

Doctoral Plan D-GESS

Dear Doctoral Student

The purpose of this document is to help you to write your Doctoral Plan, which you have to compile in advance of the Aptitude Colloquium.

The integrated Research Proposal will be the basis for your Aptitude Colloquium, which you need to pass in order to advance to definitive admission as a doctoral student.

Please note that the Doctoral Plan has not the character of a legally binding agreement but is rather a declaration of intent between you and your supervisor and should be conceived as a living instrument. Changes are possible and in many cases certainly necessary. Major changes should be documented in the annual progress report and discussed during status conversations.

The outline presented here is structured to meet the requirements of the Doctoral Ordinance (Art. 11) and the Rector's Implementation Provisions for the Ordinance on Doctorate (Item 3) as well as the detailed provisions of D-GESS.

Basic Information

Student number	Department	D-GESS
Name Doctoral Student	Doctoral programm (if applicable)	
Name Supervisor	Start of Doctorate	
Name Second advisor	Funding	
Internal/external thesis	Monograph/paper- based thesis	

Tentative title of the doctoral thesis

Part 1 Research Proposal

(please add extra pages here; use the following structure to describe your research work)

1. Abstract

Add an Executive Summary of 1 page: Present the background of your research project, list its main goals, describe the methods to be used and the expected results as well as their impact for the field and beyond.

2. Introduction and Current State of Research in the Field

Describe your project in the context of the current state of knowledge in your field. Refer to the most important publications.

Describe briefly:

- *Which previous insights provided the starting point and basis for your project*
- *In which areas research is needed, and why*

3. Goals of the Thesis

Describe the research questions you address in your research project and the concrete objectives that you aim to achieve in the period of your doctorate.

Illustrate the expected impacts of your project: how will your proposed research add to existing knowledge in the field? How and where might your results be used? How do you intend to disseminate your research?

4. Progress to Date (optional/ if available)

Present the research work you have already undertaken in the relevant field, describe the results obtained so far (including publications) as well as the relevance of these preliminary undertakings for your project. Also, describe your "negative results": if something went wrong, what could you learn from this?

5. Detailed Work Plan

Describe the studies or experiments envisaged to reach the set goals. Present your work plan in the form of work packages (WP), each defining the task and describing the methods used and the expected outcome. In general, a work package should describe 3 - 12 months of work. Assess the risks involved for each work package: if the planned research does not work, which other parts of your plan are affected, what other objectives could you follow?

WP 1: ...

WP 2: ...

6. Schedule (potentially as a visualization)

Indicate the tentative timeframe for each work package and mark possible milestones. Your time schedule should be based on the average time of 4 years of doctorate.

7. References

List the sources of all work referred to in the research proposal. Give the full reference, especially the title, source and full author list (use a style commonly adopted in the field of your research).

8. Authorship

In case of a paper-based thesis a chapter on co-authorship is included: Co-authors planned for the individual papers are named. The candidate further describes his/her respective own contribution regarding idea, design of experiments / surveys / simulations, data collection and analysis and writing of the papers.

9. Curriculum Vitae

Please add a brief current CV.

Part 2 Teaching Responsibilities

Describe which teaching tasks you are assigned to and indicate (roughly) how many hours you devote to such activities each week. Teaching tasks are, e.g. assisting in lectures, practical classes, exercise classes and excursions, correcting students' reports, supervising undergraduates in semester projects, summers schools, marking /overseeing exams.

Part 3 Further Tasks

If relevant, describe which additional tasks you are assigned to (e.g., operation or maintenance of equipment). Indicate (roughly) how many hours you devote to such activities each week.

Part 4 Doctoral Studies

Please give a tentative overview of courses and events / soft skills you are planning to complete / achieve based on consultation with your Supervisor and Second Advisor:

Are you obliged to complete extended doctoral studies?

If so, what is the scope of your extended doctoral studies (X ECTS, courses, essay)?

Date Signature Doctoral Student Signature Doctoral Supervisor Signature Second Advisor