

Supplementary regulations for the PhD degree in International Management at University of Agder

Adopted by the Board of University of Agder on 22 February 2006. Modified according to the S-sak 137/09.

The numbered sections refer to the corresponding sections in the *Regulations for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) at University of Agder*.

2. – Admission

2.1. Applicants' formal qualifications

(Refer to section 2.1 of the Regulations - Applicants' formal qualifications.)

2.1.1. Education

Applicants for the PhD programme must hold a higher degree (Master's degree or equivalent qualifications) in a relevant subject area from a Norwegian or foreign university or college. The degree must comprise a minimum of 90 credits in economics and business administration.

If the Faculty is of the opinion that the applicant lacks the required knowledge within the relevant subject area, additional qualifications may be required beyond the obligatory PhD programme.

Applications for admission shall be decided by the Faculty Board on the recommendation of the programme committee for the PhD programme.

2.1.2. Level

Generally, an applicant should not be considered for admission to the PhD programme if he/she has an average mark for economics and business administration modules (refer to section 2.1.1) lower than B, a mark for graduate modules lower than B, or a mark for his/her Master's degree thesis or equivalent lower than B. Guidelines for the consideration of applications from applicants with numerical marks or a mixture of numerical marks and letter marks shall be laid down by the Faculty.

2.2. Plan for the doctoral degree programme

(Refer to sections 2.2, Plan for the PhD programme, and 2.4, Admission procedure, of the Regulations.)

Applications for admission shall be written on a special form and shall include a plan for the programme in accordance with University of Agder's PhD regulations, and a 4-6 page description of the research project as a preliminary proposal for a dissertation.

The preliminary proposal shall include a description of the applicant's research interest and indicate the subject area of the dissertation. The preliminary project description will provide a basis for the programme committee's opinion as to the applicant's abilities to complete the programme, and also the Faculty's competence and capacity to provide the training and supervision required.

3. Agreement

(Refer to section 3 of the regulations – Agreement)

The agreement shall be signed by the PhD student, the supervisor(s) and the Dean. The agreement shall indicate that the project description and the appointment of supervisor is

preliminary, and that a final agreement concerning the dissertation, including final appointment of supervisor(s), will be based on the final proposal for the dissertation, cf section 4.3 herein. Substantial changes to the matters covered by the agreement are subject to approval by the programme committee.

4. – PhD programme

4.1. Normal duration

The PhD programme shall be organised so that it can be completed within a three-year period of full-time study. The programme consists of two main parts:

- training component (60 credits)
- dissertation (120 credits)

Normally students will first complete the training component and then present a final proposal for a dissertation (refer to section 4.3).

PhD students will be expected to participate in various types of research dissemination activities during the programme period, for instance national and international research conferences, research papers, newspaper articles, etc.

4.2. The training component

The training component comprises 60 credits.

All PhD candidates shall complete a number of common modules totalling 30 credits. In addition, candidates shall take 20 credits of methodology modules. The remaining 10 credits are specialisation modules. These modules are to be chosen in co-operation with the supervisor. A maximum of 5 credits of the specialisation modules may be based on reading courses (directed reading/reading and conference). These courses must be documented through a presentation at a research seminar at the Faculty and by publication of articles in University of Agder's memorandum series.

Each candidate's individual training component is subject to approval by the programme committee. On the basis of an application, the programme committee may allow a candidate to replace modules offered by University of Agder by relevant modules from other institutions.

Candidates shall submit, at the end of the first year of the programme, a list of modules taken, and a plan for the completion of the training component.

4.3. Supervision

It is a main objective of the organised research education programme to lead candidates to a concrete, thoroughly prepared plan for a research project.

Students shall prepare a 30-50 page proposal for a dissertation. The central research issues and/or hypotheses shall be mentioned in the proposal as well as the main theories, related research and suggestions for the choice of methodology. The proposal for the dissertation must be accepted and recommended by the supervision committee and formally approved by the programme committee.

Following approval of the final dissertation proposal by the programme committee, a final agreement will be made, refer to section 3.

In the event of a wish or need to make changes during the work on the dissertation, such changes are subject to approval by the programme committee. In case of substantial changes, the supervisor may have to be replaced. Such changes are subject to the approval of the programme committee. The principal supervisor and the programme committee are responsible for the follow-up of the PhD students. Individual conference hours, etc are to be agreed. The student and the principal supervisor shall prepare a progress report every year.

The PhD programme is a supervised research education programme. Consequently, the PhD student is expected to be present at the University of Agder during the course of the programme unless otherwise agreed. Details of the residency requirement shall be provided in the agreement, and it is the responsibility for the supervisors to ensure compliance with this requirement.

5. – Dissertation

The dissertation must have a clear theme, and may consist of either a monograph or a collection of articles which meet the requirements for publication in international journals with referees or have already been published in such journals.

7. – Submission

The PhD student must submit an application to the Faculty via the programme committee to have his/her dissertation evaluated. The application should be accompanied by 5 copies of the dissertation. If the dissertation is found to be worthy of defence, another 40 copies of the dissertation must be submitted.

8. – Appointment of evaluation committee

The Faculty shall appoint an evaluation committee, including opponents, on the basis of proposals from the programme committee. At least two members shall be unaffiliated with University of Agder.

9. – The committee's report and further procedure

The report from the evaluation committee shall be considered by the Faculty Board on the basis of recommendations from the programme committee.

10. – Trial lecture(s) and disputation

The trial lecture is to be held in connection with the disputation.