Master's Exam Format

The exam will require students to assimilate information from both their coursework and external sources (i.e., contemporary viewpoints from the literature and experience) about a specific topic, analyze information, synthesize it into a cogent set of constructs/observations, and present an evaluation. The following is a sample topic:

Different CEOs / COOs have played various roles (active versus directive versus delegated – passive) in trying to achieve organizational changes within their companies, especially around the implementation of Total Quality Management / Six Sigma programs; with various degrees of success. Based upon your knowledge of leadership and value creation, your own experiences in business and industry, as well as contemporary research on this topic, what do you believe is the most effective way that an upper-level manager can successfully implement any program / system / process requiring significant organizational change? What are the three most critical determinants of success? Defend your position with data / case study examples.

The Exam should be organized as follows:

- Statement of the topic
- Acknowledgements
- Body of work
- Summary and conclusion

Type size for the report should be between 10pt and 12pt and should be consistent throughout the report – in text, figure captions, and table titles. The
What is the commitment for the Master's Exam?

The Exam is 8-10 pages (10 pages max), researching and evaluating a specific topic. You have about 8 weeks to complete the Exam for fall or spring, and 6 weeks to complete the Exam in the summer session.

When can I take the Exam?

The Exam is to be taken during or after the semester in which you complete your 10th required course. If you are planning to graduate in the Summer, you may take your Exam in the Spring semester before. You cannot take the master’s exam if you are on academic probation. The Exam is made available to eligible students in September (for fall semester), in February (for spring semester), and in June (for summer).

Do I need to register for the Exam?

You do not need to register for the Exam but you do need to notify the EMP prior to the start of the semester you intend to graduate. If you have already completed the ten courses required for the degree, you must register for EMEN 6940 Degree Candidacy (1 cr.) in the semester you intend to take the Master’s Exam and graduate.

How do I access the Exam Questions?

The exam questions will be made available to you via Desire2Learn. Access for you will be set up once you complete and pass the Honor Code Quiz with a 100% by the deadline.

Is it ok to visit The Writing Center for Master’s exam consultation?

Yes, if the following conditions are met:
1. You are a non-native English speaker and so identify yourself and your native language at the beginning of the exam.

2. You complete your final version of the exam before seeking editing assistance from any source, including the Writing Center.

3. You submit both your final version and the edited version as a single paper. Your no-assistance-with-editing final version should appear first and the edited version second in the combined paper. Obviously the combined paper will exceed the page limit, but not by more than 2X.

4. If you have already received editing assistance and are still working on your final version:
   - Continue working on your final version.
   - Do not solicit any additional editing assistance.
   - Describe the editing assistance you received while still drafting the final version.
   - Once you have a final version, submit it, subject to the next point.
   - If you solicit additional editing assistance on your final version, then include the edited version in a combined document as described above.