



Doctoral Training Plan

Instructions for writing the Doctoral Training Plan

When applying for admission to the graduate school, the applicant had to present an outline of his/her research plan or a report of the research subject that he/she is interested in. ***During the first year of doctoral training the student must provide a more detailed Research Plan and a plan for his/her other studies.***

The Doctoral student writes his/her ***personal Doctoral Training Plan*** together with his/her supervisors. The Doctoral Training Plan consists of ***A. Research Plan, B. Study Plan, and C. Career Plan***. The Research Plan should be written according to the practices and structures of the field.

The Doctoral Training Plan is officially accepted by the Doctoral Training Committee after the Follow-up Group has recommended its acceptance. After the official acceptance the doctoral student will receive 3 ECTS in WebOodi: 920012J Doctoral Training Plan.

Contents of the Doctoral Training Plan

A. The Research Plan consists typically of the following parts. The structure may be modified according to the usual requirements of the field.

Cover sheet

Name, Student number, Faculty, Research unit, Major & Doctoral Programme

Supervisors (Full name and title)

Follow-up Group members (Full names and titles)

Title of the research and type of thesis (monograph or article-based)

Study rights start date, date of meeting with the Follow-up Group

2. page

Abstract (obligatory, 1 page max., 2 000–3 000 characters)

The abstract is a summary of the research plan. It provides a brief overview of scientific and societal objectives, research methods and data as well as scientific and societal results and impact generated by the research.

3. page – (max. length of this part 10 pages, font size 12 pt)

1. Rationale

Background and significance of the research project in relation to current knowledge. Describe how the project is linked to previous international or national research (state of the art).

2. Objectives and expected results

Theoretical premise. Describe the theoretical premise of your research as well as its aims and objectives. Hypotheses or research questions. Expected research results and their anticipated scientific impact, potential for scientific breakthroughs and for promoting scientific renewal. Describe the impact of the research within the scientific community. What is the novelty value or added value of the research project from the perspective of science? Effects and impact beyond academia.

3. Research methods and material

Data to be used. Describe what kinds of research material and data will be used as well as their significance for the project. Also describe justifications, how the data will be collected, acquired and used, and IPR and other relevant issues. Describe the research methods and how they will contribute to answering the research questions or confirming the hypotheses, or how they will support the chosen approach. If relevant for the project, also describe the statistical methods to be used.



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4. *Ethical issues (if relevant)*

Research ethics. Provide information on the ethical issues (e.g. ethical governance procedures, informed consent, anonymity of subjects and withdrawal from research) that concern the chosen topic, methods and data, as well as on any research permits granted or pending.

5. *Implementation: schedule of research and studies, distribution of work, and funding plan*

6. *Research team, supervision, and collaboration (including mobility)*

Additionally

Literature / bibliography

B. The Study Plan, Oodi-PSP

The doctoral degree includes a thesis and other studies representing 20–50 credits, depending on the major (<http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/studyrequirements>). **The Personal Study Plan (PSP)** is part of the Doctoral Training Plan and is done in WebOodi. At least a draft of the PSP should be attached to the Research Plan.

C. The Career Plan

The Career Plan can be written as a part of the Research Plan by evaluating one's own learning objectives related to career planning. The other option is to present the Career Plan separately for the follow-up group in the meeting.

The Research Plan should be detailed enough to give the possibility to evaluate the significance and feasibility of the research project. A good research plan can be used, for example, when applying for personal grants. It is also often possible to exploit the summary of the previous research while writing publications and the thesis manuscript. It is recommended that the student writes a good plan and uses the know-how of the supervisors and the Follow-up Group while refining the Research Plan.