

Regulations

NINO Thesis Prizes 2018

1. Conditions for participation

1.1

Final theses on the basis of which a Bachelor's or a Master's degree was obtained at a Dutch university in the academic year 2017/2018 qualify for assessment by the jury.

1.2

The thesis must be written on a subject within the research areas of the NINO: archaeology, history, languages, and cultures of Egypt, Levant, Anatolia, Mesopotamia, and Persia. Adjacent areas are considered; the chairman of the jury will decide whether a thesis is relevant enough to participate.

1.3

Participants are expected to be aware of these regulations when submitting their materials to the jury.

1.4

The thesis must have been graded with an 8 or higher.

1.5

The applicant agrees to make his or her thesis available to the public unless there are special reasons to abstain from this rule. In that case, the applicant will notify the jury of these reasons.

1.6

Staff members of NINO, individuals involved in the organization of the NINO Thesis Prizes, and individuals related to the judges, are excluded from participation.

1.7.

The jury has the right to remove a thesis from the competition in case of plagiarism, fraud, etc.

2. Submission of the thesis

2.1

The thesis must be submitted digitally, as a pdf file. The submitted version is identical with the final version of the thesis as assessed by the supervisors. Non-digital submissions will not be taken into consideration.

The thesis must be submitted through the upload form at www.nino-leiden.nl. If the online form is unavailable, the candidate should send an e-mail to the address mentioned on the upload page. The jury's secretary will assess whether a different way of submission is possible. The deadline for submission is October 14th 2018 at 23:59 hrs. Late submissions will not be accepted.

2.2

The thesis needs to be accompanied by the following information:

- Name, address, phone number(s), e-mail address of the author;
- Name of the degree, Master or Bachelor, title of the thesis, amount of EC, and date of graduation;
- Names, titles and e-mail addresses of the thesis supervisors and second readers.

2.3

The following additional documents need to be submitted:

- Proof of the grade awarded to the thesis, signed by a qualified authority, for example a validated print from the educational administration or a copy of the grade list provided with the diploma (pdf);
- A copy of the diploma mentioning the date of graduation (pdf);
- A public summary of 300-500 words in the same language as the thesis (the main research question must be included, as well as the chosen research method and the results; this must be written in an appealing and understandable way) (Word document).

The submission will be checked for accuracy by the jury's secretary; in case documents are missing or incorrect, the applicant will be contacted by the secretary of the jury. If the applicant does not respond, the submission will be excluded from participation.

2.4

Upon submission of the thesis, participants will receive a notification that their thesis was received. If no notification is received, the applicant should contact NINO by email through the email address provided on the webpage.

3. Assessment criteria

3.1

Submissions will be assessed on relevance, scientific value and originality.

3.2

The author is free to enter his/her thesis into other competitions. If the thesis wins a prize before the NINO Thesis Prizes are awarded, it is no longer eligible for a NINO Prize. The author will inform the jury of participation in other competitions, and will immediately notify the jury if the thesis is awarded a prize.

3.3

The jury's decision will not be discussed.

4. Evaluation

4.1

The jury consists of experts in the active research areas of NINO. The jury is appointed by the Director of NINO, who acts as chairman of the jury. The secretary of NINO, or a substitute appointed by the director of NINO, will act as secretary to the jury.

4.2

The jury has the right to make a pre-selection, based on the summaries provided and the official grades, when there are more than 15 submissions. The distribution of the theses among the members of the jury, will be done by the secretary of the jury, who will keep in mind the different specializations.

4.3

The jury has the right to abstain from handing out the prizes if there are not enough submissions or if the submissions are of insufficient quality.

4.4

The jury may seek external advice when assessing the theses.

4.5

If a member of the jury has acted as supervisor of one of the submitted theses, he or she will be excluded from the evaluation of this thesis.

4.5

Each thesis will be assessed by three different judges who will grade it (1-5). The best two Bachelor theses and (Research)Master theses will be re-assessed by the full panel of judges, yielding one winner and one runner-up in each category.

5. Prizes

5.1

The prizes amount to € 400 for the best Bachelor thesis and € 600 for the best (Research)Master thesis. The winners will receive a certificate.

5.2

The runners-up will receive a certificate and will be mentioned during the ceremony.

5.3

The winners and the runners-up will be announced at the NINO Annual Meeting in January 2019. At this ceremony the winners will have the opportunity to present their thesis in public.

5.4

Summaries of the winning theses and the runners-up will be posted on the NINO website and Facebook page.

6. Final provisions

6.1

Participants' email addresses will be added to the NINO mailing list. If they do not wish to receive news mailings from NINO, they may unsubscribe from the mailing list.

6.2

In case of ambiguity, the Dutch text version of these regulations ("Reglement NINO-Scriptieprijsen") supersedes the present English version.

In all cases where these regulations do not provide, the chairman of the jury will decide.