External theses (for external sUpervisors)

# Aim of degree project– Suitable Projects - Scope

A degree project is supposed to give the student an opportunity to practice, develop and exhibit skills in applied theory and method when solving a problem relevant to the chosen programme.

The work undertaken should be similar to a development project, lead to new knowledge and be based upon scientific evidence. Projects that develop and/or evaluate a working method or product, or other forms of complex investigations constitute suitable thesis subjects.

Degree project for Master and Master of Science degrees must be the equivalent of 20 weeks' full-time work and for Bachelor degrees; the thesis must be the equivalent of 10 weeks' full-time work.

In order for the thesis to be approved, the written report must be approved by an LTU examiner and the thesis must be presented and defended at LTU. The report may be written in Swedish or English.

# Supervision

When a thesis writer conducts a project externally (at a company or municipality etc.), supervision will be shared. The LTU examiner is then responsible for the academic content of the degree project, for the format of the report and for ensuring that the thesis criteria are met. The external workplace provides an external supervisor to give advice and feed-back throughout the work process. If degree project is carried out externally at a company, it is important that all parties (the thesis writer, the examiner/LTU and the company) all have the same idea about what needs to be done. A meeting with all parties in attendance may therefore be required before the work can begin.

The external supervisor should have sufficient expertise in regard to the subject matter of the thesis project. LTU reserves the right to approve this supervisor.

# Agreement on practical issues, rights and future patents

Before work commences, the student should have reached an agreement with the company or the department concerning any work and travel compensation, access to offices/workspaces, computers, housing, etc. In cases where the thesis might be subject to confidentiality and/or the thesis might lead to products or patents, these aspects must be agreed upon beforehand through contracts concerning confidentiality and rights. The LTU examiner will assist in this process.

# Project plan

In order for the degree project to pass, the student must initially write a well thought-out project plan. The project plan is a steering document stating the direction, scope and part goals of the work at hand. The external supervisor and the examiner will both evaluate this plan and give advice on it.

# Oral Presentation

At LTU, a thesis can be presented on a few occasions each year and the student registers for one of them when the written report is close to completion. External participants, such as the external supervisor and other company representatives, are welcome to attend the presentation. If you would also like the student to present the project at the company, he or she will of course be happy to do so.

# Publication and printing of the report

Once final adjustments have been made to the report and it has been approved by the examiner, it will be published in the LTU database and can thereafter be found on the internet. The department responsible for the degree project will provide a printed copy to the external party.