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).

Principal version published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 17 March 2009, Issue 41, No 178

Modification published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 17 June 2014, Issue 30, No 499

Complete version from 20 October 2014

Curriculum for the
Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences
at the Faculty of Geo- and Atmospheric Sciences of the University of Innsbruck

§ 1 Qualification profile and programme objectives

(1) The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences belongs to the group of studies in the natural sciences.

(2) Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences have a systematic understanding of their research discipline and the methods employed by research in this field.

(3) The excellent qualifications acquired in the course of the doctoral studies empower graduates to employ their expertise in scientific and non-scientific careers and to adapt themselves to fast-changing requirements.

(4) 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 experts. They develop scientific questions and independently subject them to critical analysis.

(5) Graduates are capable of independently designing and carrying out significant research projects with scientific integrity and are qualified to reflect on these processes in terms of the theory of science.

(6) Graduates are particularly able to reflect on questions critically, to participate in objective discourse, and to work creatively.

(7) Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences are able to look beyond the boundaries of their own discipline and participate in inter-disciplinary scientific discourse.

§ 2 Length and scope

The Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences 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 master 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 Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences.

(2) Relevant studies are in any case

1. the Master's Programme Atmospheric Sciences or Meteorology
2. the Diploma Programme Atmospheric Sciences or Meteorology.

§ 4 Types of courses and maximum number of participants

Seminars (SE) are courses with continuous performance assessment and serve to in-depth scientific examination with the presentation and discussion of articles by the students. Maximum number of participants: 10

§ 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 Modules

(1) The following compulsory modules with a total of 35 ECTS-Credits are to be taken:

1.	**Compulsory Module: PhD-Concept**	**h**	**ECTS-Credits**
	SE Development and Presentation of the Dissertation Concept	2	5
	Total	**2**	**5**
	Learning objectives of the module: The students work after thorough research of the relevant literature and in discussion with the dissertation committee a written concept of the thesis; they present it before an audience and successfully defend it in scientific discourse.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	**Compulsory Module: Generic Skills**	**h**	**ECTS-Credits**
	There are courses totalling 5 ECTS-Credits to graduate. The selection is made in consultation with the main supervisor. These courses cover such as competences for the knowledge transfer of the subject, in the field of philosophy and philosophy of science, or in respect of equality and gender studies.	-	5
	Total	**-**	**5**

	Learning objectives of the module: Students have advanced theoretical and practical knowledge and skills in selected disciplines that empower them about their subject specific competences addition to independent scientific activity.
	Prerequisites: none

3.	**Compulsory Module: Analysis and Discussion of Research Results**	**h**	**ECTS-Credits**
a.	**SE Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 1** Critical analysis and reflection of one's own research results and the results of other group members	1	1
b.	**SE Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 2** Critical analysis and reflection of one's own research results and the results of other group members	1	1
c.	**SE Seminar for Graduates** Latest research results from all fields of Atmospheric Sciences	1	1
	Total	**3**	**3**
	Learning objectives of the module: Students develop their own research results, present an Auditorium and develop them further in scientific discourse.		
	Prerequisites: successful completion of compulsory module 1		

4.	**Compulsory Module: Scientific Core Skills**	**h**	**ECTS-Credits**
	Courses as the scientific basis of the dissertation topic, as defined in the dissertation agreement.	-	12
	Total	**-**	**12**
	Learning objectives of the module: The students have knowledge needed for the completion of the dissertation.		
	Prerequisites: none		

5.	**Compulsory Module: Participation in the Academic Discussion**	**h**	**ECTS-Credits**
	Active participation in scientific national and international discourse through conferences, projects or summer schools	-	5
	Total	**-**	**5**
	Learning objectives of the module: Students develop suitable research results in national and international forums and present their own results there. They can analyse their own and others' research achievements and give a critical review.		
	Prerequisites: successful completion of compulsory module 1		

6.	Compulsory Module: Doctoral Thesis Defense	h	ECTS-Credits
	Final oral dissertation defense taken before an examination board.	-	5
	Total	**-**	**5**
	Learning objectives of the module: The graduates are able to communicate the results of their research and the resulting increase in knowledge in the discipline in lecture form to a professional audience and give a critical review.		
	Prerequisites: successful completion of compulsory modules 1 to 5		

§ 7 Dissertation

(1) In the course of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences, a dissertation has to be written, which equals 145 ECTS-Credits. The dissertation is a piece of scientific work in a special field of atmospheric sciences which serves to prove the student's ability to cope with scientific questions in an independent way.

(2) The dissertation can also consist of articles that are related in terms of subject matter or methods. The following quality criteria apply:

1. The dissertation must consist of a minimum of three articles accepted for publication by acknowledged scientific journals.
2. The student has to be the first author of a minimum of two of these articles. If the articles were written by several authors, the student's own contribution must be clearly shown and added to the dissertation.
3. These articles have to be embedded in a comprehensive presentation of the research question and the current state of knowledge in the field; extensive critical assessment of the results and a summary as well as prospects of further research works are required.

(3) The dissertation can also be written as a monograph.

(4) 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 (with a venia docendi).

(5) Prior to beginning the work, the student has to communicate the dissertation topic and names of the supervisors in writing to the Director of Studies. If work on the dissertation requires monetary or non-monetary resources from university institutions, the allocation of these resources is possible only if the head of the respective institution has been informed of the planned allocation and has not vetoed it within one month because of significant negative influence on teaching and research. 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) Module examinations are examinations that assess the knowledge and skills acquired in a module. When all parts of a module examination have been completed successfully, the module is concluded.

(2) Compulsory modules 1 to 4 are evaluated by course examinations for which course assessment is based on regular written and/or oral contribution by participants. Before starting the course, the course lecturer shall specify and declare which type of examination will take place.

(3) The evaluation of compulsory module 5 is evaluated by the main supervisor on the basis of a performance report written by the student.

(4) The evaluation of compulsory module 6 “Doctoral Thesis Defense” is based on an oral exam taken before an examination board consisting of at least three examiners.

§ 9 Teaching language

The study programme is offered in English.

§ 10 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences are awarded the academic degree of "Doctor of Philosophy" or "PhD“, in brief.

§ 11 Implementation

(1) This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2009.

(2) The modification of the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 17 June 2014, Issue 30, No 499 comes into force on 1 October 2014 and applies to all students.

Equivalence list – Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences

Positively assessed exams, taken as part of the Doctor of Philosophy Programme Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Innsbruck (curriculum published in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 17 March 2009, Issue 41, No 178) will be recognised as equal towards the exams of the curriculum published in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 17 June 2014, Issue 30, No 499 as follows:

Curriculum published in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 17 March 2009, Issue 41, No 178		**Curriculum published in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin from 17 June 2014, Issue 30, No 499**	
§6 (1)	PO Development and Presentation of the Dissertation Concept (2h/15 ECTS-Credits)	§6 (1)	SE Development and Presentation of the Dissertation Concept (2h/5 ECTS-Credits)
§6(6a)	KO Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 1 (1h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	§6 (3a)	SE Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 1 (1h/1 ECTS-Credits)
§6 (6b)	KO Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 2 (1h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	§6 (3b)	SE Analysis and Discussion of Research Results 2 (1h/1 ECTS-Credits)
§6 (5)	SE Seminar for Graduates (1h/5 ECTS-Credits)	§6 (3c)	SE Seminar for Graduates (1h/1 ECTS-Credits)
§6 (3)	Individual successfully completed courses of the module 3 *Scientific Basics/Core Skills of the Thesis Topic*	§6 (4)	Module 4 *Scientific Core Skills* with appropriate credits
§6 (4)	Module 4: Individual successfully completed *Participations of the Scientific Discourse*	§6 (5)	Module 5 *Participation in the Academic Discussion* with appropriate credits