

Guidebook of writing diploma thesis

What is diploma thesis and what does it have to show?

- Diploma thesis has to show that student studied thoroughly a specific concept of any field in Computer Science or Computer Engineering, and applied a gained knowledge in practice to produce something “useful”.

The word “useful” means: “Some program, research, application that can solve actual problems, especially in Kazakhstan, or in SDU”.

Does diploma thesis have to be innovative (something new)?

- It does not have to be innovative, but some kind of innovation is appreciated. You don't have to present new program that was not ever developed, but you can develop some new variation of old program. Or use some approach in a new field.

How to get “A” mark for your diploma thesis?

- There must be complexity, completeness and impressive presentation.
 - Complexity – your work must be complex; your work will include about 2-3 months of hard work and months of research.
 - Completeness – your work has to be complete, and your program will have to work without bugs and errors. Plus, satisfactory documentation.
 - Presentation – do not make boring presentations. Do impressive presentations.

Possible causes of getting Fail?

- If the work presented by student was not done by himself/herself
- If the student doesn't even know basics of work he/she has done.

How is the text of diploma thesis evaluated?

- You can use citations in your diploma thesis
- You have to be ready to explain any word from your diploma thesis

Can student use ready ERP, CRM, CMS (Joomla, Drupal and etc) or other existing applications?

- The diploma thesis presents the work done by student. So if the student presents some application, which was developed by the usage of existing applications, only own work of the student will be evaluated.

Does the thesis work require skilled programming?

- Student doesn't have to be very skillful at programming to develop application; could try to develop programs that don't require high programming skills.
- Research within Computer Science which doesn't require programming is also welcome.
- (Special offer) Writing a book or a task book for programming lessons.

What type of research can be done?

- There is a difference between research and review
 - Research has a specific goal and a problem which is thoroughly analyzed and tried to be solved
 - Review is just an explanation of some known topic.

Review is NOT accepted.

- Research can be done on a well-known problem, but with the application of another approach. Ex: providing mobile network in Kazakhstan villages.

Recommendations for students:

- To learn all deadlines
- To set up regular meetings with supervisor
- Diploma thesis should be considered as a preparation for student's future work.

Stages of writing diploma thesis:

- To choose theme of diploma thesis and supervisor. (Till the end of 1st semester)
- Find external reference for diploma thesis
- To pass pre-diploma practice
- Pre-defence: one month before defence
- Defence: first decade of June