

The English version of the curriculum for the „Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science“ 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 18 March 2009, issue 44, No. 202.

Decision of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Psychology and Sport Science on 29.01.2009, 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 Sport Science** at the Faculty of Psychology and Sport Science of the University of Innsbruck

§ 1 Qualification profile

- (1) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science belongs to the group of studies in the natural sciences.
- (2) Graduates have a systematic understanding of their research discipline and the methods employed by research in this field. Through their submission of an original piece of scientific work, graduates of this programme have made their own contribution to research which widens boundaries of knowledge and conforms to the evaluation standards of national and international experts. The quality and international orientation of the programme promotes the graduates' mobility and directs their perception beyond the boundaries of their special field. The key qualifications acquired empower the graduates to adapt their expertise to fast-changing requirements.
- (3) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science at the University of Innsbruck serves to educate and train junior scientists in the field of sport science. Graduates of this doctoral programme are able to work on and present subject-related issues of sport science independently and on a high subject-specific and methodical level. In addition to excellent subject and method competences, students acquire general scientific and communicative competences required by successful professional scientists in an academic, business or public environment. In particular, this includes the following fields of knowledge and skills:

1 Knowledge and understanding:

- excellent knowledge in the relevant disciplines of sport science, especially in the core areas of sport science
- detailed knowledge of those scientific disciplines that are relevant for the successful elaboration of the dissertation topic, especially the core areas of sport science, related relevant sciences, as well as the current literature relevant for the dissertation project.

2. Practical skills:

- skills to plan, practically carry out, and interpret scientific projects in sport science for the purpose of elaborating the dissertation topic and deepening as well as broadening the student's practical experience in project management
- differentiated skills for researching and critically interpreting scientific literature and other information, including the use of data bases relevant in the field

3. Communicative skills:

- skill to present scientific results independently; competence to critically discuss and analyze one's own scientific results and those of others, as well as concepts and projects with colleagues, laypeople and a scientifically competent audience

4. Competences for the profession as a scientist:

- understanding the career profile of an independent scientist in academic, business and public environments
- knowledge of statistics for the collection and analysis of scientific data
- competence to write scientific publications
- competence to compile an application for research funding and knowledge of the pertinent national and international research funding organizations
- understanding ethically relevant issues (e.g. methods of data collection, plagiarism, co-authorship) in scientific practice and knowledge of the pertinent basic standards and problem solutions.

§ 2 Length and scope

The Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science 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 equivalency with the obligation to pass certain examinations during the course of the doctoral programme.
- (2) Relevant studies are in any case
 1. the Master Programme in Sport Science completed at the University of Innsbruck,
 2. the Academic Teacher Training Programme in the School Subject Physical Education completed at the University of Innsbruck.

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

Courses with continuous performance assessment:

1. **Seminars (SE)** focus on advanced scientific discussion of and critical reflection on issues in sport science; they promote scientific cooperation and utilize synergies. Participants are required to work independently and scientifically; they are required to write and present a paper or complete similar assignments. Maximum number of participants: 10
2. In **conversation classes (KO)** students plan and report on their research progress and – in intensive scientific discussion with their supervisors – reflect on critical areas and specific questions they have encountered. Maximum number of participants: 5

§ 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 modules

The following modules – equal to 60 ECTS credits – are mandatory:

1	Mandatory Module: Reflexion of Philosophy (Project Planning)	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	KO Planning the Dissertation Project I Creating the concept of the dissertation project, expanding and deepening the pertinent knowledge in the field, analysis and critical reflection, acquaintance with subject-specific research methods and evaluating them critically, learning about relevant related scientific disciplines	4	10
	Total	4	10
	Learning objectives of the module: After the completion of this module, students are qualified to create a concept of the dissertation project and possess advanced subject-specific knowledge, especially in the subject area of the dissertation. They are able to work on the latest scientific findings relevant for their dissertation topic and can analyze subject-specific research methods critically. They have sufficient knowledge in related scientific disciplines.		
	Admission requirements: none		

2	Mandatory Module: Interdisciplinary Research Workshop I	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a	KO Planning the Dissertation Project II Creating the prospectus of the dissertation, analyzing and focusing on the research question, analyzing research methods, creating a time schedule	2	5
b	SE Presentation of the Dissertation Project Presentation of the dissertation project and interdisciplinary discussion	2	5
	Total	4	10
	Learning objectives of the module: After the completion of this module, students have the necessary in-depth knowledge in sport science to work on the dissertations topic. They are qualified to create a prospectus of the dissertation which includes the theoretical background and methodical concepts.		
	Admission requirements: none		

3	Mandatory Module: Interdisciplinary Research Workshop II	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
a	KO Discussion of Results Work on the dissertation project, data collection, data analysis, positioning the results in the current body of knowledge	2	5
b	SE Discussion of Results Presentation of results and interdisciplinary discussion	2	5
	Total	4	10
<p>Learning objectives of the module: After completion of this module, students are able to evaluate the latest research results critically and to discuss and reflect on them with experts. They are sufficiently qualified to position and present their research results.</p>			
Admission requirements: positive completion of Modules 1 and 2			

4	Mandatory Module: Presentation of own Research Results	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Active participation in international scientific discourse by participating in conferences, projects, and competitions.	-	15
	Total	-	15
<p>Learning objectives of the module: Students present research results at national and international forums; basic competences in research management and in applying for research funding are generated; students can present and critically evaluate results according to quality standards; they are able to analyze and critically evaluate their own research results and those of others; creation of a culture that is committed to research ethics and rejects plagiarism; students are aware of their own subject-related strengths and weaknesses.</p>			
Admission requirements: positive completion of Modules 1, 2, and 3			

5	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 the subsequent knowledge transfer of the field. Suitable options are marked in the course catalog.	-	10
	Total	-	10
<p>Learning objectives of the module: After the 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.</p>			
Admission requirements: none			

6	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 on, 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, on demonstrating evaluation and method competences, as well as on presenting the results.		
	Admission requirements: positive completion of all other modules and positive evaluation of the dissertation		

§ 7 Dissertation

- (1) In the course of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science, 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 core area of sport science or show a close subject-specific relation to sport science.
- (3) The dissertation can also be a collection of articles that are related in terms of subject matter or methods. In this case, the dissertation must consist of a minimum of three articles. The articles must have been accepted for publication by acknowledged scientific journals – at least one of which must be listed in "Journal Citation Reports Science Edition – Impact Factors". Additionally, the student has to write an extensive summary of the subject area, the methods employed, and the results he/she has obtained; in doing so, the student must refer to the finished, already published manuscripts included in the dissertation. Furthermore, the scientific work must be summarized and reflected on in relation to the current state of research in the area of the dissertation topic. Moreover, a preview has to be given of the future scientific and methodical development of the elaborated topic.
- (4) If the articles were written by several authors, the student's own contribution must be shown clearly and added to the dissertation.
- (5) 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.
- (6) Prior to beginning the work, the student has to communicate the dissertation topic and 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 Modules 1, 2, 3, and 5 is based on course examinations.
- (2) The evaluation of courses with continuous performance assessment is based on the student's regular, written and/or oral contributions. The lecturer is required to communicate evaluation criteria before the course starts.
- (3) Module 4 is evaluated by the main supervisor on the basis of a performance report written by the student.
- (4) The evaluation of Mandatory Module 6 " Doctoral Thesis Defense" is based on an oral exam taken before an examination board consisting of at least three examiners.

§ 9 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Sport Science 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:
Ass.-Prof. Dr. Barbara Hotter

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