



Special Additional Regulations¹ of the Department of History and Social Sciences to the General Doctoral Regulations of Technical University of Darmstadt, dated 05 May 2011 in the version of the Department from 26 January 2023

dated 05 May 2011, with amendments dated 14 July 2011, 21 June 2018, 06 June 2019, 21 February 2022

Re §1 The doctorate

1. The Department of History and Social Sciences awards the academic degree *Doctor philosophiae* (Dr.phil.) and the degree *Doctor rerum politicarum* (Dr.rer.pol.).
2. A doctorate in the fields of philosophy, sociology, political science, history, linguistics and literary studies is possible.
3. If the dissertation (doctoral thesis) as to content is devoted to the field of political science or sociology managed by the Department of History and Social Sciences, the title *Doctor rerum politicarum* (Dr.rer.pol.) can be awarded.
4. Upon request of the doctoral candidate, the Doctoral Board decides which academic degree will be awarded.

Re §4(1)c Examination Board

If the doctoral candidate wishes to be awarded the degree Dr.rer.pol., one of the other professors must be a member of Department 1.

Re §7(3) Acceptance as a doctoral candidate

The highest academic degree achieved prior to the application for acceptance in the field of the intended doctorate should be graded as “good” as a minimum requirement.

Re §7a Aptitude assessment procedure

The applicants participate successfully in at least two seminars or research seminars. In addition, the applicants have to hand in a written presentation of about 20 pages on the topic of their dissertation, the methods used, their research design, the literature available and the main theses of their dissertation to their supervisor. The supervisor writes an opinion regarding the aptitude of the respective applicant. The Doctoral Board decides on the respective applicant’s admission based on the documents mentioned above.

¹ Die englische Übersetzung dient nur zu Informationszwecken. Rechtlich verbindlich ist der deutsche Text.

The English translation is for information purposes only. The legally binding document is the German version.



Re §9 The dissertation

The dissertation is submitted to the Departmental Office on paper (one copy for each member of the Examination Board plus one copy for the department) and in electronic form.

(4) Should the subject of the doctorate be devoted to the field of political science, a cumulative dissertation is permissible. In addition to the requirements stated in the General Doctoral Regulations, the following minimum requirements apply:

1. The synopsis must present the scientific framework and classify the individual parts of the dissertation systematically within their context.
2. At least three publications in peer-reviewed academic (scientific) publications must be documented, of which at least two are peer-reviewed academic (scientific) journals and at most one a peer-reviewed academic (scientific) omnibus volume. For all three publications, a *letter of acceptance* from the publisher is a minimum requirement.
3. At least two of the three publications must have been composed in sole authorship. Should the publication have been composed jointly with the academic supervisor, an additional external examiner (assessor) must be appointed.

Should the subject of the doctorate be devoted to the field of sociology, a cumulative dissertation is permissible. In addition to the requirements stated in the General Doctoral Regulations, the following minimum requirements apply:

1. Cumulative dissertations must be equivalent to a monograph-style dissertation text regarding effort and demands in terms of scope of research and original contribution to scientific debate.
2. At least four publications must be presented that have been published or have been accepted for publication. For all four publications, a *letter of acceptance* from the publisher is a minimum requirement.
 - a. All publications must be substantive technical essays (not just research notes, interviews, comments or similar) that have been academically (scientifically) peer-reviewed by external parties prior to their acceptance for publication.
 - b. At least two of these publications must be published or accepted for publication in social science journals relying on an anonymous peer-review procedure (*double-blind peer review*).
 - c. At least three of these publications must have been solely authored by the doctoral candidate.
 - d. One publication may be co-authored with an examiner of the dissertation. In this case, an external third examiner must be appointed to assist the doctoral examination procedure. This examiner must have no conflict of interest with the co-authoring



examiner as defined by the guidelines of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; German Research Foundation).

3. The synopsis should consist of at least 10,000 words. Its purpose is to classify the (2) submitted single publications in an overall thematic context and to indicate insights gained, theoretical references and the contribution of the dissertation text to the state of the research.

Should the subject of the doctorate be devoted to the field of linguistics and literary studies, a cumulative dissertation is permissible. In addition to the requirements stated in the General Doctoral Regulations, the following minimum requirements apply:

1. The synopsis should present the scientific frame of reference of the dissertation with a minimum length of 10000 words and systematically classify the individual components into the frame of reference of the dissertation, taking into account the theoretical foundations, the methodological approach and the knowledge gained with regard to the state of research.
2. At least three substantial articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals must be available. For all three publications, any requirements from the peer review must be fulfilled. An acceptance letter from the editor must be provided.
3. The candidate must be the main author of all three publications. At least two of the three publications must have been written in sole authorship. If one of the publications has been co-authored with the supervisor, an external additional referee must be appointed who is not biased towards the co-authoring referee in terms of DFG guidelines.

Re §10 (1) Supervision of the dissertation

With the application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate, the doctoral candidate, together with the first supervisor, proposes a doctoral supervisor who, in addition to the first supervisor, can advise the doctoral candidate on questions concerning the doctoral process. The doctoral supervisor should belong to the group of scientists who comply with the regulations in §11 of the General Doctoral Regulations of the TU Darmstadt.

Re §13 Decision on the acceptance of the dissertation

(1) The decision of the Doctoral Board on appointing additional examiners or requesting additional examiners or requesting additional evaluations must be done within 14 days following their display deadline. The additional evaluations must be available to the Examination Board within 12 weeks following the request.

(2) The date and time for the oral examination is determined in agreement with the doctoral candidate and the members of the Examination Board.



Re §16 The dissertation defence process

(5) If an examiner is prevented from appearing in person, the Special Additional Regulations allow them to participate in the dissertation defence via electronic video and audio transmission with the consent of the Doctoral Board, all members of the Examination Board and the doctoral candidate.

Re §26 Transition and concluding provisions

The Special Additional Regulations come into force the day after their publication in the Satzungsbeilage (appendix to the statutes) of TU Darmstadt.

With the coming into force of these Special Additional Regulations, the previous Special Additional Regulations, dated 09 February 1983, cease to be in force.

The Chairperson of the Department of History and Social Sciences