Detailed Regulations of D-MTEC for Doctoral Studies

The Department of Management, Technology, and Economics decrees the following detailed regulations for the individual doctoral studies, based on Art. 25 of the Ordinance on Doctoral Studies at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, of July 1, 2008 and the Rector’s Implementation Provisions for the Doctorate Ordinance of September 1, 2008.

Art. 1 Doctoral candidates plan their studies together with their supervisor.

Art. 2 If a Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) at ETH is obtained simultaneously to the doctoral studies, no doctoral studies are required.

Art. 3 The doctoral candidate and his or her supervisor agree on the kind of performance to be achieved for the doctoral studies, preferably, this should be done during the first 6 months of the dissertation. The doctoral committee only intervenes in cases of conflict. At the end of the doctoral studies, the doctoral committee controls the respective performance.

As a general rule, only courses on master level or doctoral level – attended at ETH or outside ETH – are creditable. In exceptional cases, substantiated by the supervisor, courses on bachelor level can be credited. The efficiency controls required to get the respective credit points also apply for doctoral students (attestations are not sufficient). Furthermore, courses outside ETH which are especially offered to doctoral students are accepted.

Art. 4 Evidence of the doctoral studies is given by credit points. Generally, at least 18 credit points have to be earned. The supervisor can reduce the required minimum number to 12 credit points (the doctoral committee has to be informed of this reduction). One credit point corresponds to a performance of 25 to 30 working hours. Credit points are only assigned for personal contributions.

At least 4 of the credit points to be obtained must be earned outside the doctoral candidates’ field of research. Furthermore, the doctoral candidates are expected to earn at least 4 credit points at ETH.

As to the consideration of achievements outside ETH’s course for doctoral students, one credit point also corresponds to a performance of 25 to 30 working hours.

Art. 5 A research plan usually consists of 3-6 pages and contains the following items:

- Issue to be dealt with
- Goals
- Theory / Methodology / Data
- Procedure
- Bibliography
Art. 6   A dissertation can be either a monograph or a cumulative dissertation.

The rules for cumulative dissertations are as follows:

Composition

1) At least 3 scientific papers, which
   • already are published in scientific journals with peer-review, or in books;
   or
   • are about to be published in respective journals or books;
   or
   • the examination board considers worthy of being published in scientific journals
     or books

2) In case of co-authorship, the form and extent of the doctoral student’s contribution
   has to be explained in the introductory chapter.

3) A cumulative dissertation has to be introduced by an introductory chapter. This chapter
   highlights the interrelations of the papers and their positioning within the particular area of expertise.

Structure

1) Introductory chapter, including
   a. Issue to be dealt with
   b. Goals
   c. Methodology
   d. Abstract of scientific papers
   e. Contribution

2) Scientific papers

Art. 7   The present detailed regulations replace the detailed regulations of September 21, 2007,
and become effective after approval by the Rector of ETH Zurich. They apply for all doctoral
students who have started their doctoral studies after this date.

Art. 8   For doctoral students who have started their doctoral studies before September 1, 2009
(date of approval by the Rector), the detailed regulations of September 21, 2007 still apply.

Approved by the Department Conference on: March 4, 2009

Approved by the Rector on: September 1, 2009