



## Master's Thesis Award

### ➤ Introduction:

Scientific research is the cornerstone of achieving academic excellence and global competitiveness among higher education institutions. It is consistently used as a key indicator in the excellence matrices for these institutions. In this regard, the development of graduate students' research skills plays a crucial role in ensuring the sustainability of scientific excellence.

In alignment with Qatar University's strategic vision, which aims to establish the university as a leading international research destination and develop a database of qualified and distinguished graduate researchers, the initiative for the **Master's Thesis Award at the College Level** in the fields of science, applied sciences, and social and human sciences was introduced to enhance the spirit of scientific competition among researchers and stimulate outstanding knowledge production.

### ➤ Purpose:

This annual award recognizes and highlights outstanding research performance by master's students at Qatar University. It is intended to encourage excellence in research, reinforce a spirit of healthy competition, and stimulate impactful academic output.



➤ **The Award:**

The award is granted in the fields of Science & Applied Sciences and Social Sciences & Humanities. Two master's students (one from each field) will be selected to receive the award during the University Research Forum.

➤ **Award Criteria:**

1. Originality and Innovation
2. Research Methodology and Techniques
3. Scientific and Societal Impact
4. Quality of Writing and Presentation
5. External Review and Citations
6. Alignment with the University's Research Priorities
7. Adherence to Research Ethics

➤ **Eligibility Requirements:**

1. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 in the master's program.
2. No academic warnings or disciplinary actions during the student's enrollment in the relevant master's program.
3. At least one distinguished scientific publication resulting from the thesis project.
4. No course in the student's academic record with a grade below "Very Good" (B), and no course repeated more than once.

➤ **Application Procedures (College Level):**

1. Applications must be submitted through the electronic system starting from the last week of May, with the final deadline by first of October.
2. Winners will be announced during the third week of December.



3. Awardees will be honored during the University Research Forum held in the Spring semester of the academic year.

➤ **Evaluation Matrix:**

|   | <b>Number of points = 3</b>   | <b>Number of points = 2</b>   | <b>Number of points = 1</b>   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Originality and Innovation</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Providing a novel scientific contribution in the field of specialization.</li> <li>- Proposing innovative ideas or unprecedented solutions to research problems.</li> <li>- Demonstrating the distinctiveness of the research compared to previous studies.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partial development within the field of specialization</li> <li>- Improving and enhancing existing solutions to research problems to make them more effective</li> <li>- Critiquing and developing aspects of previous studies.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minor development within the field of specialization</li> <li>- Slight improvement to existing solutions for current problems</li> <li>- Weak review and analysis of previous studies, with little to no deviation from them.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Methodology and Research Methods</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarity of the research plan and methodology</li> <li>- Use of advanced and appropriate research tools and methodologies</li> <li>- Accuracy of scientific analysis and rigor of results.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use of some research tools and methodologies while overlooking others</li> <li>- Scientific analysis and results require further clarification and refinement.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failure to use sufficient research tools and methodologies to reach scientific analyses and rigorous results.</li> </ul>   |



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| <p><b>Scientific and Societal Impact</b></p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Full applicability of the results in academic or industrial fields.</li> <li>- Contribution of the research to solving scientific or societal issues.</li> <li>- Publishing one or more research papers from the project in peer-reviewed journals or registering a patent.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possibility of applying most results in academic or industrial fields.</li> <li>- Partial contribution of the research to solving scientific or societal issues.</li> <li>- Possibility of publishing in reputable scientific journals or registering patents.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulty in applying the results in academic or industrial fields.</li> <li>- The research is theoretical and does not contribute effectively to solving scientific or societal issues.</li> <li>- Weak or no possibility of publishing in reputable scientific journals or registering patent</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Quality of Writing and Presentation</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarity of language and soundness of style.</li> <li>- Organization of the project according to academic standards.</li> <li>- Accuracy of referencing and absence of scientific errors.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minor language and style errors.</li> <li>- Academic standards are partially applied in organizing the project.</li> <li>- A few sources are not cited, and the project contains minor scientific errors.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant language errors and weak writing style.</li> <li>- The project does not follow the academic standards adopted by the university.</li> <li>- Many sources are not cited, and the project contains numerous scientific errors.</li> </ul>   |

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| <p><b>External Evaluation and Citations</b></p>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receiving positive evaluations from international reviewers.</li> <li>- Having citations or references to the research in other works (if any).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receiving positive evaluations from international reviewers.</li> <li>- No citations or references to the research in other works (if any).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receiving some positive evaluations from international reviewers.</li> <li>- No citations or references to the research in other works (if any).</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Alignment with the University's Research Priorities</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fully Aligned</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partially Aligned</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weakly Aligned</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Researcher's Commitment to Research Ethics</b></p>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adherence to ethical standards in data collection and analysis.</li> <li>- Accurate citation of sources and previous studies.</li> <li>- Full adherence to obtaining all necessary approvals from research ethics committees.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adherence to ethical standards in data collection and analysis.</li> <li>- Some issues with the accurate citation of sources and previous studies.</li> <li>- Obtaining some of the necessary approvals from research ethics committees.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failure to adhere to ethical standards in data collection and analysis.</li> <li>- Weak or no accurate citation of sources and previous studies.</li> <li>- Failure to obtain all necessary approvals from research ethics committees.</li> </ul> |