



# Curriculum of the Doctoral Programme in Humanities, Philosophy and Education

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## § 1 Qualification profile

The doctoral programme in Humanities, Philosophy and Education at the University of Vienna serves to further develop doctoral candidate's abilities for independent scientific work as well as to educate and encourage early stage researchers. The doctoral programme entails independent research of international standard in the respective field of expertise.

## § 2 Scope of application and admission requirements

- (1) This Curriculum applies to doctoral candidates who intend to write a doctoral thesis in a field of doctoral research that corresponds to one of the accepted fields of the Humanities, Cultural Sciences, Philosophy, and Education which corresponds to a bachelor's or diploma programme (or a master's programme in one of the fields of the Humanities and Cultural Sciences which does not offer a corresponding bachelor's programme).

It also applies to doctoral candidates who intend to write an interdisciplinary and inter-institutional doctoral thesis as well as to doctoral candidates who intend to write a doctoral thesis in the fields of Psychology or Sport Science with an orientation towards the Humanities and Cultural Sciences.

- (2) Admission to the degree programme is based on the relevant provisions set out in the 2002 Universities Act as amended.

### **§ 3 Structure of the doctoral programme**

- (1) The degree programme duration is 3 years.
- (2) During the doctoral degree programme, doctoral candidates are required to complete the following:

a. Courses

Courses are part of the doctoral programme and doctoral candidates must attend courses comprising 20 to 30 ECTS credits. At least 3 of these courses have to be seminars for doctoral candidates (“DissertantInnenseminar”).

All achievements (e.g. attending scientific workshops, holding presentations at international conferences, handling academic aspects in the organization of academic events, scientific practical courses etc.) which are linked to the dissertation can be considered as relevant courses for the Curriculum and could replace one seminar for doctoral candidates (“DissertantInnenseminar”).

The exact specifications of achievements and credits, including the number of ECTS credits is to be set down in the doctoral thesis agreement.

- b. A research proposal which is to be approved by the competent body responsible for study matters (see § 4), is to be submitted within the first year after admission to the programme.
- c. A public presentation of the intended doctoral project at the Faculty.
- d. Submission of a periodical, but at least annual, progress report commented on by the supervisor.
- e. After the completion of the doctoral thesis agreement (see § 5), the doctoral thesis is to be written (see § 6).
- f. After all study credits have been achieved, the study programme is completed with a public defence (see § 7).
- (3) The attendance of additional courses or workshops may be required for the acquisition of transferable skills. These may be attended on a voluntary basis during the orientation period, in order to acquire the basics of scientific research, writing methods

and project-oriented work as well as to concretise the intended doctoral project and set up the doctoral project.

- (4) The doctoral programme can be conducted partially, predominantly, or exclusively in a foreign language.

## **§ 4 Submission of the intended doctoral project and public presentation at the Faculty**

intended doctoral project, together with a confirmation of supervision by the supervisor. This application has to include a research proposal, a time schedule, as well as a list of all necessary resources. In principle, the research proposal is approved by the competent body responsible for study matters, following a public presentation at the Faculty (§ 3, section 2 d). If the intended doctoral project is part of a research project which has already been approved externally in accordance with international standards, the competent body responsible for study matters may approve the doctoral project prior to the presentation at the Faculty. The approval of the intended doctoral project is, in any case, a prerequisite for signing a doctoral thesis agreement.

## **§ 5 Doctoral thesis agreement**

- (1) As set out in the Statutes, a doctoral thesis agreement has to be concluded between the supervisor and the doctoral candidate and approved by the competent body responsible for study matters.

The doctoral thesis agreement must include following points:

1. The doctoral candidate's name, student ID number, date of birth;
2. The supervisors' names;
3. The topic of the doctoral thesis;
4. The curriculum under which the doctoral candidate is studying;
5. The field of doctoral research to which the doctoral thesis pertains;
6. The language, in which the doctoral thesis will be written and in which the public defense will be held;
7. The research proposal, on which the approval is based;
8. The time schedule for the intended doctoral project;
9. The study achievements that need to be completed according to the curriculum;
10. Supervision specifications, in particular with regard to the frequency of feedback meetings between the supervisor and the doctoral candidate;
11. Declaration of commitment of the doctoral candidate to abide by to the rules and

regulations of good scientific practice.

- (2) The doctoral thesis agreement must be supplemented with periodical, but at least annual, progress reports made by the doctoral candidate in agreement with the supervisor. The unilateral termination of the agreement as well as substantial changes (regarding the aforementioned points § 5, section 1, line 1–5) to the doctoral thesis agreement require the approval of the competent body responsible for study matters.
- (3) Courses prescribed for admission to the doctoral programme cannot be recognised as academic achievements pursuant to § 3, section 2 of this Curriculum.

## **§ 6 Doctoral thesis**

- (1) Doctoral candidates have to write a doctoral thesis, which serves to demonstrate the candidate's ability to master academic topics independently.
- (2) The publication of partial results of the doctoral project in scientific journals and their presentation at academic conferences prior to the submission of the doctoral thesis is encouraged. Own publications can be included in the doctoral thesis.
- (3) The extent of the doctoral thesis can be regulated in the doctoral thesis agreement.
- (4) Collaborative or joint doctoral theses are possible and need to be regulated in the doctoral thesis agreement. The individual achievements of the students involved are to be marked explicitly as such and will be graded accordingly.

## **§ 7 Public defense**

Provided that all study requirements laid out in § 3 have been met and the doctoral thesis has been positively assessed by the assessors, the doctoral candidate has to pass a final oral examination (public defence) in front of an examination committee. This examination committee is appointed by the competent body in charge of study matters that has to appoint the supervisor and at least one of the assessors as referees. In well-grounded cases, exceptions can be made to this rule.

## **§ 8 Examination regulations**

- (1) All courses are to be offered as one of the following types of courses:
  - a. Courses with non-continuous assessment:

Lectures (“Vorlesungen”, VO) serve the acquisition of knowledge in the respective field. At the end of the semester, the doctoral candidates’ knowledge is tested in a written or oral examination.

b. Courses with continuous assessment:

Seminars for doctoral candidates (“DissertantInnenseminare“) serve the discussion or to learn techniques, methods and theories to deal with academic issues and solve specific questions and issues. Interdisciplinary seminars for doctoral candidates are offered by at least two university teachers and graded by them.

c. Course participants are assessed on the basis of multiple practical, written or oral assignments during and at the end of the course..

d. Courses with continuous assessment and academic or scientific activities, outside the university, with proof of attendance.

(2) The number of participants in courses with continuous assessment is limited to a maximum number of 25. In well-grounded cases, the competent body responsible for study matters may allow exceptions.

(3) if the number of registrations exceeds the maximum number of places available on a particular course, students which require the course for the progression of their doctoral programme at the University of Vienna are given priority.

## **§ 9 Completion of the doctoral programme**

(1) The doctoral programme is successfully completed if all requirements laid down in § 3, section 2 have been met.

(2) Graduates of the doctoral programme are awarded the degree “Doktor/in der Philosophie”, abbreviated as Dr. phil., pursuant to § 54, section 4 of the 2002 Universities Act.

## **§ 10 Entry into force and transitional regulations**

(1) This Curriculum enters into force on 1 October 2009.

(2) Doctoral candidates enrolled in the doctoral programme in Philosophy prior to the entry into force of this Curriculum can voluntarily and at any time accept the provisions of this Curriculum by means of a simple statement. The competent body must decide either generally or in each individual case which courses completed and examinations passed can be recognised for this Curriculum.

(3) Doctoral candidates who pursue a degree programme which entered into force prior to this Curriculum are entitled to complete their degree programme by 30 November

2017. If, in the course of study, courses which were originally required in the degree programme are no longer offered, the competent body specified in the organisational regulations of the University of Vienna must decide *ex officio* or at the request of the doctoral candidate which courses and examinations have to be completed and recognised instead by issuing an official notice.

- (4) The amendments of the curriculum as stated in the University Gazette of 25 June 2012, number 253, edition 36 entered into force as of 1 October 2012.