

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION FOR PHD PROGRAMS AT THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

The program description is founded on the Regulations concerning the philosophiae doctor degree (PhD) at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), passed by the Board of NTNU on 23 January 2012, http://www.ntnu.no/studieavd/dok/PhD_regulations.pdf.

For specific requirements, please see individual PhD programs.

Procedures and administrative guidelines are available on the faculty website, <http://www.ntnu.edu/svt/phd-programme>.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME (§ 2 in PhD Regulations)

The PhD programmes are prescribed as constituting 180 credits (3 years). The final course plan for the PhD Programme is to be shaped in joint consultation between candidate, supervisor and the department depending on the thesis area of research and the candidate's individual requirements and wishes.

PH.D.-PROGRAMMES

The PhD programmes at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology Management cover a wide range of different areas, including:

- Geography
- Health Sciences
- Industrial Economics and Technology Management
- Education
- Research with focus on Teacher Education and School Practice
- Psychology
- Economics
- Social Anthropology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Political Science
- Interdisciplinary Child Research
- Behaviour and Health (Joint PhD in collaboration with the Australian National University)

ADMISSION (§ 5 in PhD Regulations)

The applicant must have a master's degree within the field or equivalent education. The applicant must have a weighted average grade for the last two years of his/her master's work of B or higher in terms of NTNU's grading scale. Admission may also be given if the applicant can document equivalent qualifications.

Applicants who are unable to meet these criteria may be admitted only if they can document

that they are particularly suitable candidates for education leading to a PhD degree. In special cases, applicants with other background may be admitted to the PhD program. These applicants may be required to attend special courses/qualification courses as a prerequisite for admission.

Application

The application must be written in a form that can be found on the Faculty website or obtained from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology Management. Application requirements are described in § 5.2 of the regulations for the PhD and in the individual program descriptions.

PHD PLAN (§ 5.2 in PhD Regulations)

The project plan is meant to address topics and issues, preferably related to relevant theory and existing research. Furthermore, it should give an account of methods, implementation, any risk in the project and any ethical challenges. The description of the research project is normally to be between 5 and 10 pages.

Funding plan, (§ 5.2 in PhD Regulations)

Applicants must document that they have full funding, ie, means of subsistence and assets. At the time of application, funding for all three (3) years must be documented.

Admission procedure

The Faculty will consider applications for admission for assessment from the relevant department. Normally, the candidate will be affiliated at the supervisor's department.

DECISION OF ADMISSION

Admission decisions of applicants will be made with an emphasis on the quality of the project description, but decisions also take into account the department's expertise, professional commitment to the field and its capacity to provide guidance. A decision as to admission is based on an overall assessment of the application. The admission is formalized in a written agreement for the PhD education, see § 6 of the Regulations.

SUPERVISION (§§ 5.2 og 7 in PhD Regulations)

Work on the PhD thesis constitutes active research under supervision. The supervisor's total use of time supervising is stipulated as 210 worker-hours for the entire period. This is equivalent to approx. 70 worker-hours per year for 3 years. In addition to the contract period stated between candidate and supervisor, this includes preparation, reading, complementary work, etc. If a supplementary supervisor is appointed, the number of worker-hours must be divided between the principal and supplementary supervisor.

A separate supervision contract, between the candidate, supervisors and the department is to be established. Mutual expectations, duties and responsibilities are to be specified in the contract.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT, (§ 5.3 in PhD Regulations)

A plan for the meeting of residency requirements is to be presented in the application and in the agreement on supervision. The main purpose of the residency requirements is that the candidate will actively participate in research at, or affiliated with NTNU. In certain cases, the department may grant dispensation from the residency requirements.

PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVE RESEARCH GROUPS IN NORWAY AND INTERNATIONALLY (§§ 2 and 5.2 in PhD Regulations)

The departments have extensive network of contacts within both national and international research groups. Candidates are encouraged to participate actively in these groups to establish and benefit from contacts with renowned scholars at home and abroad. It is expected that the candidate presents results from the thesis project at an international scientific conference, which will provide the possibility of making contact with colleagues in other countries.

REPORTING, (§ 9 in PhD Regulations)

The candidate and main supervisor are to deliver separate annual reports on progress in accordance with the PhD Regulations § 9.

Any deviations from the progress plan and how the deviations influence the completion of the doctorate should be reported. If the main goal changes during the course of the candidate's doctoral study, this should be reported.

ORGANIZED ACADEMIC COURSE WORK (§ 8 in PhD Regulations)

The academic training is to complement the research work with the thesis, as well as provide academic expertise. The candidate will develop an independent and reflective approach to his/herr own and others' research, and the role of research in a larger context. The mandatory organized academic course work equals one semester's full time work, i.e. a minimum of 30 credits (PhD in economics: 45 credits). The organized academic training component consists of three courses, theory of science, methodology and a theoretical/substantial course.

The candidates are encouraged to take the course SFEL8000 Philosophy of Science for the Social Sciences. The application for assessment of the thesis may be submitted only after the required coursework or other academic training has been completed and approved.

Structure and implementation

The candidate is, if possible, to state in her/his application, a plan for the organized academic training component preferably in consultation with the supervisor(s). External courses/ subjects that are to be a part of the organized academic training must be approved by the department. If access to research courses makes it difficult for the applicant, within a

reasonable time frame, to put together a training program that supports the thesis work, individual syllabuses may be approved as part of the training program.

In special cases, courses that are at master's level can also be approved. These cannot have been part of the candidate's master degree. When taken at the PhD level, master courses count for 2/3 of the master's degree credit. This use of master's courses must be approved by the department upon recommendation of the supervisor. For specific scope or form requirements for the academic training, see the individual PhD program.

The THESIS (§ 10 i PhD Regulations)

The thesis must be an independent piece of academic work and contribute to the development of new scientific knowledge. The thesis may consist of a monograph or a compendium of several shorter scientific papers (articles).

The candidates shall specify the department as his/her address on all publications unless otherwise agreed in advance.

FINALIZATION

Procedures for submission, appointment of an evaluation committee, the committee's report and assessment of the thesis, revision for new assessment, trial lecture and public defence, as well as conferment of the PhD degree - see <http://www.ntnu.edu/svt/phd-programme>.