

Evaluation Criteria for Master's Thesis of Master's Degree Program of Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology, Shimane University

1. Basic requirements

- i. Master's thesis* defense (examination) is held only for students who have already acquired or are expected to acquire 30 credits required to complete the master's degree program. In addition, it is mandatory to have finished an interim presentation on the research progress. (*The thesis includes research reports on special issues qualified for the master's degree.)
- ii. Those who receive the degree must be recognized as having the academic ability, competencies, and qualifications defined by the diploma policy.
- iii. The thesis must be based on properly obtained research results in accordance with the "Regulation on Prevention of Cheating in Shimane University Research Activities".
- iv. The thesis must not contain any portions that plagiarize matters (including research ideas) published by persons other than the degree applicant.
- v. The thesis must not infringe copyright, intellectual property, portrait rights, or any other rights attributable to persons other than the applicant.

2. Composition of thesis

The thesis should be organized according to following requirements.

- i. The title of thesis should be appropriate.
- ii. The research background and objective should be clearly described.
- iii. In accordance with the objective, the conclusion (or its alternative) should be derived properly based on the research results and discussions, etc.
- iv. The references should be cited properly in the thesis.
- v. All the contents defined above in i – iv must be included in the relevant chapters.

3. Contents

The thesis is mainly evaluated from the following viewpoints. However, the review board consisting of a chief examiner and deputy examiners can decide which viewpoint should be considered important or the need of additional viewpoints.

- i. The thesis has sufficient academic value to be assessed as a master's degree in the applicant's major research field.
- ii. The research has been carried out fully referring to previous studies.
- iii. The discussions described in the thesis are logical and clear.
- iv. The words and phrases are used properly and the described expressions are highly organized.
- v. The thesis defense presentation includes the content defined above in i and ii.