



Middle European  
interdisciplinary  
master's programme in  
Cognitive Science

## Concept

## MEi:CogSci Master's Thesis

# INFO FILE

### 1 General information

<b>Title</b>	
<b>Subtitle (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Keywords</b>	Define 2-5 keywords describing the key aspects of your thesis (e.g. social interaction, embodiment, memory, ...).
<b>Main research area</b>	Name the main research area of your topic.(e.g. neuro-phenomenology, vocal learning in songbirds, human-computer interaction, ... ).
<b>Disciplines involved</b>	List the disciplines relevant to study the phenomenon investigated in your thesis (e.g. philosophy, behavioral biology, ...).
<b>Target group</b>	What target groups or scientific communities would you like to address with this thesis? (e.g. philosophers and neuroscientists in animal ethics, higher education researchers and practitioners, ...)

### 2 Author/student information<sup>1</sup>

<b>Name, academic title</b>	
<b>Student ID number</b>	
<b>Degree programme code</b>	
<b>University-affiliated</b>	
<b>E-mail address</b>	

### 3 Supervisor information

<b>Name</b>	The supervisor should come to Vienna for the <i>defensio</i> . If this is not possible, then <b>the student</b> must arrange an alternative examiner to assess them on their thesis.
<b>Affiliation (university, department)</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	

<sup>1</sup> By handing in this concept, the student declares that his/her personal data which he/she provided for the university he/she is currently enrolled at (e.g. via the university's online information system) is correct and complete. Where necessary, the student corrected and/or completed the personal data to the best of his/her knowledge or has officially requested a correction/completion of his/her personal data.

## 4 Thesis objectives

### 4.1 Extended abstract (max. 3000 characters)

The abstract should be a “condensed version” of section 4.2.

### 4.2 Detailed objectives

#### 4.2.1 Review of topic

Give a short review of your topic (ca. 1500 characters).

#### 4.2.2 Research question(s)

What are the research questions you wish to investigate within your thesis?

#### 4.2.3 Hypotheses

What are your hypotheses/theses underlying these research questions?

**4.2.4 Theoretical and methodological concepts**

Which theoretical and methodological concepts are relevant to your topic/investigated phenomenon? (e.g. social cognition, radical constructivism, classical conditioning, priming, ... )

**4.2.5 Methods**

What are the concrete methods you are applying to investigate your thesis' phenomenon?

**4.2.6 Expected insights and findings**

What are possible or anticipated insights and findings, e.g. methodological, theoretical, empirical findings?

**4.2.7 Interdisciplinarity**

What are the interdisciplinary aspects of your thesis?

**4.2.8 Relation to cognitive science**

How does your thesis relate to cognitive science?  
In which way is your research relevant to cognitive science, in which way does it contribute to cognitive science?

### 4.3 References

List the basic references essential for your thesis

1. Reference 1
2. Reference 2
3. ...

## 5 Structure, outline of chapter titles, and guiding questions

Give a rough outline of the chapter titles and develop a guiding question for each chapter.

### 1 Chapter title

Guiding question for chapter 1

1.1 (Sub)Chapter title

1.2 (Sub)Chapter title

...

### 2 Chapter title

Guiding question for chapter 2

2.1 (Sub)Chapter title

2.2 (Sub)Chapter title

...

### 3 Chapter title

Guiding question for chapter 3

2.1 (Sub)Chapter title

2.2 (Sub)Chapter title

...

**6 Working plan and schedule**

<b>Working-package (WP)</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Resources required</b>	<b>Milestones (M)</b>
WP1	month/year	month/year	Describe activity, tasks, etc. (e.g. pre-testing experimental procedure, literature research, recruiting participants, etc.)	Resources/means required to achieve the task (e.g. lab space for testing, EEG equipment, access to scientific database or library, etc.)	e.g. M1
WP2					
...					

**6.1 Milestones and results/"products"**

<b>Mile-stone</b>	<b>Result/"product"</b>
M1	Description of result/"product"; the "outcome" of activities/tasks necessary to continue the project and/or proceed to the next WP (e.g. experimental procedure tested, experimental set-up completed, etc. )
M2	
...	

## 7 Reflection

### 7.1 Paradigm(s)

Give a short description/enumeration of the scientific (sub-)paradigms you are employing.

### 7.2 Premises

Reflect on and make explicit the premises on which your thesis and the scientific concepts, methods, etc. you are applying are based on.

### 7.3 Learning interest

What is your personal "learning interest" in this project?  
What are the fundamental questions you want to find an answer for in this project?  
What are the "questions behind your questions" for this project?

### 7.4 Limitations

Reflect on and make explicit the limitations of your thesis.  
What will not be answered by your thesis?  
What could be (unexpected) questions (from "outside") which would seriously question your project, your methodology, your results, etc.?

**7.5 Open questions**

Where are your open questions for this project?

**7.6 Weak points**

What will be the weak points of your thesis?

**7.7 Failure criteria**

When/under which conditions do you consider this project a “failure”?

**7.8 Novelty**

What are novel aspects, insights, and gains of your thesis?

**7.9 Possible ethical concerns**

Are there any ethical concerns or issues (e.g. when working with children, working with animals, or applying invasive methods/procedures, etc.) regarding your master's thesis? Please consult your supervisor in this regard. If applicable, state these concerns here.