



Implementation Provisions for the Doctoral Regulations of the University of Hohenheim for the Faculties of Agricultural Sciences, Natural Sciences and Business, Economics and Social Sciences from 15 January 2019

Decision of the Doctoral Committee from 15 April 2019, last amended by a decision on 13 January 2025

On the basis of § 4 (11) of the Doctoral Degree Regulations of the University of Hohenheim for the Faculties of Agricultural, Natural as well as Business, Economics and Social Sciences of 15 January 2019, the Doctoral Committee of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences has adopted the following implementation provisions:

On § 4 “Doctoral Committee”:

The Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences has formed a joint Doctoral Committee for the two doctoral degrees “Dr. oec.” and “Dr. rer. soc.”.

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences generally meets three times per semester.

During the annual summer break, no decisions are regularly made on doctoral matters. The relevant period will be communicated in a timely manner.

On § 6 “Mentor Group”:

The Doctoral Degree Regulations of 15 January 2019 stipulate the appointment of a mentor group for every doctoral candidate.

For doctoral candidates of the Faculty who have already been accepted before these new doctoral regulations come into force, there will be a one-year period from 1 February 2019 during which they can apply to remain in their previous doctoral regulations.

In order to support these doctoral candidates in their decision to transfer to the new joint doctoral regulations, the Doctoral Committee will waive the appointment of a mentor if the dissertation is expected to be completed before 31 August 2021. This must be documented by an updated timetable signed by the doctoral candidate and their supervisor. The timetable is filed in the doctoral file.

On § 14 “Application for Acceptance as a Doctoral Candidate”

Within the scope of applications for acceptance as a doctoral candidate and for the admission in the doctoral programme, the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences requests proof of qualified project planning in the form of an exposé.

The exposé should have a length of three to five pages (including time line, excluding sources). A detailed outline of the planned dissertation does not replace the exposé.

The following points regarding the planned research project should be addressed in the exposé:

- Title of the project
- Who works on the project and who supervises it?
- What is the motivation behind the research work? What is the research question of the project? What are the objectives of the research project?
- What is the state of research in this field (depending on the respective discipline: theoretical foundations and/or current state of research and/or approach)?
- Which desideratum exists in this research field?
- Which kind of preliminary work exists (if applicable)?
- Which research question(s) is/are addressed within the scope of the doctoral project?
- Which methodology will be employed?
- For cumulative projects: What is the connection between the planned individual projects?
- Which time frame is envisaged for the research project and which individual steps are planned (presentation, for example, quarterly/monthly)?

The scope of the answers to those questions as well as the emphasis laid on the individual aspects depend on numerous factors. Close and early coordination with the supervisor is strongly recommended.

The exposé serves as the basis of the doctoral project and complements the formal supervision agreement. Therefore, it has to be signed by both the doctoral candidate and the supervisor. Adjustments and further developments to the exposé over time have to be documented and filed in the dissertation records.

On § 16 “Maximum Duration of Doctorate”

For doctoral projects that have started before the entry into force of the joint Doctoral Regulations the previous processing time is considered (see under the Doctoral Regulations from 28 November 2013 and from 13 February 2015 § 5 Art. 4 respectively).

On § 17 (6) “Dissertation”

For the declaration of one's own contribution to a cumulative dissertation with co-authors the web form of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences for generating declarations of co-authorship has to be used.

This is a courtesy translation. Only the German version is legally binding. If there are any differences in the wording, interpretation, or meaning of the German and English versions, the German version shall prevail.

On § 17 (7) No. 3 “Dissertation”

An overview of the articles included in a cumulative dissertation must be submitted with the application to initiate the Doctoral Examination Process. This must contain the following information for each article, in the order of the chapters: Title, chapter no., publication status with journal and number of authors. A template for such an article overview is provided by the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

The lead in a work of collective authorship has to be confirmed in writing by all participating authors, with a proven work share of the candidate of at least 80%. For this purpose, the web form of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences for generating declarations of co-authorship has to be used. Only one person can have the lead for one article.

On § 18 (3) “Application to Initiate the Doctoral Examination Process”

Since the entry into force of the joint Doctoral Regulations, the provisions for the documents submitted for the application to initiate the process apply for all doctoral examination processes of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences. This applies in particular to

- The number and quality of the dissertation to be submitted
- The declarations to be submitted concerning the conformity of the electronic version, the autonomous writing of the dissertation (“declaration in lieu of an oath”) and the explanation of its meaning
- The declaration stating adherence to the Guidelines for Ensuring Scientific Integrity and Good Scientific Practices at the University of Hohenheim
- The declaration of consent for the dissertation to be checked for adherence to general scientific standards using electronic data processing programs

The obligation to submit a current certificate of good conduct is no longer applicable.

On § 19 (3) “Review of the Dissertation”

The reviews of a cumulative dissertation must, in addition to assessing the content of the individual studies as a whole and through the quantification of the share (see co-authors' declarations), in particular show the scientific contributions of the doctoral candidate.

If, in the case of a cumulative dissertation, the doctoral candidate's share of one or more articles is less than 30% in each case, the first review must also contain a statement with a detailed assessment of the particular quality of the doctoral candidate's contributions to the individual article(s) and the overall doctoral performance.

On § 19 (5) “Review of the Dissertation”

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences does not demand a third reviewer if two reviewers evaluate the dissertation with “0 = outstanding”.