Censor guideline for INTHE4012 master thesis at ICH

General grading scale at UIO

Grade Score	Explanations	Summary description of scoring criteria independent of the topic or thesis format			
А	Excellent	An excellent performance, clearly outstanding. The candidate demonstrates excellent judgement and a high degree of independent thinking.			
В	Very Good	A very good performance. The candidate demonstrates sound judgement and a very good degree of independent thinking.			
С	Good	A good performance in most areas. The candidate demonstrates a reasonable degree of judgement and independent thinking in the most important areas.			
D	Satisfactory	A satisfactory performance, but with significant shortcomings. The candidate demonstrates a limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.			
Е	Sufficient	A performance that meets the minimum criteria, but no more. The candidate demonstrates a very limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.			
F	Fail	A performance that does not meet the minimum academic criteria. The candidate demonstrates an absence of both judgement and independent thinking.			

Students pursuing master's programme in International Community Health have opportunity to write their thesis in three different formats. The formats allowed are listed hereunder and described in detail in the programme webpage https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/medisin/inthealth/INTHE4012/master-thesis.html

- 1. Monographs (systematic review and meta-analysis)
- 2. One article submitted/near submission.
- 3. One article published/accepted

The description hereunder provides the examiner with some guidance on the assessment of the different thesis formats.

The assessment should generally evaluate.

• The candidate's ability to descend to an original justified research question (s)

- The candidate's ability to understand theoretical and empirical research in the problem area.
- The candidate's ability to choose and use appropriate methodology to generate relevant data to answer the research question (s)
- The candidate's ability to process the data and independently reflect and interpret the results
- The candidate ability to display an academic maturity through the written thesis and presentation

Detailed grading scale for ICH master thesis

Grade A

Thesis by Monograph

The thesis is based on adequate and up-todate literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. The conceptual framework is presented, and the study is supported by appropriate theories. Research question(s) is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology and selection of study site, population sample is very appropriate and very well justified. The research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a very high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results are presented systematically and clearly, and answer the research questions set forth in the thesis. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate large degree of academic maturity and independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided are clear and relates to the thesis findings. The references are up to date, well formatted, error free and follow standard reference style. There is a very clear and good coherence between all

One article submitted/near submission

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of excellent quality and submitted to a high scholarly quality journal. Both the manuscript and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on adequate and up-to-date literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. Research question(s) in the article and in the thesis is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology is sound and clear, the research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a very high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are presented systematically and clearly, complement each other and answer the research questions set forth. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate large degree of academic maturity and independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided are clear and relates to the thesis findings. The article and additional thesis references are up to date, well formatted, error free and follow standard reference style. There is a n excellent coherence and complementarity between the article and the written

One article published/accepted

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of excellent quality and accepted/published in a high scholarly quality journal. Both the manuscript and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on adequate and up-to-date literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. Research question(s) in the article and in the thesis is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology is sound and clear, the research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a very high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are presented systematically and clearly, complement each other and answer the research questions set forth. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate large degree of academic maturity and independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided are clear and relates to the research findings. The thesis references are up to date, well formatted, error free and follow standard reference style. There is an excellent coherence and complementarity between the article and the written sections of the thesis. The thesis document proper

sections/chapters of the thesis. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate display an excellent academic presentation skills and bears evidence of being conversant with the work and thoroughly prepared. The language is accurate and easy to understand.

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Grade B

The thesis is based on adequate and up-todate literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. The conceptual framework is presented, and the study is supported by appropriate theories. Research question(s) is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology and selection of study site, population sample is appropriate and well justified. The research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results are presented systematically and clearly, and answer the research questions set forth in the thesis. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate good degree of independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided relates to the thesis findings. The references are up to date, well formatted, and follow standard reference style. There is a very clear coherence between all sections/chapters of the thesis. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate display a very good

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of very good quality and submitted to a very good scholarly quality journal. Both the manuscript and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on adequate and up-to-date literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. Research question(s) in the article and in the thesis is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology is sound and clear, the research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a very high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are presented systematically and clearly, complement each other and answer the research questions set forth. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate good degree of independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided are clear and relates to the thesis findings. The article and additional thesis references are up to date, well formatted, and follow standard reference style. There is an very good coherence and complementarity between the article and the written sections of the thesis. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of very good quality and accepted/published in a very good scholarly quality journal. Both the manuscript and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on adequate and up-to-date literature review on the subject and the research gap is clearly supported by the review. Research question(s) in the article and in the thesis is/are clearly formulated and defined in a very convincing manner. The choice of the methodology is sound and clear, the research process is precisely described, and methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are at a very high level. The data analysis approach is appropriate for the data and justified. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are presented systematically and clearly, complement each other and answer the research questions set forth. The reflective interpretation of the results indicate good degree of independence and the conclusions and recommendations provided are clear and relates to the thesis findings. The additional thesis references are up to date, well formatted, and follow standard reference style. There is an very good coherence and complementarity between the article and the written sections of the thesis. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate display an very good academic

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Grade C

The thesis is based on a satisfactory literature review on the subject and the research gap is supported by the review. Relevant conceptual and framework theories are presented. Research question(s) is/are formulated and defined in a good manner. The choice of the methodology and selection of study site, population sample is principally appropriate and well justified. The research process is described, and certain methodological reflections regarding validity and reliability are documented. Results are interpreted and presented to a certain degree in light of the research questions set forth in the thesis and framework/theories. The references are satisfactorily formatted and follow standard reference style. All thesis sections/chapters show satisfactory coherence. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate display a good academic presentation skills and bears evidence of being conversant with the work and thoroughly prepared. The language imprecise at some places but remain of acceptable quality

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of good quality and submitted to a satisfactorily scholarly quality journal. Both the article and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on good literature review on the subject and the research gap is supported by the review. Relevant conceptual and framework theories are presented. Research question(s) is/are satisfactorily formulated and defined. The choice of the methodology and selection of study site, population sample is principally appropriate and satisfactorily justified. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are interpreted and presented to a certain degree in light of the research questions set forth in the thesis and framework/theories. The conclusions and recommendations provided in both the written section of the thesis and the article are to some degree clear and relates to the thesis findings. The article and additional thesis references are satisfactorily formatted and follow standard reference style. There is a satisfactory coherence and complementarity between the article and the written sections of the thesis. The thesis document proper ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate display a good academic presentation skills and bears evidence of being conversant with the work and thoroughly prepared. The language imprecise at some places but remain of acceptable quality.

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Grade D

The thesis is based on a limited literature review on the subject and the research gap is partly supported by the review. The master's thesis' research question(s) is/are somewhat unclear and rather imprecise. Presentation and use of theory, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation are inadequate and partly problematic in relation to the thesis' statement/question and results. The choice of research approach, method and selection of data informants/sources is generally acceptable. The research process is rather inadequately described, and little methodological reflection is documented regarding validity and reliability. Results are presented somewhat satisfactorily. A basic discussion of the thesis' results has been carried out in light of theoretical perspectives, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation. The coherence between the various parts of the thesis is rather unclear. The thesis sufficiently documents ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate's mastery of the formal aspects is below average, and the presentation is poorly prepared and dealt with at times. The language is often imprecise and rather poor.

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of limited quality and submitted to a low scholarly quality journal. Both the article and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on a limited literature review on the subject and the research gap is partly supported by the review. The master's thesis' (including the article) research question(s) is/are somewhat unclear and rather imprecise. Presentation and use of theory, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation are inadequate and partly problematic in relation to the thesis and/or article's statement/question and results. The choice of research approach, method and selection of data informants/sources is generally acceptable. The research process is rather inadequately described, and little methodological reflection is documented regarding validity and reliability Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are interpreted and presented somewhat satisfactorily. A basic discussion of the thesis and article results has been carried out in light of theoretical perspectives, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation. The coherence and complementarity between the article and the written section of the thesis is rather unclear. The thesis sufficiently documents ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate's mastery of the formal aspects is below average, and the presentation is poorly prepared and confusing. The language is often imprecise and rather poor

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of limited quality and accepted/published to a low scholarly quality journal. Both the article and thesis introductory sections indicate that the thesis is based on a limited literature review on the subject and the research gap is partly supported by the review. The master's thesis' (including the article) research question(s) is/are somewhat unclear and rather imprecise. Presentation and use of theory, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation are inadequate and partly problematic in relation to the thesis statement/question and results. The choice of research approach, method and selection of data informants/sources is generally acceptable. The research process is rather inadequately described, and little methodological reflection is documented regarding validity and reliability. Results presented in the article and additional results (if any) are interpreted and presented somewhat satisfactorily. A basic discussion of the thesis and article results has been carried out in light of theoretical perspectives, previous research and/or other frameworks of interpretation. The coherence and complementarity between the article and the written section of the thesis is rather unclear. The thesis sufficiently documents ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate's mastery of the formal aspects is below average, and the presentation is poorly prepared and confusing. The language is often imprecise and rather poor.

Grade E

The master's thesis poorly justified and not based on appropriate literature. The research question(s) is/are unclear. Presentation and use of theory and previous research,

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including other background, is poor. The choice of approach, method and research process is inadequately described, poorly reflected upon and is close to being unacceptable. Results are presented in a rather inappropriate and/or unsystematic manner and are discussed to a small degree. The coherence between different parts of the thesis is weak. The thesis satisfactorily document ethical and data protection approvals. The candidate masters the formal aspects poorly. The language is often imprecise and rather poor.

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Grade F

The thesis is not based on appropriate literature and has poor or no justification. There is lack of satisfactory research question(s). The choice of approach, method is not correct and there is no application of relevant theory or if applied, not done so in the proper manner. The results do not address the research questions set forth in the thesis and presented inappropriate/y and/or in unsystematic manner. . There is no coherence between different parts of the thesis. The candidate masters the formal aspects of academic work very poorly. The language is rather poor. The thesis does not document proper ethical and data protection approvals.

The thesis is evaluated as a combination of the article and the written sections of the thesis. The article is of poor quality and submitted to a low scholarly quality journal. Both the article and the thesis are not based on appropriate literature and has poor or no justification. There is lack of satisfactory research question(s). The choice of approach, method is not correct and there is no application of relevant theory or if applied, not done so in the proper manner. The results in the article and additional results in the thesis (if any) do not address the research questions set forth in the thesis and presented inappropriate/y and/or in unsystematic manner. . There is no coherence and complementarity between the article and the written section of the thesis. The candidate masters the formal aspects of academic work very poorly. The language is rather poor. The thesis does not document proper ethical and data protection approvals.

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