The game plan

Rules of play

Karita Saravesi

12th March, 2020
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– Rules of Play

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APPLICATION

Doctoral Education, University of Oulu, Spring 2018
Application period 1.1.2018-30.4.2018 15:00

ADMISSION

OULUN YLIOPISTON TUTKIJAKOULU
Tohtoriopinto-oikeuden myöntäminen
Granting study rights for a doctoral degree

LIFE AFTER

GRADUATION

How to navigate through your doctoral studies?
Regulations that UniOGS take into account

1. European level development:
   • Seven Principles of Innovative Doctoral Training

2. Finnish law:
   • Universities Act (yliopistolaki)
   • Government Decree on University Degrees (Valtioneuvoston asetus yliopistojen tutkinnoista)

3. University level regulations:
   • University of Oulu Rules of Procedure (yliopiston johtosääntö)
     = e.g. management and responsibility, qualification requirements
   • University of Oulu Education regulations (koulutuksen johtosääntö)
     = e.g. responsibilities on planning and implementation in education, admission, student enrolment, procedures concerning study attainments
What is a doctoral degree?

A title that convinces other scientists that you:

- know your own field of research and its social significance;
- are able to independently and critically apply scientific research methods to generate new scientific knowledge;
- are conversant with the development, basic problems and research methods of your own field of research
- have gained such knowledge of the general theory of science and of other disciplines relating to your field, that you are able to follow developments in them;
- and have achieved adequate language and communication skills and other general skills to be a competent and versatile expert capable of demanding duties and international co-operation in working life

Government Decree on University Degrees (794/2004 and 1039/2013) ch. 5, § 21
What is a doctoral degree?

To be awarded a doctorate, the student must:

• complete the required postgraduate studies;
• demonstrate independent and critical thinking in the field of research;
• and write a doctoral dissertation and defend it in public.

Government Decree on University Degrees (794/2004 and 1039/2013) ch. 5, § 22
What is a doctoral dissertation?

Evidence that the doctoral student can independently and critically apply scientific research methods and generate new scientific knowledge.

In the University of Oulu ...

- Doctoral thesis can be a compilation of published research articles and manuscripts and a summary based on these, OR it can be a monograph.

- Compilation thesis is based on international (or in some fields national) peer reviewed scientific publications, which have appeared or have been accepted for publication.

- Doctoral thesis may contain joint publications or manuscripts, if the independent contribution of the doctoral student can be clearly demonstrated.

- [http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/node/50058](http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/node/50058)
UniOGS: Doctoral training programme

**Research**
- Research (& publication of results) → Thesis and Public Defence

**Studies**
- General & Transferable Skills
- Field-Specific Skills
- Teaching (optional)

Total 20 – 50 ECTS cr depending on Doctoral Degree Program

- Human sciences, Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine
- Economics & business administration

- 10% studies, 90% research (students)
- 20% studies, 80% research (Economics & business administration)

Rest are something between
Time-line of your doctoral training

Doctoral training should be defined in a way that the doctoral degree can be completed within a time equivalent to **four years of full-time studies**.
1. Nominate your Follow-up group
   form (http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/formslibrary)
   → send to uniogs@oulu.fi

2. Write your Doctoral Training Plan (DTP)
   = research plan + study plan (PSP/HOPS)
     + career plan

3. Have your 1st follow-up group (FUG) meeting
   **When?** By the end of the first year
   **What?** Student presenting DTP & progress in research and studies
   → follow-up group requires changes to DTP / recommends acceptance of DTP
   → FUG chair sends a report + DTP to UniOGS
   → you send your PSP for approval

4. Acceptance of your DTP in Doctoral Training in Committee meeting (3 ECTS; 920012J)

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**Follow-up group**
= Chair + 1-2 members

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**1st year**
acceptance of the Doctoral Training Plan (DTP)
= tohtorikouluutussuunnitelma

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**+ Research & studies** (Introduction to Doctoral Training & Scientific Research and Ethics)
Doctoral Training Plan (DTP)

- The DTP can be one of the most useful tools for keeping you and your training on track
- Written for you, your supervisory team and your follow-up group
- Enhance your skills in writing funding applications!
- A living document that needs updating (→ for each FUG meeting)
- Instructions how to write the DTP:
**Doctoral Training Plan (DTP)**

= research plan + study plan (PSP/HOPS) + career plan

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**A. The Research Plan**

e.g. following Finnish Academy guidelines

Abstract (1 page max.)

1. Rationale (background, introduction)
2. Objectives and expected results
3. Research methods and material
4. Ethical issues (if relevant)
5. Implementation: schedule of research and studies, distribution of work, and funding plan
6. Research team, supervision, and collaboration (incl. mobility)

Key literature / bibliography

**B. The Study Plan, Oodi-PSP**

Follow the requirements of your degree programme + discuss the contents with your supervisor

**C. The Career Plan**

Part of the research plan or presented separately for FUG
2nd year mid-point of doctoral training

- Research & studies
  + conferences, research visits?

- Update your Doctoral Training Plan (research plan, PSP, career plan)

- Organize your second follow-up group meeting

  **When?** At the end of the 2nd year
  **What?** Student presenting **updated** DTP & progress in research and studies & plan for the next year

  FUG chair sends a report to UniOGS

  → Mid-term report (0 ECTS; 920014J)
3\textsuperscript{rd} year agreeing upon the end-process in the end of 3\textsuperscript{rd} year

- Research (& studies) 
  + conferences, research visits?
- Update your DTP
- Organize your third follow-up group meeting 
  
  \textbf{When?} At the end of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} year (= approx. one year before the defense) 
  
  \textbf{What?} Student presenting \textit{updated} DTP & progress in research and studies & plans for getting the work ready & discussion about pre-examiners and opponent(s)

Statement on student’s state of readiness, FUG chair sends a report to UniOGS

\( \rightarrow \) Follow-up Group reporting and meetings 
(1 ECTS; 920007J) / Additional report (0 ECTS; 920025J)
4th year
sending the thesis manuscript for pre-examination

- Finalizing research & thesis
- Nomination of pre-examiners, pre-examination
- Permission to publish, naming the opponent(s) & custos
- Public defense

- The length of the end-process c. 6 months
- More information:
  - http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/formslibrary → Instructions and forms for the end-process
  - Towards doctoral degree -info by UniOGS (every spring)
Doctoral training programme – 4 years (of fulltime studies)

YEAR 1
- Admission
  - study rights
  - follow-up group
- Preparations in advance
  - Commitment of principal supervisor and faculty
  - research plan outline

YEAR 2
- First report
  - end of 1st year
  - full doctoral training plan
- Mid-term report
  - end of 2nd year

YEAR 3
- Final report
  - end of 3rd year
  - defence expected within a year

YEAR 4
- End-process
  - nominating the pre-examiners
  - pre-examination
  - permission to publish
  - nominating the opponent
  - printing
  - public defence

Annual progress report & follow-up group meeting

...research, studies, conferences, research visits...
What if my work is not going to be ready within 4 years?

• "Four years"
  = 4 yrs of effective (full-time) training

• Year number X:
  Research & studies
  + conferences, research visits?
  Follow-up group meetings
  → Additional report (0 ECTS; 920025J)

- Other work? Parental leave? Breaks in funding? Sickness...*
- Why not?!

* or problems e.g. in supervision?
  → talk with your follow-up group!
Useful tips for your doctoral training

1) Make sure you have study attainments registered in WebOodi
   - Passive register: A doctoral student’s study right is declared passive if the student has no study attainments during the past two consecutive academic years, or if the student has enrolled as absent, or neglected to register to the University, for the past two academic years
   - University of Oulu Education Regulations, 4/2016, §9 Student enrolment
   - Codes used for showing the progress in WebOodi
     - Nomination of follow-up group (0 cr)
     - First Follow-up group meeting (0 cr)
     - Midterm report of Doctoral Training (0 cr)
     - Additional report (0 cr)
     - Pre-examination (0 cr)
     - Permission to defend the thesis (0 cr)
     - Acceptance & Grading of the Thesis (0 cr)
Useful tips for your doctoral training

2) Remember to register to University for each academic year
   • Registration done in OILI, during May-August
   • See information from: https://www.oulu.fi/forstudents/continuing-annual-registration

3) Apply permissions for your articles
   • If your thesis will be a compilation of articles, you need to apply permission to republish the original articles as part of your thesis
   • Apply permissions as soon as your article is published – this will speed the end process of your doctoral dissertation
   • See information from: http://libguides.oulu.fi/actaguide/originalpublications
Doctoral studies (total 20-50 ECTS cr)

GENERAL & TRANSFERABLE SKILLS STUDIES
Obligatory studies:
Introduction to Doctoral Training (1 credit), Scientific Research and Ethics (2 credits), Follow-up group reporting & meetings (1 credit)

FIELD-SPECIFIC STUDIES
Obligatory studies:
Doctoral training plan (DTP; 3 credits) & seminar (1 credit)

TOTAL 20 – 50 ECTS credits depending on Doctoral Degree Program

8 ECTS obligatory study requirements

FIELD-SPECIFIC STUDIES
- At least 16 cr
- Courses that help you to do research
- Talk with your supervisor!
- Post-graduate or advanced courses (with J- or S- included in the WebOodi course code)
- Organized by your research unit or Doctoral Programme

TEACHING (optional)
Depending on the major, a doctoral student may include teaching in the degree. Prerequisite: University Pedagogy for doctoral students – course (2 cr)!

See study requirements of your own doctoral degree programme from https://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/studyrequirements
Optional general and transferable skills courses

It’s about the skills, not the degree! Strengthen your weak spots or learn new skills.

Be selfish! Take what you need to develop your future career. Stop counting credits.

For example:
- Basics of university pedagogics for doctoral students
- Responsible research: publications, data, metrics and merits
- Scientific communication
- Communicating science to media
- Project management
- Data visualization
- Utilization of patent databases in research
- IP rights and research
- Mentoring programme

+ University of Oulu Staff Training
Forthcoming UniOGS courses:

920003J Vastuullinen tutkimus: julkaisut, data, metriikka ja meritoituminen (2 cr) 06.04. - 18.05.2020
920011J Communicating Science to the Media (1 cr) 31.03.-07.04.2020
920013J Utilization of Patent databases in Research (0.5 cr) 06.-07.05.2020
920016J IP Rights and Research (0.5 op) 24.-25.03.2020

... and many others in fall.

Please find more information from:
http://www.oulu.fi/uniogs/courses
PhD mailing list
WebOodi