

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-EXAMINERS TO BE APPLIED DURING EVALUATION OF A MONOGRAPH THESIS**

The aim of these instructions is to complement and clarify the pre-examiner's guidelines.

Monograph is defined in the UniOGS homepages as:

“The format and the structure of a doctoral thesis can be a unified treatment, which follows the field-specific structure and internal organization of a scientific writing or book. Such a format is called a monograph thesis or simply a monograph. The other possibility is the so called compilation (-based) thesis, which consists of several independent yet interrelated research articles or original publications and a collective part including an introduction, literature review and summary.

The nature of the thesis examination process depends on the fact that whether the results have been published in part or completely in previous scientific publications authored by the thesis author. In a compilation-based thesis, the research articles have usually appeared or have been accepted for publication in scientific peer reviewed scientific series, whereas the classical monograph has been completely unpublished. However, neither University of Oulu nor UniOGS enforce the latter condition for the monographs. On the contrary, University recommends publishing the research results of a monograph in international scientific series either before or after the thesis pre-examination. The copyright rules of all the publications series involved must naturally be respected and the good scientific practices must be obeyed similarly to the compilations. In other words, a monograph thesis may be based on partially or completely published scientific articles authored by the doctoral candidate. If those publications have multiple authors, the monograph will include the contribution by the doctoral candidate only, or it must be clearly indicated. In such a situation, the same regulations as those for the compilation in the sequel will be followed whenever applicable. A monograph may be a valid option for a clear presentation, field-specific practice or international cooperation (such as a double degree).

A compilation thesis is per se based on international peer reviewed scientific publications, which have appeared or been accepted for publication. Due to the field-specific reasons, the publication series can be also national. The typical number of articles in a compilation varies across the disciplines and depends primarily on their scientific contents, novelty and significance together with the doctoral candidate's contribution to those. The doctoral thesis experts evaluate the contribution and its sufficiency for a doctoral dissertation based on the scientific contents of the work. The DTC will make the final decision on the permission to defend the thesis and thesis acceptance based on the evaluations.”

A monograph is a work compiled by the doctoral student based on his or her research. As a publication, it is a coherent and independent work and it must describe the methods, material and results used in the research as a whole. Published articles or manuscripts on which the work is based on must not be included to the end of a monograph; the results must be written as if the articles do not exist, i.e. all the results including the results of a published work must be presented in the results section of the monograph as a text, tables or figures.

The pre-examiner is asked to ensure, before the thesis defense permission is granted, that the thesis manuscript meets the set scientific and formal requirements. In a thesis by monograph, a larger unity is to be read and evaluated at one time compared to a compilation thesis. In a case of a compilation thesis, the research articles published in international series were evaluated by reviewers while in a monograph thesis

the pre-examiner is asked to ensure the scientific level without the support by prior evaluation of the research articles by reviewers.

The doctoral thesis should show evidence that the doctoral student can independently and critically apply scientific research methods and generate new scientific knowledge in both formats, i.e. monograph and compilation thesis.

In thesis by monograph, it must be clearly stated that it is a question of a monograph, e.g. *This monograph thesis includes research results partially or completely published in the following scientific articles.*