

The English version of the curriculum for the „Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy“ is not legally binding and is for informational purposes only. The legal basis is regulated in the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 10 March 2009, issue 33, No. 170.

Decision of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Humanities 1 on 02.02.2009, approved by Senate Decree on 05.03.2009:

On the basis of § 25 para. 1 no. 10 University Organisation Act 2002, BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 134/2008 and § 32 Section "Regulations of Study Law", republished in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 7 May 2008, Issue 42, No. 272, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for the Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy at the Faculty of Humanities 1 of the University of Innsbruck

§ 1 Qualification Profile

- (1) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy belongs to the group of studies in the humanities and cultural studies.
- (2) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy serves to educate and train philosophers for research and teaching positions at universities and associated institutions as well as highly qualified junior professionals for other higher occupational positions.
- (3) The central educational objectives of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy include systematic understanding of the research discipline and grasp of the pertinent methods. Through their submission of an original piece of scientific work, graduates of this programme are required to make their own contribution to research which widens boundaries of knowledge and conforms to the evaluation standards of international experts. In the process, they develop scientific questions and independently subject them to critical analysis. This requires the competence to independently design and carry out significant research projects with scientific integrity.
- (4) As qualified junior scientists, graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy are able to organize scientific forums, discuss findings from their special areas with colleagues, students as well as experts and present and explain these findings to an academic as well as a non-academic audience. The quality and international orientation of the programme promote the graduates' mobility and direct their perception beyond the boundaries of their special field. The key qualifications acquired should put them in a position to adapt their expertise to fast-changing requirements without uncritically subordinating themselves to short-lived trends.
- (5) Doctoral or research projects can develop into programmes which are subsidized by an acknowledged national or international research funding institution and whose project leader is the main supervisor.

§ 2 Length and scope

The Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy takes three years (six semesters), which equals 180 ECTS credits.

§ 3 Admission

- (1) Valid proof of the necessary academic level for admission to the doctoral programme must be provided. This includes proof of completion of relevant diploma or master programmes, of completion of relevant diploma or Magister programmes at a university of applied science or completion of other equivalent studies at an accredited Austrian or non-Austrian post-secondary educational institution. If equivalency is given in principle, and only a few elements are missing for full equivalency, the rector's office is entitled to combine the determination of equivalency with the obligation to pass certain examinations in the course of the doctoral programme.
- (2) Relevant studies as referred to in (1) are in any case
 1. the Master Programme Philosophy and Comparative Theology of the Faculty of Humanities 1 at the University of Innsbruck
 2. the Master Programme Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the University of Innsbruck
 3. the Magister Programme in Philosophy at the Faculty of Humanities 1 of the University of Innsbruck
 4. the Diploma Programme Philosophy at the Faculty of Humanities 1 of the University of Innsbruck
 5. the Diploma Programme Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the University of Innsbruck
 6. the Advanced Teacher Training Programme with Diploma Thesis for the School Subjects Psychology and Philosophy at the University of Innsbruck
 7. the Academic Teacher Training Programme for the School Subjects of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology at the University of Innsbruck.

§ 4 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course

- (1) **Lectures (VO)** are courses where lecturers present certain areas of a discipline (no maximum number of participants).
- (2) Courses with continuous performance assessment:
 1. **Seminars (SE)** are courses which serve to broaden the students' subject-specific knowledge and focus on the professional discussion and presentation of topics and hypotheses. They require independent and methodically reflected work on the respective question. The maximum number of participants is 20.
 2. **Conversation classes (KO)** are courses which aim at the discursive study of schools of thought, research approaches, theories, or research topics. The maximum number of participants is 20.

§ 5 Procedure for the allotment of places in courses with a limited number of participants

Students whose study time will be prolonged if they are not admitted are to be given priority.

§ 6 Mandatory and elective modules

(1) The following modules – equal to 36 ECTS credits – are mandatory:

1	Mandatory Module: Reflection on Methods	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a.	VO Reflection on Methods Presentation and discussion of research methods employed in the humanities, including a comparison with methods of other scientific disciplines by means of analyzing different positions in the theory of science and case studies.	2	2
	Total	2	2
	Learning objectives of the module: Students are able to reflect on research methods, compare them with each other and with the methods of other sciences, and assess the advantages and disadvantages of different methodologies. Strengthening methodological awareness and method competence in relation to the dissertation; creating the methodological basis for interdisciplinary research; specialized knowledge of different positions in the theory of science.		
	Admission requirements: none		

2	Mandatory Module: Generic Skills	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Courses, as defined in the dissertation agreement, equal to 10 ECTS credits have to be completed. One course has to be chosen from the field of "Equality and Gender". Additionally, courses are offered which develop didactic skills and competences for subsequent knowledge transfer, improve the student's occupational qualifications, and are subject-relevant for the research question of and reflection on the dissertation. Suitable courses are marked as such in the course catalog.	-	10
	Total	-	10
	Learning objectives of the module: After successful completion of this module, students command advanced theoretical and practical knowledge, skills and competences in selected disciplines, as well as methods and general skills which empower them to pursue independent scientific work and help them succeed in their future careers.		
	Admission requirements: none		

3	Mandatory Module: Interdisciplinary Forum for PhD Candidates	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	KO Interdisciplinary Forum for Doctoral Students Students present their dissertations and open them up to discussion in a faculty-wide conversation class.	2	4
	Total	2	4

	Learning objectives of the module: Students are capable of presenting research projects and results and are acquainted with interdisciplinary questions.
	Admission requirements: none

4	Mandatory Module: Reflection on Research	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	In the first year of the doctoral programme, a comprehensive description of the planned dissertation has to be compiled. This includes the central question, methods, objectives, literature, and time schedule of the project.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning objectives of the module: Competence in planning research projects including a written presentation; reflected knowledge and a prospectus of the dissertation.		
	Admission requirements: none		

5	Mandatory Module: The Humanities and Society	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	VO The Humanities and Society Relationship between the humanities and society and how they influence each other; role, importance and practical application of knowledge in the humanities in different areas of society (politics, culture, media, everyday life, etc.); society's expectations of the humanities.	2	2
	Total	2	2
	Learning objectives of the module: Knowledge of the position of the humanities in society; ability to contribute to the positive development of society and to critically question its different manifestations.		
	Admission requirements: none		

6	Mandatory Module: Seminars for PhD Candidates in Philosophy	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a	SE Doctoral Seminar I	2	4
a	SE Doctoral Seminar II	2	4
	Total	4	8
	Learning objectives of the module: Students have the competence to position their dissertation in relation to other philosophical dissertations, to present interim research results as well as further research objectives to other doctoral students in a clearly understandable way, and to reflect on them in discussions.		
	Admission requirements: positive completion of mandatory module 4 (Research Reflection)		

7	Mandatory Module: Doctoral Thesis Defense	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Final oral dissertation defense before an examination board.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning objectives of the module: Presentation, reflection and analysis of the dissertation results in the overall context of the doctoral programme; the focus is on summarizing and explaining results of the research project, on presenting the increase in knowledge for the discipline and their relevance for society, on demonstrating evaluation and method competence, as well as on presenting the results.		
	Admission requirements: positive completion of all other modules and positive evaluation of the dissertation		

(2) One of elective modules 1 and 2 as well as one of elective modules 3 and 4 has to be completed (in total equal to 24 ECTS credits). If the dissertation topic belongs to the field of theoretical philosophy, elective module 1 has to be chosen; if it belongs to the field of practical philosophy, elective module 2 has to be chosen.

1	Elective Module: Current Questions of Theoretical Philosophy	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Theoretical Philosophy I	2	4
b	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Theoretical Philosophy II	2	4
c	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Theoretical Philosophy III	2	4
	Total	6	12
	Learning objectives of the module: After successful completion of the module, students are familiar with the current state of research in selected areas of theoretical philosophy and are able to evaluate it critically, to integrate it into their own research, and to produce independent contributions to the current state of research.		
	Admission requirements: none		

2	Elective module: Current Questions of Practical Philosophy	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Practical Philosophy I	2	4
b	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Practical Philosophy II	2	4
c	SE Seminar on Current Questions of Practical Philosophy III	2	4
	Total	6	12
	Learning objectives of the module: After successful completion of this module, students are acquainted with the current state of research in the selected areas of practical philosophy, are able to evaluate it critically, to integrate it into their own research, and to produce independent contributions to the current state of research.		
	Admission requirements: none		

3	Elective Module: Active Participation in Philosophical Discourse	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Presentation of the student's research results in the form of guest lectures and/or at conferences and/or at workshops and/or in competitions and/or through journal articles.		12
	Total		12
	Learning objectives of the module: After completion of this module, students are able to present research results in national or international forums, to analyze and critically assess their own research performance and that of others, and to recognize the strengths and weaknesses of their own research. Students acquire didactic skills which enable them to clearly present their research results to both laypeople and experts and to explain complicated correlations in a clearly understandable manner.		
	Admission requirements: none		

4	Elective Module: Philosophical Research and Teaching	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Empirical field research and/or projects and/or research stays at a university institution and/or teaching at a university institution.		12
	Total		12
	Learning objectives of the module: Acquiring the skills required for planning, organizing and successfully carrying out philosophical research and/or teaching assignments.		
	Admission requirements: none		

§ 7 Dissertation

- (1) In the course of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy, a dissertation has to be written, which equals 120 ECTS credits. The dissertation is a piece of scientific work which – in contrast to a diploma or master thesis – serves to prove the student's ability to cope with scientific questions in an independent way.
- (2) The dissertation topic has to be chosen from the field of philosophy. In addition, interdisciplinary topics are possible.
- (3) The student has to propose a team of supervisors, consisting of at least two people (dissertation committee), and to nominate one of them as the supervisor mainly responsible. It is permissible to propose supervisors (with the exception of the main supervisor) from subject-related fields. In justifiable exceptional cases it is possible for students to propose only one supervisor.
- (4) Prior to beginning the work, the student has to communicate the dissertation topic and the names of the supervisors in writing to the Director of Studies. Topic and supervisors are considered as accepted, if the Director of Studies does not veto them by means of a decree within one month after the receipt of the proposal.

§ 8 Examination regulations

- (1) The evaluation of the following modules is based on course examinations: "Reflection on Methods", "The Humanities and Society", "Generic Skills", " Interdisciplinary Forum for PhD Candidates", " Seminars for PhD Candidates in Philosophy", "Current Questions of Theoretical Philosophy", and "Current Questions of Practical Philosophy".
1. Course examinations of lectures consist of a single examination at the end of the course. The lecturer is required to communicate the examination modus (oral and/or written) before the course starts.
 2. The evaluation of courses with continuous performance assessment is based on the student's regular, written and/or verbal contributions. The lecturer is required to communicate evaluation methods and criteria before the course starts.
- (2) The main supervisor evaluates the following modules on the basis of a performance report written by the student: "Reflection on Research", "Active Participation in Philosophical Discourse", and "Philosophical Research and Teaching". A positive grade has to read "participated with success"; a negative grade has to read "participated without success".
- (3) The evaluation of Module 5 " Doctoral Thesis Defense" is based on an oral exam taken before an examination board consisting of three examiners.

§ 9 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Philosophy are awarded the academic degree of "Doctor of Philosophy" or "PhD", in brief.

§ 10 Implementation

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2009.

For the Curriculum Committee:
Dr. Dietrich Feil

For the Senate:
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal