Doctoral Programme in Business and Technology Management

Guidelines for studies counted towards a doctoral degree

Study plans and degree requirements

Doctoral students must agree on the units and modules counted towards their doctoral degree in advance with their responsible supervisor. In practice, this means that you must draw up a doctoral study plan and discuss your plan with your responsible supervisor when you start working towards your doctoral degree and whenever you need to make changes to your plan. Your study plan must indicate the skills and competencies you are looking to achieve, the courses and assignments that you will complete to achieve them, the number of credits that you will earn, and the year when you are planning to complete the units and modules listed in your plan.

When you apply for admission to doctoral studies and later enrol at Tampere University, you and your responsible supervisor will review your study plan to ensure that your plan will enable you to develop the expected competencies. You will continue to update and review your study plan in cooperation with your responsible supervisor at least once a year throughout your studies.

The minimum scope of doctoral study is 40 ECTS credits. The required scope may be extended, especially if it is necessary considering the skills and competencies you are looking to acquire. Doctoral students are expected to complete units and modules to develop an in-depth understanding of their field of research and expand their methodological expertise.

Units of study that may not be counted towards your doctoral degree include pedagogical studies that qualify you to teach at university level (exceptions may apply), basic courses (exceptions may apply) and scientific articles or other publications that you have authored yourself. Credits that you have earned outside of Tampere University while pursuing a different degree will not be double counted towards your Tampere University degree (exceptions may apply).

Degree structure

Doctoral students must earn 40 credits towards their degree by completing doctoral studies. This requirement applies to all doctoral students.

Discipline- and field-specific studies, min. 25 credits

- Doctoral students complete this module to develop an in-depth understanding of their field of research, develop their scientific writing skills and enhance their ability to generate new scientific knowledge.

- The units of study included in your discipline-specific studies are intended to provide you with in-depth knowledge of the core subject areas relating to your field of research and help you make sound and justified choices when carrying out your dissertation research.
  - Of all the units included in this module, at least 50% should explore the core subject areas relating to your field of research and up to 50% should support your research work.

- The units included in this module may involve the reading of scientific literature, the completion of doctoral courses and doctoral seminars, participation in scientific conferences (with a learning diary to demonstrate your learning), etc. as agreed between you and your responsible supervisor. In some cases, credits earned by completing basic courses (which are specifically identified as suitable for postgraduate studies) may be accepted.
General academic competences, min. 10 credits

- Doctoral students complete this module to develop their methodological competencies and to ensure they are familiar with the principles of scientific integrity and research ethics.
- The minimum scope for doctoral students who started their studies on 1 August 2019 or thereafter is 10 credits (for students who started earlier the minimum scope is 5 credits).
- Besides the required doctoral seminar and ethics course or TAUJ041b Orientation to Doctoral Studies, 4 cr, all doctoral students are strongly recommended to attend the TRT-28046 Doctoral Course on Research Methods, 5 cr, possibly the advanced course on research methods and/or complete an applied review of the key scientific methods relating to their field of research, for example, based on assigned reading.
- Compulsory (all doctoral students admitted after 1 August 2020):
  - TRT-28004 Tuotantotalouden ja tietojohtamisen jatko-opintoseminaari, 5 credits
  - TAUJ041b Orientation to Doctoral Studies, 4 credits
- Compulsory (for doctoral students admitted after 1 August 2019):
  - ethics, such as research ethics (may also be included as part of a different course), e.g. TAUJ12a Research Ethics I, 1 cr or TAUJ12 ab Research Ethics I (online), 1 cr
- Recommended units of study:
  - TRT-28046 Doctoral Course on Research Methods (5 credits) or equivalent
  - scientific writing (may also be included in your discipline- and field-specific studies)
  - advanced methodological studies based on your chosen research methods
- Other general academic competences related studies, such as doctoral courses or similar that explore ethics, philosophy of science or information management.

Options for completing units of study towards your doctoral degree

You can have four options for completing different units of study towards your doctoral degree. You must plan your studies as a whole to support the achievement of your overall goals.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Completion option</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Scientific literature</td>
<td>deepening and broadening your content knowledge and methodological competencies; scientific writing skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Course-based learning</td>
<td>deepening and broadening your content knowledge and methodological competencies; peer learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Doctoral seminars</td>
<td>refining your research plan or research work; gaining access to peer support and external supervision; developing supervisory collaboration; becoming familiar with the activities of the scientific community</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Scientific Community Participation</td>
<td>becoming familiar with the activities of the scientific community</td>
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