6. Statistical analysis of the obtained results.
7. Interpretation of the results of the research.
8. Development of methodological support.
9. Formulation of conclusions and evaluation of the results obtained.
10. Preparation of the text, technical formatting, and submission of the work to the academic supervisor.
11. Revision of the text considering the supervisor's comments.
12. Completion of the preliminary defense at the department and revision based on comments.
13. Submission of the final version of the work to an external reviewer.
14. Preparation for the public defense.
15. Public defense.

The preparation of an individual calendar work plan contributes to the timely and high-quality completion of the thesis. The plan is drawn up taking into account the deadlines for intermediate control of the thesis progress. Students are obliged to comply with the deadlines for intermediate control and to submit interim reports on the results of their research to the academic supervisor in a timely manner.

The search for literature on the topic (scientific articles, monographs, dissertation abstracts, texts of defended and published theses) is a highly responsible task, as it determines the level of the student's awareness in the researched field. The search should cover both earlier literature and publications from periodicals of the last 5–10 years (at least 30% of the total literature used). Preference should be given to primary sources. Searching the Internet makes it possible to obtain the most up-to-date information about the state of research in the field, the latest directions of modern studies, and their results, but it requires a thoughtful and cautious approach

to assessing the quality and scientific validity of available sources.

During the search and analysis of sources, it is necessary to take care in advance of preparing the bibliography and ensuring the correctness of references in the process of writing the thesis. Therefore, when quoting and referring to specific authors and their works, all required information should be indicated immediately: the author's surname, initials, title of the article or book, publication details, year, volume, issue, and page number. It is advisable from the very beginning to prepare the list of references in accordance with the current requirements on separate sheets of paper or in a separate file: this facilitates the process of writing and formatting the thesis and guarantees the correctness of references.

In working with primary sources (scientific literature), one must especially remember the inadmissibility of academic plagiarism and other violations of academic integrity norms, in particular the publication (partially or fully) of scientific results obtained by other individuals as one's own research results and/or the reproduction of published texts of other authors without attribution (in accordance with Article 42 of the Law of Ukraine "On Education").

The organization and conduct of empirical research (which is mandatory for master's theses) is based on scientific and ethical principles of academic research. Careful consideration of organizational aspects (preparation of the necessary materials: tests, questionnaires, answer sheets) significantly facilitates the research process itself and the processing of its results. The analysis and statistical processing of the obtained data, interpretation of research results, and formulation of conclusions constitute the final stage of the completed work.

The student is obliged to complete all stages of working on the topic independently, referring to all used ideas, views, and concepts with the indication of their real authors and sources. No later than one week before the preliminary defense of the master's thesis, the student must submit its electronic version to the graduating department for the purpose of detecting academic plagiarism, monitoring of which is entrusted to the heads of departments and academic supervisors. Violations of academic integrity norms and plagiarism, which are unacceptable in any form, should be distinguished from the degree of originality of the text, which is determined during its verification by special software tools and consists in the percentage of text that is not borrowed from other sources (including citations).

Structure of the Master's Thesis

The master's thesis has the following structure:

1. Title page.
2. Assignment.

3. Abstract.
4. Table of contents.
5. Abbreviations and symbols (if necessary).
6. Introduction.
7. Main body consisting of chapters and subchapters.
8. Conclusion.
9. References.
10. Appendices.

The first page of the thesis is the title page, which is included in the pagination but is not numbered. The title page of the master's qualification thesis must include:

- the name of the higher education institution where the thesis was completed;
- the title of the thesis;
- the code and name of the specialty;
- the student's full name;
- the academic degree, academic title, and full name of the supervisor;
- the city and year the thesis was written.

A sample title page is provided in Appendix A.

With the approval of the supervisor and the head of the department, the student prepares a detailed outline of the thesis in the Assignment for the master's qualification thesis, which is placed on the next page after the title page. The Assignment is signed by the student and the supervisor and approved by the head of the department. A sample Assignment for the master's qualification thesis is provided in Appendix B.

Next comes the **Abstract** of the master's thesis, which must be concise and informative. The abstract should include:

- the title of the thesis;
- the full name (surname and initials) of the author and the supervisor;
- the number of pages, tables, figures, appendices, and sources according to the reference list;
- a brief description of the thesis;
- a list of keywords (5–15 words).

The abstract should not exceed **500 words** and must be placed on **one A4 page**.

The **Table of Contents** of the master's thesis is placed on the page immediately following the abstract. The Table of Contents must indicate the page number on which each part of the thesis begins. The element "**CONTENTS**" must include the following structural components: "**ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONAL SYMBOLS**," "**INTRODUCTION**," the titles of chapters and subchapters in sequence, "**Conclusions to the Chapters**," "**CONCLUSION**," "**REFERENCES**," "**APPENDICES**" with their titles and page numbers indicating the beginning of each structural element. A sample layout of the Table of Contents for a master's thesis is presented in Appendix C.

If the thesis contains rarely used abbreviations, new symbols, or designations, their list must be provided **before the Introduction** and included in the Table of Contents as "**ABBREVIATIONS AND CONVENTIONAL SYMBOLS**." They should be formatted in two columns, with the abbreviation on the left and its explanation on the right, for example:

HEI – higher education institution

PTSD – post-traumatic stress disorder

In the **INTRODUCTION**, the essence and current state of the problem are presented, the relevance of the topic is justified, and the necessity of its research is substantiated. The initial data for the development of the topic, the **object, subject, purpose, research tasks, hypothesis, research methods, scientific novelty, and practical significance** of the obtained research results, as well as the **experimental base and validation (approbation)** of research results, must be specified.

The volume of the Introduction must not exceed **5 pages** of typed text.

The **relevance of the topic** is presented as a critical analysis and ways of solving a certain contradiction or problem. The relevance of the research topic must also be supported by statistical materials and their qualitative analysis. Its volume must not exceed **one page**.

It should be noted that the topic of the master's thesis must be oriented toward research and the development of programs, recommendations, and technologies of psychological content for various applied areas: enterprises, firms and companies of different socio-economic spheres, educational institutions, social and psychological service sectors, and others.

The topic of the master's thesis must meet the following requirements:

- compliance with the current state of development of science, technologies, methods, and tools;
- relevance and practical significance;
- alignment with the activity domain of a master's graduate in specialty C4 Psychology;

- sufficient complexity to demonstrate the theoretical knowledge and practical skills acquired during the course of study.

The object of the study is the process or phenomenon that the researcher focuses on.

The subject of the study is the part of the object that is examined under certain conditions (it specifies and concretizes the object of the study).

The aim of the study is the intended result that the research is directed toward. It is undesirable to use formulations of the research aim such as “justification and development of the foundations,” or “development of methods and tools to increase efficiency,” etc., without specifying the scientific basis upon which the stated goal is to be achieved.

The aim of the study is implemented through specific **research objectives**. The research objectives are formulated in the form of a list: “to study...,” “to analyze...,” “to determine...,” “to develop...,” “to substantiate...,” etc. The recommended number of objectives in a master’s qualification thesis is 3–4.

The objectives must not only be formulated correctly and clearly, but also arranged in a logical order so that the reader can see the researcher’s planned course of action. Observations show that psychological research usually involves four groups of objectives.

The first group of tasks may be related to examining the state of the researched problem in theory and practice and developing the theoretical foundations of the study.

The second group of tasks is aimed at more clearly defining the subject and object of the study.

The tasks of the third group are generally procedural in nature — they involve the direct analysis of the researched problem and the formulation of a refined and specific task based on the problem analysis.

The tasks of the fourth group have a generalizing, summarizing character.

The first task may begin with phrases such as develop (substantiate) the theoretical foundations (specifying which), clarify the status (psychological nature) of certain categories, define the concept (naming the object), substantiate (principles, approaches, methodology, etc.). The second task may include expressions such as identify the composition (models), determine the structure, determine (clarify) the boundaries of distribution, outline the set, etc. Completing this task will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the object and subject of the study.

The tasks of the third group, involving the direct analysis of collected empirical material, are indispensable, as their performance forms the foundation of the work. These tasks typically begin with phrases such as clarify (meaning, origin, causes, ways of emergence, features, nature, role, place, specifics, factors, etc.);

investigate (character, characteristics, factors, properties, origin, relationships, potential, means, mechanisms, functions, correlations, factors, structure); identify (features, causes, distribution, relationships, ways, means, specifics, determinants, types, factors, characteristics, correlations, structure); study (opportunities, specificity, functioning, potential); analyze (structure, nature, dependence, features, implementation); describe (functioning, method); determine (volume, types, models, structure, potential, functions, means, system, groups, similarities and differences, characteristics); establish (interrelations, interaction, functions, productivity level, motives, influence, types, features, connections, role, criteria); perform (analysis, description); trace (functioning, features, dependence, resources, development, correlation); determine (dynamics, possibilities, processes, boundaries, specificity, place, role, relevance); demonstrate (relationship); outline (features, groups, means, mechanisms, significance, constructions); compare (forms); reveal (character, status, functions, features, content, influence); consider (interaction, means); characterize (features, means, types, specifics); clarify (chronology, boundaries), clarify (interaction), etc.

The tasks of the fourth group are not necessarily placed at the end, although in most cases that is the most convenient arrangement. They are based on the completion of the previous tasks and therefore have a summarizing character: determine (outline) the place and role, identify (establish) development trends, clarify the patterns of formation, develop practical recommendations.

The research **hypothesis** is a scientific assumption about how the author intends to achieve the stated research aim. As a result of the conducted research, the hypothesis may be confirmed or not confirmed, which must be indicated in the conclusion of the master's qualification work.

The next element of the introduction to the master's thesis is the **research methods**, that is, the set of techniques and operations through which the research is carried out. The research methodology includes:

- theoretical methods: analysis of literary sources or regulatory documents, their synthesis, comparison, generalization, and classification;
- empirical methods: surveys, questionnaires, testing, conversations, interviews; observation, role-play situations, performing situational tasks, experiment;
- methods of mathematical data processing.

Example:

Object of the study: the phenomenon of aggressiveness in human behavior.

Subject of the study: psychological factors of aggressiveness among sales managers.

Aim of the study: to determine the causes and regularities of the manifestation of aggressiveness among sales managers and to provide recommendations for its prevention and correction.

Research objectives:

1. to analyze the main theoretical and methodological approaches to understanding the phenomenon of aggressiveness and its forms of manifestation;
2. to identify the factors that cause aggressiveness among sales managers and its specific features;
3. to select techniques and conduct an empirical study of the psychological factors of aggressiveness among sales managers;
4. to develop a system of measures aimed at preventing and correcting aggressive behavior.

Scientific novelty of the obtained results. A brief presentation of the new scientific statements (solutions) personally proposed by the master's student is provided. It is necessary to demonstrate the distinction between the obtained results and previously known findings, and to describe the degree of novelty (obtained for the first time, improved, further developed).

Each scientific statement should be formulated clearly, emphasizing its essential meaning and focusing special attention on the level of novelty achieved. A formulated scientific statement should be easy to read and interpret unambiguously (without an accumulation of minor details and clarifications that obscure its essence).

When formulating scientific novelty, expressions such as the following may

be used: “for the first time formalized...”, “a method has been developed... which differs from...”, “the dependence between... has been proven”, “the behavior ... has been studied and demonstrated...”, “the method ... has been refined in part ... and extended to ...”, “a concept has been created that ...”, “a new effect has been studied ...”, “a new system has been developed ...”, “a new definition has been proposed ...”, “clarified ...”, etc.

Practical significance of the obtained results. Information is provided regarding the use of the research results or recommendations on their application, highlighting the outcomes of the practical implementation of the obtained results or recommendations. This may include new methods, technologies, forms, or techniques—namely, the innovative contributions that the completed qualification work provides for the practice of work in a particular field of production or socio-political life, with an indication of the readiness level for implementation or the scale of application. It is necessary to briefly report on the implementation of the research results, specifying the organizations in which the implementation took place, the forms of implementation, and the details of relevant documents. It is also important to emphasize the usefulness of the proposed measures for individuals, society, and the state.

The experimental base of the research is indicated to specify where exactly the experimental work was conducted and who participated in it.

Approval (approbation) of the research results is mandatory for the master’s qualification work. The approbation section indicates at which seminars, round tables, and conferences the research results were presented, as well as information regarding their publication in collections of scientific papers.

The structure of the thesis includes the number of chapters and subchapters of the work, the number of entries in the list of references, the number of appendices, and the number of pages on which they are located.

The main body of the master’s thesis consists of chapters, subchapters, sections, and subsections. Each chapter begins on a new page. At the end of each chapter, conclusions are formulated with a concise summary of the scientific and practical results presented in the chapter, which allows the general conclusions to be systematized and freed from unnecessary details. The thesis must necessarily include the author’s own empirical (experimental) research.

The main body of the master's thesis consists of theoretical and practical components of the scientific research, presented in two chapters.

The ratio of the theoretical and practical parts:

40% of the text should constitute the theoretical section (Chapter 1),

60% — the description of the empirical research and recommendations (Chapters 2 and 3).

The Master's thesis consists of **three chapters**. Each chapter contains several subsections that must be interconnected, with the material presented sequentially and logically, including a critical analysis of theoretical provisions, statistical data, various types of information, and sources.

The first chapter of the Master's thesis – the theoretical and methodological chapter—provides a literature review on the topic, identifies research directions, and defines the essence of the research subject.

In the second chapter (the diagnostic stage of the research), the empirical study is described, and the collected practical material is summarized and systematized. The research sample must consist of 35 participants or more.

The third chapter (the formative stage of the research) substantiates a program for the formation (correction, development) of specific psychological phenomena, its characteristics, principles, methods, and techniques; the effectiveness of the proposed program is analyzed. The student must assess the completeness of resolution of the set tasks, the reliability of the obtained results (characteristics, parameters), and justify the need for additional research. The accuracy and validity of the obtained results must be confirmed by methods of mathematical statistics selected according to the purpose, objectives, and specifics of the research. The use of statistical methods for processing empirical data is mandatory. If the application of statistical tools is impossible, a substantive analysis of the data should be performed.

Each chapter must conclude with brief **summaries** indicating the positive findings revealed in the research, as well as shortcomings and issues identified during the study.

In the final **SUMMARY** of the master's thesis, it is recommended to summarize the conducted research, present the main practical results, and provide recommendations regarding their practical application. The conclusions should not take the form of a report; instead, they must reflect the results of the research and correspond to its objectives.

Only those sources that are cited in the text, as well as those used in presenting particular scientific concepts, should be included in the **LIST OF REFERENCES**. The list should consist of legislative acts, regulatory documents, domestic and foreign scientific, educational-methodological and specialized literature, professional publications, Internet resources, and foreign sources (2–3 items). It should be noted that 25% of the cited sources must consist of the most recent literature published within the last 5 years.

In the text, references are indicated with a number in square brackets corresponding to the source number in the reference list, for example, [5] or [35; 123]. If a quotation is used in the text, the page number must also be specified in addition to the reference to the literature source, for example, [123, p. 24].

The reference list must contain at **least 55 entries**.

The list of references should be arranged either in alphabetical order or in the order in which the sources appear in the text of the thesis. It must be formatted in accordance with the requirements of DSTU 8302:2015 “Information and documentation. Bibliographic reference. General requirements and rules for compilation.”

The list of references must include abstracts and articles authored by the student related to the topic of the master’s thesis. The number of reference entries should correspond to the length of the thesis text (± 5 sources).

In the **APPENDICES**, supplementary materials are provided in the form of copies of documents, extracts from legislative acts, reports, results of sociological surveys, extensive tables, figures, etc. The appendices are placed in the order in which they are referenced in the text of the master’s thesis. Appendices are designated sequentially with capital letters of the Ukrainian alphabet, except for the letters І, Є, 3, І, Ї, О, Ч, Ь, and are formatted as follows: **APPENDIX V**. The text of each appendix begins on a new page. If the thesis contains only one appendix, it is designated as **APPENDIX A**.

Each appendix must have a title. The appendix label is printed centered on the page in uppercase regular font, and the title of the appendix is printed in uppercase bold font centered below it. All appendices must be listed in the table of contents with their numbers and titles.

Figures, tables, and formulas in the appendices are numbered within each appendix, beginning with the letter designating the appendix. For example, Figure G.3 — the third figure in Appendix G. If a section of an appendix continues on another page, its title should appear as “**Continuation of Appendix ...**”, positioned in the upper right corner.

A sample of appendix formatting is provided in Appendix D.

The recommended length of a master's thesis is **70–80 pages**. This volume does **not** include the list of references and the appendices. A deviation within +/- **10%** is permitted.

Typical shortcomings and mistakes in thesis preparation

- Lack of academic independence: the paper represents compilation or plagiarism (originality below 60%, absence of personal interpretation).
- The content of the master's thesis does not correspond to the outline or fails to fully disclose the topic, particularly in the main section.
- Formulated sections (subsections) do not reflect the real problem situation or the state of research on the subject.
- The research aim is not connected to the problem, formulated abstractly, and does not reflect the specifics of the research object and subject.
- Insufficient comprehensive analysis of up-to-date official and regulatory documents, and recent specialized literature on the topic (last 2–10 years).
- Analytical review of national and international publications appears as an annotated list rather than reflecting the degree of scholarly development of the problem.
- The final result does not correspond to the research aim; conclusions do not address research objectives.
- Insufficient citation of primary sources or citations that do not correspond to the bibliography.
- Bibliographic references are formatted arbitrarily without compliance with the national standard.
- Illustrative materials (tables, diagrams, schemes) are taken not from primary sources, but from textbooks, manuals, monographs or articles.
- The volume and formatting of the work do not meet requirements; the paper is poorly designed or contains errors.

2. Technical requirements for formatting a master's thesis

The master's thesis must be printed using a computer on one side of white A4 paper (210×297 mm), with 1.5 line spacing and up to 30 lines per page. Tables, illustrations and appendices may be presented on A3 format sheets. Tables, figures, diagrams, graphs, and other illustrative materials in both the text and the appendices must be executed on standard sheets (21×30 cm) or affixed onto standard white pages.

The text must be printed leaving the following margins: left – at least 30 mm,

top and bottom – at least 20 mm, right – at least 10 mm. The paragraph indent is 1.25 cm. The typeface must be size 14, clear, medium weight, with uniform text density.

The main body of the thesis must be divided into chapters and subsections. Each structural element of the thesis begins on a new page, and the headings “CONTENTS,” “INTRODUCTION,” “CHAPTER,” “SUMMARY,” “LIST OF REFERENCES,” “APPENDICES” are printed in uppercase bold letters centred on the line. Chapter titles are printed in uppercase bold letters without a full stop at the end, centred on the line. Subsection titles are printed with paragraph indent, starting with a capital letter and without a full stop at the end. The spacing between a subsection title and the text must be at least one line interval. It is not permitted to place a chapter or subsection title on the last line of a page.

At the end of each chapter, conclusions to the chapter are provided. The spacing between the subsection text and the conclusions must be at least one line interval.

Numbering

Page, section, and subsection numbering in the thesis is given in Arabic numerals without the “№” sign. The title page is considered page one and is included in the general page count, but the page number is not printed on it. On all subsequent pages, the page number is placed in the upper right corner without a period after the number.

Illustrations

The thesis should include illustrations based on a carefully developed thematic plan, where each illustration corresponds to the text and the text refers to the illustration. The main types of illustrative materials are drawings, technical diagrams, charts, photographs, schemes, tables, and graphs.

The illustration number consists of the chapter number and the sequential number of the illustration within that chapter, separated by a period. For example, “Figure 2.3” means the third figure in Chapter 2. If only one figure appears in the thesis, it is labeled “Figure 1.” The title of the figure should be printed with an initial capital letter and placed below the illustration, centered (see Figure 1).

Tables

Numerical data presented in the master’s thesis should be formatted as tables. The table number consists of the chapter number and the sequential number of the

table within that chapter, separated by a period — for example: “Table 1.2” (the second table of Chapter 1). The table title is printed in italics, starting with a capital letter, and is placed above the table aligned to the right (see Table 1.1). The word “Table” itself is centered.

It is not permitted to place the table title on the last line of a page or to separate the title from the table. If part of a table is continued on the next page, the title should appear as “Continuation of Table ...” positioned at the upper left corner of the page. On the final page where the table appears, “End of Table ...” is printed in the upper left corner.

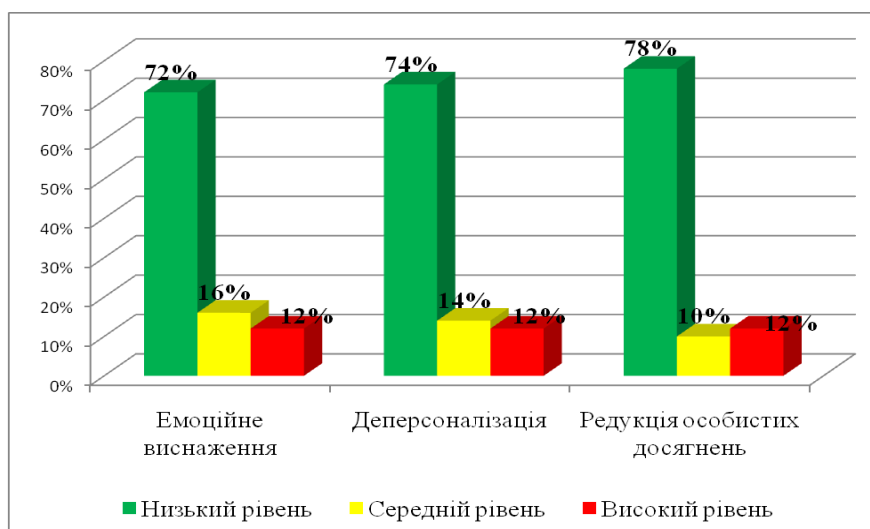


Figure 1. Indicators of the subscales of the mental “burnout” syndrome

Table 1.1

Quantitative indicators of the subscales according to the methodology “Burnout Syndrome” in professions of the “person–person” system

Level of subscale manifestation	Emotional exhaustion	Depersonalization	Reduction of personal achievements
	%	%	%
Low level	72	74	78
Medium level	16	14	10
High level	12	12	12

Formulas

Several short single-type formulas separated from the text are presented in one line. Small and uncomplicated formulas that do not have independent significance

are inserted within the lines of the text. Explanations of the values of symbols and numerical coefficients are given directly below the formula in the order in which they appear in the formula. The value of each symbol and numerical coefficient is given on a new line.

Sequential numbers of formulas are marked with Arabic numerals in parentheses near the right margin of the page without periods. If the formula number does not fit in the same line with the formula, it is moved to the next line below the formula, and the formula number is placed at the level of the last line.

For example, the formula for calculation using the “G sign-test criterion.”

$$G_{\text{кр}} = \begin{cases} 1 (p \leq 0,05) \\ 0 (p \leq 0,01) \end{cases} \quad (2.1.)$$

$G_{\text{емп}} = 0$, звідси $G_{\text{емп}} < G_{\text{кр}}$.

Отже H_0 відхиляється, а приймається $H_1 (p \leq 0,01)$.

References

References to sources in the text of the master’s thesis should be indicated by the sequential number in the reference list, enclosed in double square brackets, for example, [1]. If it is necessary to refer to a specific part or particular pages of the source, the reference may be given in a footnote, and the reference number must correspond to the bibliographic description in the reference list, for example: [1, p. 7].

When referring to structural elements of the work, the following expressions should be used: “in Chapter 2,” “see 2.1,” “according to Table 2.1,” “in Figure 2.5,” “(Appendix B),” etc.

Lists

Lists are included in the text when necessary. A colon is placed before the list. If the document contains lists with a single level of subordination, each item should begin with an en dash “—”.

If the text contains lists of different hierarchical levels, the highest level is designated by lowercase letters of the Ukrainian alphabet, the next level — by Arabic numerals, and the lowest — by the en dash “—”. After the letter or numeral, a closing parenthesis is placed.

For example:

- a) shape and size of cells;
- b) non-living inclusions;

c) tissue formation.

Requirements for the Defense of the Master's Qualification Thesis

For the defense of the master's qualification thesis, the student must prepare a concise presentation that briefly outlines the main research results.

In the presentation, the student must address the following points:

- relevance of the research topic;
- object and subject of the study;
- purpose and objectives;
- research hypothesis;
- research methods;
- practical value of the work;
- main theoretical provisions and their confirmation in the course of the experimental study;
- conclusions and recommendations resulting from the conducted research.

Presentation duration: 7–10 minutes (5–6 pages of A4 text).

A sample presentation for the defense is provided in Appendix E.

The student must also prepare a computer-based presentation for the defense of the qualification thesis—an organized set of sequential slides in a special format containing concise information on the research topic.

The presentation must include:

- a title slide;
- slides presenting the main components of the work (the categorical framework of the research);
- the main part of the study (key concepts, research methodology, results of the empirical research, etc.);
- slides with research conclusions.

After receiving permission for the defense of the qualification thesis, the presentation is submitted to the supervisor for review of its content and structure within the timeframe specified in the assignment for the qualification thesis, but no later than 15 days before the meeting of the examination committee for the defense.

The supervisor evaluates the work and prepares a **review**.

A sample review is provided in Appendix F.

Next, the student receives a referral for external review. The external reviewer is a leading specialist in the field or a researcher who thoroughly examines the master's qualification thesis and prepares a review. The review is provided in written or printed form and must contain an evaluation of the qualification thesis.

A sample review is provided in Appendix G.

The **criteria for evaluating** the master's qualification thesis are:

- clarity, completeness, and consistency in addressing each point of the plan and the topic as a whole;
- quality of the empirical study;
- creative level of the research;
- academic style of presentation;
- absence of spelling and syntactic errors;
- correct formatting of the work in accordance with standards;
- effectiveness of the presentation and answers to questions from the members of the Examination Commission.

Requirements for the compilation of the documents

1. Title page.
2. Assignment for the Master's thesis.
3. Abstract of the Master's thesis.
4. Table of contents.
5. At the end of the thesis, two files must be attached, containing the external review, the supervisor's feedback, the anti-plagiarism report, and the results of the research approbation.

General criteria for evaluation of the master's thesis

#	Content of Evaluation		
		Institutional Grade	ECTS Grade
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– full correspondence of the content to the topic;– the topic is covered deeply and comprehensively;– the conceptual framework of the research is correctly defined;	Excellent	A

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – norms of academic writing and literacy are observed; – requirements for writing and formatting are met; – the work is completed at a high level of complexity and academic rigor; – the source base is fully and effectively used; – illustrative materials are well-structured, high-quality, and appropriately presented; – the student demonstrated independence in planning and conducting the research; – the research results were properly validated; – the work was completed according to the approved schedule; – the supervisor’s review is positive; – the reviewer assessed the work as very high quality (“excellent”); – confident and well-reasoned defense using modern visualization methods, high level of understanding of the content, clear and correct responses to questions. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the content fully corresponds to the topic; – sufficiently complete and in-depth coverage of the topic; – the conceptual framework is correctly defined; – overall adherence to academic writing norms and literacy; – minor deviations from requirements for writing and formatting; – sufficiently high level of complexity and academic rigor; – appropriate representation and use of source materials; – well-organized illustrative material; – demonstrated elements of independence in planning and conducting research; – the work was completed according to schedule; – generally positive supervisor review; – the reviewer, with minor comments, evaluated the work as high (“good” on the national scale); – overall confident, reasoned presentation and good 	Good	B

	level of subject knowledge, correct answers to questions.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the content corresponds to the topic; – topic generally covered; – generally correct definition of the conceptual framework; – occasional violations of academic writing norms; – occasional deviations from requirements for writing and formatting; – sufficient level of complexity and academic rigor; – sufficient level of use of the source base; – illustrative material is well-organized and presented; – some elements of student independence in planning and conducting research; – overall adherence to schedule; – minor comments in the supervisor’s review; – the reviewer, noting shortcomings, rated the work as sufficiently high (“good”); – generally logical and reasoned presentation and correct answers to questions. 	Good	C
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – content largely corresponds to the topic; – insufficient depth of topic coverage; – conceptual framework requires clarification; – some deviations from scientific writing and formatting requirements; – violations of academic culture and literacy standards; – average level of complexity and academic rigor; – source base is partially represented and used; – illustrative material only partially reflects the content, significant remarks on formatting; – lack of student independence in planning and research; – violations of the work schedule (recorded in departmental reports and supervisor feedback); – substantial remarks in supervisor review and external review; – unconfident defense, incomplete or incorrect 	Satisfactory	D

	responses to questions.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – content largely corresponds to the topic; – incomplete coverage of the topic; – conceptual framework requires substantial clarification; – significant violations of academic culture and writing norms; – substantial deviations from requirements for scientific writing and formatting; – minimal sufficient level of complexity and academic rigor; – minimal sufficient level of source use; – illustrative materials are unsystematic and poorly formatted; – student demonstrated inability to independently plan and conduct research; – serious schedule violations recorded in department protocols and supervisor feedback; – numerous comments in supervisor review; – reviewer notes major shortcomings, evaluating work with a minimal positive grade (“satisfactory”) if defended successfully; – minimal knowledge of content, unconfident presentation, unclear or incomplete responses. 	Satisfactory	E
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the content does not correspond to the topic; – the topic is not disclosed; – conceptual framework incorrectly defined; – significant errors throughout the content; – non-compliance with norms of academic writing and formatting; – the work does not meet official academic requirements; – insufficient complexity and scientific level; – superficial or insufficient use of sources; – absence or poor quality of illustrative materials; – inability to independently plan and conduct research; – failure to meet schedule, recorded in protocols and 	Unsatisfactory	FX

	supervisor's review; – negative supervisor review; – reviewer identifies systemic deficiencies and gives a negative evaluation (“unsatisfactory”); – unconfident defense, low level of mastery, inability to answer questions.		
	– content does not correspond to the topic; – topic not disclosed; – plagiarism detected; – the work does not meet academic writing and formatting requirements; – the work lacks academic character; – absence of illustrative materials; – inability to independently plan and conduct research; – schedule violation recorded in departmental protocols; – negative supervisor review; – negative reviewer evaluation (“unsatisfactory”); – student does not demonstrate understanding of the work, absence of defense presentation; – student unable to answer questions from the commission.	Unsatisfactory	F

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

SAMPLE TITLE PAGE FORMAT

PRIVATE JOINT-STOCK COMPANY
“HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
‘INTERREGIONAL ACADEMY OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT’”
Educational and Scientific Institute of Psychology and Social Sciences

Department of Psychology

title of the thesis

QUALIFICATION THESIS
for obtaining the educational degree
MASTER

specialty C4 Psychology

Full name of the student

Qualification thesis
approved for defense
Head of Department _____
“ ” _____ **20**

Scientific supervisor:
Full name,
academic degree, academic title

Reviewer:
Full name,
academic degree, academic title

Kyiv, 20__

Registration

number _____ date _____ signature of department laboratory assistant

Recommended

for defense

signature of supervisor _____ initials, last name of supervisor

Defense result

grade _____ date of defense _____

Chairperson of the Examination Commission

signature _____ initials, last name

Members of the Examination Commission

signature _____ initials, last name

signature _____ initials, last name

signature _____ initials, last name

signature _____ initials, last name

Secretary of the Examination Commission

signature _____ initials, last name

APPENDIX B

Sample format of the assignment for the qualification thesis

PRIVATE JOINT-STOCK COMPANY
“HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
‘INTERREGIONAL ACADEMY OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT’”
Educational and Scientific Institute of Psychology and Social Sciences

Department of Psychology

specialty Psychology

“APPROVED”
Head of Department

_____ 202__

ASSIGNMENT
for the master qualification thesis

Full name of the student

Thesis topic:

Approved by the institute order dated “____” _____ 202__ No. _____

Deadline for submission of the completed thesis “____” _____ 202__

Purpose of the work: _____ ;

Initial data: materials from professional and pre-graduation internship, textbooks, monographs, methodological guidelines, Internet resources, periodicals on the research topic.

List of graphical materials: _____ tables, _____ figures.

Consultants for the thesis (with indication of sections):

Consultant (Last name, initials)

Signature, date

Section

Assignment issued by _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Assignment accepted by _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Section 1 _____

Section 2 _____

Thesis structure:

Introduction

Chapter 1. (Title)

Chapter 2. (Title)

Conclusion

List of references

Appendices

Calendar plan for completing the thesis

No.	Stages of work	Completion deadline	
		Planned	Delivered
1.	Selection of the topic and appointment of the supervisor of the qualification thesis.		
2.	Approval of the qualification thesis topic.		
3.	Receiving the assignment for scientific research and preparing the calendar plan for completion of the qualification thesis, approved by the supervisor.		
4.	Collection and summarization of materials related to the topic.		
5.	Preparation of the first (draft) version of the thesis and submission to the supervisor for review.		
6.	Revision of the text based on the supervisor's comments, enhancing the work with additional research conducted during the pre-graduation internship, and submission for re-evaluation.		
7.	Submission of the qualification thesis for registration at the department, reviewing, and preparation of the supervisor's feedback.		
8.	Preparation for the defense of the qualification thesis at the meeting of the Examination Commission.		
9.	Defense of the completed qualification thesis..		

Date of assignment issuance: _____

Supervisor _____ (Full Name)

Assignment accepted for execution by

Student _____ (Full Name)

Sample format of the Table of Contents for the qualification thesis

TABLE OF CONTENTS (sample)

INTRODUCTION.....	
CHAPTER 1. (TITLE).....	
1.1. (Title).....	
1.2. (Title).....	
1.3. (Title).....	
Conclusions to Chapter One.....	
CHAPTER 2. (TITLE).....	
2.1. (Title).....	
2.2. (Title).....	
Conclusions to Chapter Two.....	
CONCLUSION.....	
LIST OF REFERENCES.....	
APPENDICES.....	

Sample format of an appendix

QUESTIONNAIRE “FAMILY AND MARRIAGE THROUGH THE EYES
OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS”

The value of life for you lies in (select no more than 3 options):

- a) higher education;
- b) community work;
- c) communication with friends;
- d) physical education and sports activities;
- e) communication with a loved one;
- f) creating a family, family life;
- g) material well-being;
- h) interesting work;
- i) leisure;
- j) raising children;
- k) comfortable housing;
- l) recognition by relatives, colleagues, friends.

What do you think about marriage?

- a) I think about marriage and creating a family, but I will not rush into it;
- b) I strive to get married as soon as possible after finishing school;
- c) I believe that marriage and family hinder personal development, therefore
- d) I am not thinking about creating a family;
- e) I have not thought about this question.

.....

Thank you for your answers.

Sample presentation speech for the defense

Dear Chair and members of the Examination Committee, dear audience!

I present to your attention the thesis on the topic:
“_____”.

The topic of the work is relevant at the present stage of social development,
because
_____.

The object of the research is
_____.

The subject of the research is
_____.

The purpose of the research is
_____.

According to the purpose of the study, the following objectives were defined:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- ...

The research methods are:
_____.

The practical significance of the research results is revealed in

_____.

Experimental base:
_____.

Approbation of research results:
_____.

The qualification paper consists of an introduction, _____ chapters,
conclusions, a list of references, and _____ appendices.

In accordance with the first objective (analyzed, disclosed, defined)

_____.

In accordance with the second objective (researched, identified, clarified,
developed, proposed)

Thus, the results of the research are

Thank you for your attention!

Sample review of the qualification paper

PRIVATE JOINT-STOCK COMPANY
“INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
‘INTERREGIONAL ACADEMY OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT’”
Educational and Scientific Institute of Psychology and Social Sciences
Department of Psychology

REVIEW

of the supervisor of the qualification paper of the higher education applicant

(last name, first name, patronymic)

Field of knowledge: C Social and Behavioral Sciences
Specialty: C4 Psychology
Educational level: Master

Title of the qualification paper:
“_____”.

Relevance of the topic
_____.

Object and subject of the research:
The object of the research is
_____.

The subject of the research is
_____.

Purpose and objectives of the research:
The purpose of the research is
_____.

Research objectives:
_____.

_____.
_____.

_____.
_____.

_____.
_____.

Structure of the paper and its description by chapters:
The first chapter of the paper
_____.

The second chapter of the paper

The level of the student's readiness to perform professional duties

Compliance of the qualification paper format with regulatory requirements:

Research results (scientific, practical):

Conclusion on compliance of the qualification paper with the assigned task:

Overall evaluation of the qualification paper:

Supervisor:

Academic degree, academic title, position

“ ” _____ **20** _____

Sample review of the qualification paper

PRIVATE JOINT-STOCK COMPANY
“INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
‘INTERREGIONAL ACADEMY OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT’”

REVIEW OF THE THESIS

of the student _____
(last name, first name, patronymic)

on the topic

“ _____ ”

Relevance of the qualification paper

_____.

Conclusion regarding the compliance of the qualification paper with the
assignment

_____.

Characteristics of the implementation of each chapter of the qualification
paper, the degree of application of the latest achievements of science and
technology and advanced working methods

_____.

In the first chapter of the paper

_____.

In the second chapter of the paper

_____.

Positive aspects of the qualification paper

_____.

Negative aspects of the qualification paper

_____.

General feedback on the paper

_____.

Other comments

_____.

Evaluation of the qualification paper

_____.

“ _____ ” **20** _____
Signature

Examples of Bibliographic Citation Formatting in the List of References

Book (single author)

Tytarenko, T. M. *Zhyttiievi svit osobystosti: u mezhakh i za mezhamy budennosti*. Kyiv: Lybid, 2003. 376 p.

Book (two or three authors)

Zlyvko, V. L., Lukomska, S. O., & Fedan, O. V. *Psykhodiahnostyka osobystosti kryzovykh zhyttiievykh sytuatsii*. Kyiv: Pedahohichna dumka, 2016. 219 p.

URL: <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/77241343.pdf>

Book (five or more authors)

Psykhologhiia zhyttietvorennia osobystosti v suchasnomu sviti / Yu. D. Hundertailo, V. O. Klymchuk, O. Ya. Kliapets et al.; edited by T. M. Tytarenko; National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of Social and Political Psychology. Kyiv: Milenium, 2016. 320 p.

Monograph

Raievska, Ya. M. *Teoriia i praktyka profesiinoho stanovlennia fakhivtsiv sotsialnoi sfery do mizhprofesiinoi vzaiemodii: monohrafiia*. Kamianets-Podilskyi: Publisher Pankova A. S., 2020. 348 p.

Collective monograph

Osobystist v umovakh suspilnykh transformatsii: stanovlennia ta rozvytok: kolektyvna monohrafiia / Ya. M. Raievska, N. M. Honcharuk, L. A. Onufriieva, O. M. Verzhychovska et al.; edited by N. M. Honcharuk, L. A. Onufriieva, O. M. Verzhychovska. Kamianets-Podilskyi: Aksioma, 2018. 220 p.

Journal article

Raievska, Ya. "Rozvytok emotsiinoi kompetentnosti osobystosti: teoretychnyi dyskurs." *Naukovi pratsi Mizhr rehionalnoi Akademii upravlinnia personalom. Psykhologhiia*, 3 (52), 127–132. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32689/maup.psych.2021.3.18>

URL: <http://journals.maup.com.ua/index.php/psychology/article/view/1196>

Conference abstract

Raievska, Ya. M. "Vplyv emotsiinoho intelektu na profesiinu uspishnist

osobystosti.” *Sotsialno-psykholohichni problemy suspilstva*: Proceedings of the International Scientific-Practical Conference, Kyiv, April 16–17, 2021. Kyiv: Tavriiskyi National University named after V. I. Vernadskyi, 2021, pp. 99–102.

Author’s abstract of dissertation

Kharchenko, O. S. *Kryza sotsialnoi derzhavy: prychyny ta shliakhy podolannia: avtoref. dys. na zdobuttia nauk. stupenia kand. polit. nauk: spets. 23.00.02 “Politychni instituty ta protsesy.”* Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Kyiv, 2015. 19 p.

Online source

Zakon Ukrainy “Pro vyshchu osvitu” vid 01.07.2014 № 1556-VII // Database “Zakonodavstvo Ukrainy” / Verkhovna Rada Ukrainy.

URL: <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1556-18> (accessed: 26.11.2018).