



The Green Transition Applied Research Project

Official Dissertation Guide

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1. Purpose and Academic Positioning

The Green Transition Applied Research Project constitutes the capstone component of the MSc in Economic and Legal Aspects of the Green Transition. It enables students to demonstrate their ability to conduct independent, rigorous research on a topic directly related to the economic, legal, institutional, or policy dimensions of the green transition.

The dissertation must reflect postgraduate-level depth, analytical precision, and academic originality. Students are expected to:

- identify and articulate a well-defined research question,
- critically review and synthesise relevant literature,
- develop theoretically grounded hypotheses,
- design and implement an appropriate research methodology,
- analyse empirical or qualitative data,
- and derive well-supported conclusions.

2. Timeline and Completion Requirements

Full-Time Programme

Conducted during the Third Term (May–September).

Submission deadline: 31st of August

Presentation must occur within the examination period set by the Department.

Part-Time Programme

Conducted during Year 2, Third Term (May–September).

Same submission and presentation deadlines apply.

Extensions

A student who cannot complete the dissertation within the prescribed timeframe may request an extension of up to six months, subject to: (a) written justification, (b) supervisor approval, and (c) submission to the Secretariat.

3. Supervision and Responsibilities

Supervisors are appointed by the Department based on student preferences, faculty expertise, topic relevance, and supervisory capacity. Students must maintain regular communication with their supervisor, submit drafts according to agreed timelines, follow academic guidance and ensure the originality and integrity of their work.

4. Required Dissertation Structure

The dissertation must follow the structure prescribed by the programme syllabus:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Hypothesis Development
- Research Design
- Sample and Descriptive Statistics

- Empirical Results
- Robustness Tests
- Summary and Conclusions
- References
- Appendix
- Any deviation from this structure requires explicit supervisor approval.

5. Content Requirements and Academic Standards

The dissertation must demonstrate:

- Clear research question(s) relevant to the green transition.
- Justification of significance, including policy, legal, or economic relevance.
- Comprehensive literature review (minimum 15 peer-reviewed journal articles).
- Theoretical grounding and logically developed hypotheses.
- Transparent research design, including model specification and variable definitions.
- Appropriate data collection, sample justification, and descriptive statistics.
- Rigorous empirical analysis, with correct econometric or analytical techniques.
- Interpretation of results in relation to hypotheses and existing literature.
- Acknowledgement of limitations and directions for future research.

6. Formatting and Technical Specifications

6.1 Front Matter

a) Title Page (First Page)

The title page must include the following elements, in the order listed:

Athens University of Economics and Business
 School of Economic Sciences
 Department of International and European Economic Studies
 Dissertation Title
 Student's Full Name

The statement: *"Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the Double Master's Degree in "Economics and legal aspects of the Green Transition" organized in collaboration with the University of Aberdeen "*

Date of submission

b) Second Page – Supervisor and Declaration of Originality

The second page must include:

- Name of the Supervisor
- Names of the Examiners
- The following declaration, signed by the student: *"I, [Name], hereby declare that the work presented in this dissertation is entirely my own. Any information or material derived from other sources has been appropriately acknowledged. I am aware that, should any violation of academic integrity be identified, the degree may be revoked at any time."*

c) Third Page – Table of Contents

A complete and automatically generated Table of Contents must be included.

d) Fourth Page – Abstract

- A concise abstract (maximum 150 words) must be provided in English. The abstract must summarise:
- the research objective,
- the methodology,
- the main findings.

6.2 Main Body Structure

The main text of the dissertation must follow the structure below. Minor deviations may be approved by the supervisor depending on the nature of the research.

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Introduction must:

- define the topic and research question(s),
- outline the research methodology and data sources,
- present the structure of the dissertation,
- summarise the key findings.

Chapter 2 Literature Review

The Literature Review (typically 5–10 pages):

- is directly linked to the research topic,
- clarifies the theoretical and empirical context,
- helps define the research framework and objectives.

Chapter 3 Theoretical / Analytical Framework and Methodology

This chapter must:

- present the theoretical or analytical foundations of the study,
- describe and justify the research methodology.

Chapter 4 Empirical Data

This chapter (or multiple chapters, if needed) must include:

- quantitative and/or qualitative data,
- econometric analysis,
- legal or policy text analysis,
- case studies,
- comparative analysis, depending on the nature of the research.

Chapter 5 Analysis and Discussion

A critical interpretation of the empirical or theoretical findings.

Chapter 6 Conclusions

The Conclusions (1–2 pages) must:

- summarise the main findings,
- highlight the contribution of the study,
- identify limitations,
- propose directions for future research.

6.3 Appendices

Appendices may be included where necessary (e.g., questionnaires, supplementary tables, legal documents, additional empirical material).

6.4 References

The reference list must include all sources cited within the dissertation, presented in a complete and consistent format. The following requirements apply:

- The Harvard referencing style is the default citation format. The APA style may be used as an alternative, subject to explicit prior approval by the supervisor.
- Only sources directly cited in the body of the text may be included in the reference list. Sources consulted but not cited must be omitted.
- All references must comply with recognised international academic standards, ensuring accuracy, consistency, and full bibliographic detail throughout."

6.5 Additional Formatting Specifications

The dissertation must comply with the following technical formatting rules:

- Length: 15,000–25,000 words (excluding references and appendices).
- Language: English.
- Font: Times New Roman, size 11.
- Spacing: 1.5.
- Paper size: A4.
- Margins:
 - Top: 2.54 cm
 - Bottom: 2.54 cm
 - Left: 3 cm
 - Right: 3 cm

7. Evaluation Criteria

The dissertation is evaluated by a three-member Examination Committee based on the following:

Abstract

- Clear statement of research question
- Summary of methodology
- Summary of results

Introduction

- Motivation and significance
- Link to literature
- Clear hypotheses

Literature Review

- Relevance and structure
- Depth and synthesis
- Critical comparison

Hypothesis Development

- Logical reasoning
- Theoretical grounding
- Balanced perspectives

Research Design

- Methodological appropriateness
- Justification of model
- Clear variable definitions

Data and Descriptive Statistics

- Sample justification
- Transparent criteria
- Clear descriptive tables

Empirical Results

- Correct interpretation
- Statistical and econometric validity
- High-quality tables

Conclusions

- Clarity and coherence
- Contribution to the field
- Limitations and future research

Overall Presentation

- Academic writing quality
- Proper referencing
- Consistency with the guide

8. Presentation and Examination Procedure

- Duration: 20–30 minutes.
- Format: oral presentation followed by Q&A.
- Evaluation: based on scientific merit, clarity, and defence of methodology.
- In case of failure: one re-examination allowed within 3–6 months.

9. Submission Procedure

Students must submit:

1. The final dissertation to the supervisor and examiners at least 20 days before the presentation.
2. After approval, the dissertation must be uploaded to the AUEB Institutional Repository (Pyxida).

Electronic submission is a mandatory requirement for graduation.

10. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

- All dissertations are checked through proper software (e.g., Turnitin).
- Plagiarism or academic misconduct results in disciplinary action.
- All sources must be properly cited using the Harvard style (or APA style, if approved by the supervisor).