Guidelines for grading M.Sc. thesis
Leiden Institute for Advanced Computer Science

Grading a thesis project can look at the following:
- Thesis work (including software, papers)
- Project Execution
- Final presentation
- Defense
- Other products delivered (exhibit, ...)

Criteria that are used to quantify the result:

- Quality of the thesis work
  - Originality of the research question
  - Soundness of the approach
  - Structuring of complex matter
  - Depth of Analysis
  - Creativity in creating a solution
  - Quality of the reporting (structure of the thesis, grammar)
  - Critical Thinking: the student does not take presented information for granted, but challenges this.

- Characteristics of executing the project
  - Autonomy (self-propelling): student has performed the work largely autonomously with little input required from the supervisors
  - Systematic application of methods and techniques
  - The student has made a good planning and largely stuck to this planning

- Final presentation:
  - Clarity of conveying the main message (quality of slides, speaking)
  - Creativity in presenting

- Defense:
  - The candidate is knowledgeable about the wider area of his thesis
  - The candidate knows the limits of his knowledge

In order to be able to obtain a M.Sc. degree, a candidate must have adopted academic values in his thinking and acting.

Awarding a 9 for a M.Sc. project can be considered if the work is published at a scientific venue which is peer-reviewed (workshop, conference or journal). If the paper writing is under review then it is up to the thesis-committee to judge the chances of success.

Uit het OER:
De betekenis van de cijfers is als volgt:
4 = onvoldoende  6 = voldoende  8 = goed  10 = uitmuntend
5 = juist onvoldoende  7 = ruim voldoende  9 = zeer goed
NB. Er mogen ‘halven’ gegeven worden (6.5, 7.5 etc), behalve 5.5.