



Bureau van de Rector

secretariaat College voor Promoties

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Onderwerp

Overgangsregeling en wijzigingen promotiereglement

Transitional arrangements

The Doctorate Regulations 2014 shall enter into force on 1 October 2014, on which date the Doctorate Regulations 2010 will cease to be effective. These transitional arrangements determine which doctoral candidates will fall under the old regulations and which under the new regulations.

Old regulations

Those well-advanced in their doctoral programmes will continue to be subject to the Doctorate Regulations 2010. This applies to all final defence ceremonies for which the Dean signs the proposal for the composition of the Doctorate Committee before 1 October 2014.

New Regulations

All other defence ceremonies will be subject to the new Doctorate Regulations 2014. Notwithstanding, all decisions already taken by the Doctorate Board will remain in force.

This applies to all decisions relating to admission to the doctoral program, or other decisions taken by the Doctorate Board that predate this, such as decisions on exemptions from the statutory educational requirements for access to the programme.

If the doctoral candidate so wishes, he/she may submit a request to bring a decision relating to admission to the defence ceremony into line with the new regulations. Specifically, this means that the doctoral candidate, in consultation with the supervisor, can have a co-supervisor or second supervisor designated.

Summary of the main changes to the Doctorate Regulations

1. Request for admission and designation of the (co-)supervisor, Articles 10 and 11
 - a. At least one supervisor must be a full professor at the University of Amsterdam (previously it was sufficient that the supervisor held a position as a full professor at a university in the Netherlands).
 - b. At least two individuals are designated to provide supervision for the doctoral student: either two supervisors, or one supervisor and one co-supervisor (formerly one supervisor was sufficient).
 - c. The maximum number of supervisors is two (as before), the maximum number of co-supervisors is two (previously three).
2. Preparing the thesis manuscript, Articles 15,16 (and 17)
 - a. The thesis manuscript that is submitted to the supervisor for final approval is definitive. Changes to the thesis manuscript are not permitted after the supervisor has approved it, except with the express consent of the supervisor.
 - b. The thesis manuscript must be complete, in accordance with the definition in Article 15, clause 5.
 - c. The thesis manuscript is to include a list of references with a summary of co-authors and their contribution to the thesis manuscript.
3. The digital version of the thesis manuscript and the plagiarism check, Article 17
 - a. The paper version of the manuscript must be accompanied by an identical digital version.
 - b. The supervisor is to submit the digital version to the Dean.
 - c. The Dean shall ensure that a plagiarism check is conducted.
 - d. After this check has been conducted, the digital version will be sent to the University Library.
4. The composition of the Doctorate Committee, Article 20
 - a. The minimum number of remaining members is five (previously three).
 - b. The majority of Committee members must be full professors, and the remainder must be doctorate holders (previously these doctorate holders also had to be associate professors or similar).
 - c. Of the members affiliated to the University of Amsterdam (which as previously must be at least half of the remaining members), at least one member must now hold the title of full professor with a primary appointment within the relevant faculty.
 - d. At least one Committee member must be a full professor at another institution (previously no external member was required).
 - e. The participation of co-authors of the doctoral thesis on the Committee is to be limited to a minority of the remaining members (there was previously no regulation concerning this).

5. Deadlines, Articles 22 and 23
 - a. To facilitate the process involved in granting a 'cum laude' distinction, the deadline by which the manuscript must be submitted for evaluation by the Doctorate Committee is brought forward from twelve to fourteen weeks before the intended date of the defence ceremony.
 - b. The Committee members have, as previously, six weeks to make their assessment. The assessment must be available eight weeks before the date of the defence ceremony.
6. The assessment of the Committee members, Articles 23 and 25, Appendix A
 - a. The assessment must be made available using the form in Appendix A, at least eight weeks before the date of the defence ceremony.
 - b. The assessment will be sent to the Dean (formally these were sent to the chairperson of the Doctorate Committee) by each Committee member separately, also sending a copy to the supervisor.
 - c. The members of the Doctorate Committee shall not make any recommendations for changes or additions to the doctoral thesis.
 - d. The Dean (or his/her assistant) will collect the assessments, ensure that they have been carried out correctly, and archive them.
 - e. The supervisor will determine, on the basis of these assessments, whether the thesis manuscript has been approved as a doctoral thesis.
7. Cum laude procedure, section VIII, Articles 27 and 28
 - a. Using the form in Appendix A, the Committee members will indicate as standard whether the doctoral thesis they have evaluated may be considered worthy of 'cum laude'.
 - b. The supervisor will, on the basis of his/her own judgement and the assessment forms that he/she receives, make the decision on whether the cum laude procedure will be initiated. He/she will make a proposal to this effect to the Dean no later than eight weeks before the date of the defence ceremony, accompanied by his/her proposal for four external referees (preferably including at least two from abroad).

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