

**Note:**

The following curriculum is a consolidated version. It is legally non-binding and for informational purposes only.

The legally binding versions are found in the University of Innsbruck Bulletins (in German).

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**Complete Version from 1 October 2021**  
Curriculum for the  
**Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture**  
at the Faculty for Architecture at the University of Innsbruck

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The Faculty of Architecture cultivates an open and forward-looking research culture and promotes various innovative research fields and methods within the discipline of architecture with its "Doctor of Philosophy" Programme Architecture. In addition to the established formats, this also includes approaches that aim at developing creative and artistic processes or architectural practice, such as design-oriented research (Research by Design), practice-based research or arts-based research. Future-oriented research also includes gender-sensitive teaching and didactics, socio-cultural awareness, and topics of integration and universal design.

### **§ 1 Allocation of the study programme**

The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture at the University of Innsbruck is allocated to the group of engineering study programmes.

### **§ 2 Qualification profile and study objectives**

- (1) The study programme gives architects the opportunity to generate new knowledge about specific problems in architecture, to contextualise their research and/or practical work and to adequately communicate the resulting knowledge. They have the necessary skills to successfully assert themselves in the national and international environment.
- (2) Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture are excellently familiar with the methods and approaches of current research in architectural theory. They possess the necessary knowledge, skills and competences to develop and implement methodologically sound solutions to interdisciplinary questions directly related to architecture.
- (3) Graduates are able to present research results both to the professional public and to interested laypersons.
- (4) Graduates are qualified to scientifically develop and assess research areas in architecture and to apply the acquired competences across disciplines, thus contributing to the advancement of scientific knowledge at an international level. This is evidenced by the independent scientific research work in the form of a Dissertation.
- (5) Graduates possess scientifically sound key competences supported by theory and methods for solving interdisciplinary questions and are able to critically question research results and interpret them in social, scientific and/or ethical terms.
- (6) The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture serves to further develop and enable independent scientific interdisciplinary work as well as to train and promote young scientists based on passed diploma and master programmes.
- (7) Graduates are qualified to work in a planning and analytical capacity in university and non-university (research) institutions in their field of research. Professional activities include above all scientific and managerial activities
  - at universities
  - at research institutions and other post-secondary educational institutions,
  - at research departments of public and private, national and international institutions,
  - in leading positions of organisations.

### **§ 3 Scope and duration**

The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture has a duration of three years (six semesters). This corresponds to 180 ECTS-Credits.

### **§ 4 Language**

The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture is offered partly in German and partly in English. Students are entitled to write the dissertation in German or English in consultation with the supervisor.

## § 5 Admission

- (1) Proof of general university entrance qualification for being admitted to a PhD-study programme is in any case deemed to have been provided by proof of the completion of a relevant diploma and master's programme, a relevant diploma or master's programme at a university of applied sciences or equivalent studies at accredited Austrian or non-Austrian post-secondary educational institutions.
- (2) In any case, a completed Master's and Diploma programme in Architecture at the Faculty of Architecture are relevant study programmes.
- (3) 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 Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture.

## § 6 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course

**Seminars (SE)** provide in-depth treatment of scientific topics through students' presentations and discussion thereof. Maximum number of participants: 20

## § 7 Allocation of places in courses with a limited number of participants

The following criteria shall be applied for the allocation of places in courses with a limited number of participants:

1. Students for whom the study duration would be extended due to the postponement are to be given priority.
2. If the criteria in no. 1 does not suffice, the available places are drawn by random.

## § 8 Compulsory and elective modules

- (1) The following compulsory modules covering altogether 10 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Compulsory Module: Dissertation Project	h	ECTS-Credits
	Description of the envisaged dissertation topic and format including methodology, goals, literature and a work schedule and time schedule in the form of a written synopsis	-	5
	<b>Total</b>	-	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students are able to formulate a specific problem, structure it, contextualise it in a subject-specific discourse and communicate the expected gain in knowledge to a specialist audience.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

2.	Compulsory Module: Master's Thesis Defence (Rigorousum)	h	ECTS-Credits
	Final oral defence of the dissertation before an examination board	-	5
	<b>Total</b>	-	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> The students are able to reflect on, analyse and present the results of the dissertation in the overall context of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture. The focus is on the synopsis of the research work, the presentation of the increase in knowledge for the discipline in the national and international environment, the assessment and methodological skills and the presentation.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> positive evaluation of all other modules as well as the Dissertation		

(2) Elective modules covering altogether 20 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Elective Module: Discourse and Methods	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	SE PhD Seminar 1: Discourse	2	5
b.	SE PhD Seminar 2: Methods	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students acquire a range of skills and competences in general and specific research methods and discourses within architecture and apply them in their own research work. Students are given the opportunity to incorporate current developments into their work and are able to develop and implement methodologically sound solutions to interdisciplinary questions directly related to architecture.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

2.	Elective Module: Reflection on Research	h	ECTS-Credits
	Students present and reflect on their research findings and parts thereof by participating in subject-specific recognised national and international conferences or symposia.	-	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students develop a deeper understanding of the topic of their work and sharpen their awareness of their own work process and their research question. Students learn to reflect on their own understanding and to develop individual learning, communication and working strategies in order to present and discuss their research results in front of the professional public.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

3.	Elective Module: Dissemination	h	ECTS-Credits
	The students develop targeted strategies for the dissemination of their research or project results and introduce them to thematically relevant target groups in the form of transfer-oriented exhibitions, installations or lectures.	-	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students work out ways to raise their profile and build networks, as well as opportunities to share their project progress and results and to have them promoted by relevant stakeholders.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

4.	<b>Elective Module: Practice</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
	Practical experience of at least 250 hours in areas relevant to the subject (offices, archives, architectural education, curatorial practice, research projects, didactics, teaching, own "body of work" ...); a certificate must prove the content and duration of the practice from the respective institution or by submission of a portfolio.	-	10
	<b>Total</b>	-	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> The students acquire knowledge from practical work, which as basic or applied research becomes an integral part of the overall research work.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

### § 9 Dissertation

- (1) During the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture a Dissertation corresponding to 150 ECTS-Credits is to be written. The Dissertation is a scientific paper that represents an advance in scientific knowledge within the field of research and the discipline. It may consist of a monograph or a cumulative work. The topic of the Dissertation is to be taken from the field of architecture.
- (2) The cumulative dissertation consists of at least three articles that are related in terms of content or methodology, whereby the student must be named as the main author in at least two publications. If contributions are written by several authors, the student's own contribution must be clearly stated. In addition, the student has to write a detailed synopsis, which shows the coherence of the topic, the methods used and the results elaborated by him/her. The synopsis should present the significance and relevance of the work in the subject-specific discourse and include an outlook on the further scientific and methodological development of the topic worked on. These criteria apply in full to the monograph.
- (3) In case of a Dissertation that follows design or practice-oriented or creative-hypothetical working methods, the Dissertation must include a reflective text part. The Dissertation by Design must include work of own authorship (drafts, buildings, film work, drawings, models, installations etc.) and an extensive reflection on the work processes during the work's creation. In the case of realized works, exhibitions and installations, a comprehensive, coherent and archivable documentation of the exhibited material may form part of the written Dissertation.

### § 10 Examination regulations

- (1) Elective module 1 is evaluated by course examinations.
- (2) Compulsory module 1 and elective modules 2, 3 and 4 are evaluated by the Dean of Studies based on a performance report written by the student and the opinion of the main supervisor. Positive evaluation reads "successfully completed", negative evaluation "successfully completed".
- (3) The evaluation of compulsory module 2, "Dissertation Defence (Rigorosum)" is based on an oral exam before an examination board. The examination board consists of three persons.

### § 11 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture are awarded the academic degree "Doctor of Philosophy", abbreviated as "PhD".

### § 12 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force as of 1 October 2021.

### **§ 13 Transitional provisions**

- (1) This curriculum applies to all students being admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture as of the winter semester of 2021/22.
- (2) Regular degree-students, who have started the Doctoral Programme Architecture, as published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 5 May 2010, Issue 23, No. 252, before 1 October 2021, are entitled to finish their studies within six regular + two additional tolerance semesters from this point in time onwards.
- (3) The recognition of exams acc. to §78 par. 1 Universities Act 2002 is regulated in the appendix.

### Appendix: Recognition regulations acc. to §78 par. 1 Universities Act 2002

Positively passed exams, taken as part of the Doctoral Programme Architecture (curriculum published in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 5 May 2010, Issue 23, No. 252) will be recognised as equal towards the “Doctor of Philosophy Programme Architecture at the University of Innsbruck (curriculum in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 11 June 2021, Issue 77, No. 851) according to §78 par. 1 Universities Act 2002 as follows:

Curriculum in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 5 May 2010, Issue 23, No. 252		Curriculum in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 11 June 2021, Issue 77, No. 851	
§7 (1) Z1	Scientific Basics/Core Skills of the Thesis Topic (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z2	Reflection on Research (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (1) Z2	Reflection on Research I (5 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (1) Z1	Dissertation Projects (5 ECTS-AP)
§7 (1) Z3a	SE Dissertation Seminar I (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z1a	SE PhD Seminar 1: Discourse (2hrs., 5 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (1) Z3b	SE Dissertation Seminar II (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)		
§7 (1) Z3c	SE Dissertation Seminar III (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z1b	SE PhD Seminar 2: Methods (2 hrs., 5 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (1) Z3d	SE Dissertation Seminar IV (2hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)		
§7 (2) Z1	Generic Skills (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z2	Reflection on Research (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (2) Z2	Inter-Faculty or Inter-University Discipline-Specific Networks (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z2	Reflection on Research (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (2) Z3a	SE Research Course 1 (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z2	Reflection on Research (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (2) Z3b	SE Research Course 2 (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)		
§7 (2) Z3c	SE Research Course 3 (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)		
§7 (2) Z3d	SE Research Course 4 (2 hrs., 2.5 ECTS-Credits)		
§7 (2) Z4	Presentation of Own Research Results (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z2	Reflection on Research (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (2) Z5	Elective Module: Reflection on Research II (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z3	Dissemination (10 ECTS-Credits)
§7 (2) Z5	Architectural Practice (10 ECTS-Credits)	§7 (2) Z4	Practice (10 ECTS-Credits)