

**Guidelines for the preparation of a publication-based dissertation in the teaching units
Environmental Sciences and Geosciences of the Faculty of Science of the University of Potsdam**

A cumulative dissertation exists if the results of the doctoral thesis are not presented in the form of a continuous in the form of a collection of several manuscripts of scientific publications. manuscripts of scientific publications.

A cumulative dissertation should be identified as such on the title page.

A cumulative dissertation consists of at least three original articles accepted for peer review. Of these, at least one must have already been published or accepted for publication. Of the manuscripts in which the doctoral candidate was significantly involved in, at least two of them must have been written in a leading role.

If there are several authors, the doctoral candidate's share must be clearly stated. This must be explained on an extra page and countersigned by the supervisor.

In the case of experimental studies, explanatory documents or descriptions of the methods/procedures are to be attached in addition to the published articles, unless these are already comprehensively included in the publications.

The doctoral regulations with all their provisions also apply in full to cumulative dissertations. to the full extent.

A cumulative dissertation is to be submitted in bound form in DIN A4 page format, it consists of the following parts:

- Cover sheet
- table of contents
- List of abbreviations, if applicable
- Introduction (this should refer to the manuscripts as a whole and explain the overarching of the doctoral thesis); an overview of the manuscripts with a description of the author's own contribution to the individual publications
- Manuscripts
- Discussion (this concluding discussion refers to the entirety of all manuscripts and should place the individual results presented in the individual manuscripts in the overall context of the overarching research question and explain how the results in their entirety contribute to answering the research question and how they fit into the current state of knowledge on the topic); length 5-10 pages each
- Summary (refers to the overarching question, the totality of the results and their of the results and their contribution/significance for answering the question)
- Bibliography for the citations in the introduction and the discussion.
- as an appendix, possibly further original data not documented in the manuscripts, or Methods

The comprehensive introduction and the coherent overall discussion are of particular importance for the assessment of a cumulative dissertation. It must conclusively demonstrate the contribution made by the manuscripts as a whole to the expansion of scientific knowledge in the subject area of the doctorate.

