

Note:

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

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Curriculum for the
PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Study Programme)
at the Faculty of Business and Management at the University of Innsbruck

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§ 1 Allocation of the study programme

Pursuant to §54 (1) Universities Act, the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Program) is allocated to the social and economic study programmes.

§ 2 Qualification profile

- (1) The PhD Programme Management (doctoral programme) serves to further develop the ability to carry out independent academic work and to train and promote young academics on the basis of diploma and master's programmes.
- (2) Graduates of the PhD Programme Management (doctoral studies) can make an original, independent contribution to the further development of the subject. This includes in particular the ability
 - to make professional judgments in the field of the Dissertation based on the current state of research,
 - to reflect on the methodological foundations of research in the field of the Dissertation,
 - to write scientific papers that meet the international quality standards of double-blind peer-reviewed publications in the respective field of research,
 - apply the principles of good scientific practice,
 - to organise and carry out research processes independently and to work in research teams,
 - to recognise interfaces with related research areas in the field of the Dissertation and to establish links to these,
 - reflect on the implications of their own research with regard to the ethical, social, genetic and societal prerequisites and consequences,
 - to present their own research results in scientific discourse and in communication with experts from operational practice and interested laypersons.
- (3) Graduates of the PhD Programme Management (doctoral studies) find their professional field of activity in particular
 - at universities,
 - in research institutions and other post-secondary educational institutions,
 - in research departments of public and private, national and international institutions.

In addition, graduates of the PhD Programme Management are qualified to take on management positions in organisations that require an analytical approach to scientific knowledge.

§ 3 Admission

- (1) Proof of a general university entrance qualification for admission to the PhD Programme Management (doctoral studies) shall in any case be deemed to have been provided by proof of completion of a relevant diploma or master's programme, a relevant diploma or master's degree programme at a university of applied sciences or another equivalent degree programme at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution. To compensate for significant subject-related differences, supplementary examinations amounting to a maximum of 30 ECTS-Credits may be prescribed, which must be taken by the end of the second semester of the doctoral programme.
- (2) In any case, master's or diploma programmes completed at the Faculty of Management and Economics at the University of Innsbruck, are considered to be relevant study programmes.
- (3) An additional qualitative admission requirement is a Dissertation concept that has been deemed academically suitable and feasible by a committee to be formed by the Dean of Studies in accordance with §21 of the Study Law Regulations.
- (4)

§ 4 Scope and duration of the program

The PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Program) has a duration of three years (six semesters). This corresponds to 180 ECTS-Credits.

§ 5 Language

The PhD Programme Management (doctoral programme) is offered in English.

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

Courses with continuous performance assessment:

Seminars (SE) are focused on detailed scientific discussion of contents and methods of an area of the subject. Presentations, papers and discussions are common tools of assessment. Maximum number of participants: 20.

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

In courses with a limited number of participants, course places are allocated as follows:

1. Students for whom the study duration would be extended due to the postponement are to be given priority.
2. If the criterium in no. 1 does not suffice, first, students for whom this course is part of a compulsory module are to be given priority, and second, students for whom this course is part of an elective module.
3. If the criteria in no. 1 and 2 do not suffice, the available places are drawn at random.

§ 8 Compulsory and elective modules

The following compulsory modules covering altogether 22.5 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Compulsory Module: Methodological Fundamentals for Dissertation Projects	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE Methodological Fundamentals for Dissertation Projects	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students are able to – reflect on their planned research project in the light of the requirements for Dissertation projects; – differentiate between the basic methodological positions of the social and economic sciences; – evaluate the influence of these methodological positions on their Dissertation project.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Compulsory Module: Quantitative Research Methods	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE Quantitative Research Methods	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can independently – design a quantitative research project; – assess the suitability of various quantitative research methods for scientific questions in the context of Dissertation projects; – apply selected quantitative research methods; – assess the quality of quantitative studies.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

3.	Compulsory Module: Qualitative Research Methods	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE Qualitative Research Methods	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can independently – design a qualitative research project; – assess the suitability of various qualitative research methods for scientific questions in the context of Dissertation projects; – apply selected qualitative research methods; – assess the quality of qualitative studies.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

4.	Compulsory Module: Professional Development	h	ECTS-Credits
	Achievements amounting to 5 ECTS-Credits must be completed as specified in the Dissertation agreement. These can come from courses that promote teaching skills, develop academic writing skills, teach skills for the transfer of knowledge in the subject including the use of new media, teach the basics of research ethics and good scientific practice, address equality and gender in science and scientific institutions or promote interdisciplinarity. 2.5 ECTS-Credits of the required credits can be earned in the form of participation in a Doctoral Colloquium or Doctoral Consortium of a scientific conference.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students – have generic and/or interdisciplinary skills in accordance with the learning outcomes of the respective courses; and/or – are able to integrate the feedback from the faculty and other participants of the Doctoral Colloquium or Doctoral Consortium into their Dissertation project.		
	Prerequisites: none		

5.	Compulsory Module: Defense of the Dissertation (Defensio)	h	ECTS-Credits
	Final oral defense of the Dissertation before an examination senate	-	2.5
	Total	-	2.5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can – can justify the theoretical and methodological position of their Dissertation in academic discourse in a reflective manner , – defend the results of the scientific research question of their Dissertation in a reflected manner.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of the Dissertation as well as all other modules		

Elective modules covering 10 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Elective Module: Generic Skills	h	ECTS-Credits
	Students must choose courses covering 5 ECTS-Credits from the field of Generic Skills for PhD and Doctoral Study Programmes. It is recommended to choose courses promoting gender-related competencies.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students have - generic and/or interdisciplinary skills in accordance with the learning outcomes of the respective courses.		
	Prerequisites: none		

2.	Elective Module: Specific Research Methods	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE Specific Research Methods	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can – apply selected specific research methods in economics and social sciences; – assess the suitability of these specific research methods in economics and social sciences for scientific questions; – assess the quality of scientific studies on the basis of these specific research methods for economics and social sciences.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

3.	Elective Module: Subject-Related Research Seminar	h	ECTS-Credits
	SE Subject-Related Research Seminar	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can – analyse selected content-related and/or methodological discourses and/or issues in the social and economic sciences; – reflect on the relevance of these discourses and/or questions for their dissertation project.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

4.	Elective Module: Scientific Discourse	h	ECTS-Credits
	Presentation of a contribution by the student at a scientific conference with review process as specified in the dissertation agreement	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning Outcomes: The students can – present their dissertation project or part of their dissertation project in the form of a scientific lecture; – can defend their scientific contribution in the light of contributions to the discussion; – can assess the criticism of discourse participants with regard to its relevance.		
	Prerequisites: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

§ 9 Dissertation

- (1) In the PhD Programme Management (doctoral programme), a Dissertation amounting to 147.5 ECTS-Credits must be completed. The Dissertation is a piece of academic work that serves to demonstrate the student's ability to deal with academic issues independently
- (2) The Dissertation may be submitted in the form of a monograph or consist of at least three related articles in terms of content or methodology.
- (3) A monograph must meet the international quality standards of the respective research field.
- (4) Dissertations that consist of at least three content-related or methodologically coherent contributions must meet the following quality criteria:
 1. This Dissertation consists of at least three contributions, preceded by an independent text ("synopsis") that situates the contributions in the overall context of the literature of the respective research field and reflects on the relevant theoretical and methodological implications and prerequisites. This text must be written by a single author.
 2. Articles amounting to at least 3 points must be submitted for review, which are determined on the basis of the following journal rankings: VHB-JOURQUAL, Journal Impact Factor of the Social Science Citation Index or Science Citation Index Expanded (JIF), or Academic Journal Guide (AJG): For a double-blind peer-reviewed article
 - i. in a journal of category A+ (VHB-JOURQUAL), upper 5% (JIF) or 4* (AJG) at the time of conclusion of the Dissertation Agreement, six points are awarded;
 - ii. in a journal of category A (VHB-JOURQUAL), > upper 5% - 20% (JIF) or 4 (AJG) at the time of conclusion of the Dissertation Agreement, four points are awarded;
 - iii. in a journal of category B (VHB-JOURQUAL), > upper 20% - 50% (JIF) or 3 (AJG) at the time of completion of the Dissertation Agreement, two points are awarded;
 - iv. in a journal of category C (VHB-JOURQUAL), > upper 50% - 80% (JIF) or 2 (AJG) at the time of completion of the Dissertation Agreement, one point is awarded.
 3. If a recognised journal ranking other than VHB-JOURQUAL, Journal Impact Factor of the Social Science Citation Index or Science Citation Index Expanded (JIF) or Academic Journal Guide (AJG) exists in a subject, points are awarded according to this recognised ranking.
 4. If the ranking of the journal at the time of submission of the dissertation is better than at the time of conclusion of the Dissertation Agreement, the higher ranking applies.
 5. Points for contributions written with co-authors are multiplied by the weighting factor $3/(n + 2)$, whereby n is the number of authors.
 6. At least one of the submitted contributions must have been written as sole author.
 7. In accordance with the publication culture in the research field of the Dissertation, contributions in proceedings of an internationally recognised and relevant scientific conference with a recognised ranking are evaluated analogous to lit.b.

8. At least one of the submitted contributions according to lit. b or g must be accepted for publication. This contribution must correspond to at least category C (VHB-JOURQUAL), > upper 50% - 80% (JIF) or 2 (AJG) according to lit. b.
- (5) The unpublished contributions must be publishable. If the assessors determine this for an entry, at least one point must be awarded based on the categories in paragraph 4 b).
- (6) The topic of the Dissertation must be in the field of business administration or business education.
- (7) The student must propose a team of supervisors consisting of at least two supervisors (Dissertation committee) and nominate a person with teaching authorisation (venia docendi) as the responsible main supervisor. It is permissible to propose supervisors, with the exception of the main supervisor, from related subject areas. In justified individual cases, students may also propose only one supervisor.
- (8) The student must inform the Director of Studies in writing of the topic of the Dissertation and the supervisors of the Dissertation before commencing work. The topic and supervisors are deemed to have been accepted if the Director of Studies does not prohibit them in writing within one month of receipt of the notification.
- (9) The submitted Dissertation must be accompanied by an affidavit confirming that the rules of good scientific practice have been followed.

§ 10 Examination regulations

- (1) The performance of modules consisting of a course with continuous performance evaluation is evaluated by the course examination of this course. The course instructor has to specify and announce the examination method (written and/or oral) and the evaluation criteria before the start of the semester.
- (2) The performance of the module Scientific Discourse is evaluated by the main supervisor. Positive evaluation reads "participated with success", negative evaluation "participated without success".
- (3) The Dissertation is evaluated by two university instructors.
- (4) The assessment of the final compulsory module Defense of the Dissertation (defensio) takes place in the form of a public oral examination before an examination board consisting of three persons.
- (5) The assessment of performance in the compulsory module Professional Development and in the elective module Generic Skills is carried out by the main supervisor on the basis of the submitted evidence of 5 ECTS-Credits each. The positive assessment must be "participated with success", the negative assessment "participated without success".

§ 11 Academic degree

Graduates of the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Programme) receive the academic degree "Doctor of Philosophy", abbreviated "PhD".

§ 12 Coming into force

This curriculum for the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Program) comes into force on 1 October 2023.

§ 13 Transitional provisions

- (1) This curriculum applies to all students who start the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Programme) as of the 2023/24 winter semester.
- (2) Regular degree students who have started the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Programme) as published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 24 February 2009, Issue 28, No. 150, last amended on 18 March 2015, Issue 16, No. 269, before 1 October 2023, are entitled to complete this study programme within a maximum of eight semesters from this point in time.
- (3) If the PhD Programme Management (Doctoral Programme) is not completed in time, the students are subject to this curriculum. In any case, students are entitled to submit to his curriculum on a voluntary basis anytime.
- (4) The changes to the curriculum as published in the University of Innsbruck bulletin of 5 February 2025, Issue 27, No. 321 come into effect on 1 October 2025 and are to be applied to all students.