

Doctoral Studies in the Teaching Unit Geoecology

Updated version, February 12, 2024

This document specifies the [Regulations for Doctoral Degree Studies in the Faculty of Science](#), University of Potsdam, for dissertations in the teaching unit Geoecology with regard to:

- Admission requirements for doctoral studies
- Participation in the PhD seminar
- Contributions to academic teaching
- Dissertation thesis

1. Admission requirements for doctoral studies

Acc. to §8(1) of the Regulations for Doctoral Studies, the candidate should have obtained a qualifying degree in the selected scientific discipline of his or her dissertation topic. If that requirement is not met, the [teaching unit's representative in the doctoral committee](#) can, together with the main supervisor, define additional courses or modules which the candidate has to attend in order to acquire the necessary knowledge or skills (see §8(4)). The successful completion of these courses will be certified by the responsible lecturer.

2. Participation in the PhD seminar

Acc. to §8(6), the participation in the PhD seminar of the institute is obligatory, and the teaching unit Geoecology offers a corresponding seminar. There, the candidates can discuss their research in an interdisciplinary environment. The seminar takes place twice a year (winter, summer) as a one day block course. **Each PhD candidate has to attend at least two block courses. In one of these courses, the candidate has to give a presentation of his or her topic.** The successful completion of the seminar will be certified by the responsible lecturer.

3. Contributions to academic teaching

Acc to §12(1), **the candidate needs to contribute to academic teaching at an extent that is equivalent to at least 2 SWS.** If teaching is carried out together with other lecturers/PhD candidates, the contributions will be considered proportionately. The contribution should be planned well ahead in time. The type of contribution should be coordinated between the candidate, the main supervisor and the corresponding lecturers of the teaching unit. The successful completion will be certified by the main supervisor.

4. Dissertation thesis

General requirements are specified in the Regulations for Doctoral Studies. For a cumulative (publication-based) thesis, the Doctoral Committee has specified [guidelines](#) (in German) acc. to §11(1). Just one quote here: *"A cumulative dissertation consists of at least three original articles that must have been accepted for peer-review. One of the articles must already be accepted for publication. For at least two of the three manuscripts, the candidate has to be the lead author."*