

Specific regulations of the Department of Biology regarding the General Doctoral Regulations of the Technische Universität Darmstadt



TECHNISCHE
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The specific regulations of the Department of Biology on the General Doctoral Regulations of the TU Darmstadt from 12. January 1990 (ABl. 1990, S. 658) in its 8th amendment version, were approved by the Presidium of the TU Darmstadt on 05.09.2019 and are hereby made known.

Darmstadt, 05.09.2019

President of the Technische Universität Darmstadt

Prof. Dr. Hans Jürgen Prömel

To § 1 (1) The doctorate

The Department of Biology awards the academic degree of Doctor of Natural Sciences (Doctor rerum naturalium, Dr. rer. nat.). The admission requirements for a doctorate are described on § 7 of these specific regulations.

To § 4 (1) Examination committee

The majority of the members must be from the group of full-time professors in the Department of Biology.

To § 7 (1.2) Acceptance as a doctoral candidate

The application for admission as a doctoral candidate must be submitted to the Dean of the Department of Biology. The following information must be attached to the application:

- a) the certificates of the qualifying university degrees,
- b) a written consent from a supervisor of the Department of Biology in accordance with § 10,
- c) in the case of a planned external dissertation at a non-university research institute or another university, a brief description of the topic of the intended dissertation and the written consent of the external supervisor,
- d) a declaration as to whether and, if so, when and where the applicant has already made an attempt at a doctorate.

To § 7 (3) Minimum grade

The minimal grade from the qualifying University degree must be 2.5 within the German university grading system or an equivalent grade from other grading systems.

To § 7 (5) Conditions for acceptance as a doctoral candidate

To be accepted as a doctoral candidate, one of the following conditions must be fulfilled:

- a) A university degree (diploma or master's degree) in biology or in a scientific subject leading to broad knowledge in biology and in-depth knowledge in the field of the intended dissertation.
 - b) The First State Examination or Master of Education for the teaching profession at grammar schools (Gymnasium) with biology as the main subject together with the completion of an aptitude test procedure.
 - c) If the final grade in the qualifying degree is lower than 2.5, the supervisor must provide written justification for the applicant's selection and suitability.
 - d) A completed university degree not covered by (a), but meeting the same scientific standards as a scientific diploma or master's degree, if a university professor from the subject area of biology has declared his/her willingness to supervise the work in accordance with § 10 and has given written justification for the applicant's selection and suitability, and if a second supervisor has documented in writing his/her willingness to evaluate the work. In this case, the applicants must take part in an aptitude assessment procedure.
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To § 7a Aptitude assessment procedure

In the aptitude test procedure, the doctoral committee checks whether the applicant has a sufficiently broad knowledge of biology and in-depth knowledge in the field of the intended dissertation to work independently in the field of biology within the framework of a dissertation. In the aptitude test procedure, the applicant has the opportunity to acquire missing knowledge and skills by attending courses. After examining the application documents, the supervisor's statement and a hearing with the candidate, the doctoral board determines the type and scope of the services to be provided. As a rule, 1 to 2 modules (8 to 30 CP) are to be completed which are selected from the Bachelor's and Master's programmes of the Biology Department. In special cases, the doctoral committee may determine a course achievement of up to 40 CP.

To § 8 Initiating the doctoral examination procedure and approval

Six copies of the dissertation must be submitted. The Dean's Office will receive four copies, two more will be sent to the two referees for evaluating the dissertation. The application for a doctorate should include, in the case of an aptitude test, the final certificate of the credit points acquired.

To § 9 (1) The dissertation

The dissertation must be accompanied by the following statement:

"Ich erkläre hiermit, dass ich die vorliegende Arbeit entsprechend den Regeln guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis selbstständig und ohne unzulässige Hilfe Dritter angefertigt habe. Sämtliche aus fremden Quellen direkt oder indirekt übernommenen Gedanken sowie sämtliche von Anderen direkt oder indirekt übernommenen Daten, Techniken und Materialien sind als solche kenntlich gemacht. Die Arbeit wurde bisher bei keiner anderen Hochschule zu Prüfungszwecken eingereicht. Die eingereichte elektronische Version stimmt mit der schriftlichen Version überein. "

For doctoral students who do not speak German, the declaration can also be made in English:

"I hereby declare that I have written this dissertation independently and without undue assistance from third parties in accordance with the rules of good scientific practice. All thoughts taken directly or indirectly from external sources as well as all data, techniques and materials taken directly or indirectly from others are marked as such. The work has not yet been submitted to any other university for examination purposes. The submitted electronic version agrees with the written version. "

To § 9 (4) Cumulative dissertation

With the consent of the doctoral board, the dissertation may also be formed from the sum of several scientific publications in the case of research achievements documented by several publications in peer-reviewed international journals. For this purpose:

- a) the cumulative dissertation must contain a general introduction and discussion covering all parts as well as a summary.
 - b) the minimum number of three publications or accepted manuscripts (original research publications) must be reached, of which at least two must have the doctoral candidate listed as first author. Shared first authorships also count as first authorships.
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To § 10 (1) Supervision of the dissertation

The application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate must be accompanied by a proposal for a supervisor and a second supervisor in accordance with § 11 (1). The progress of the work must be documented annually to the supervisors in the form of a seminar.

The structure of the mentoring relationship and the rights and duties of the participants may be laid down in a written supervision agreement.

To § 11 (3) Appointment of referees

When appointing a referee according to § 11 Para. 2c and 2d (professors of a university of applied sciences or another university or leading scientists of a non-university research institute), one of the referees must be a full-time professor of the Department of Biology.

To § 17 (2) Overall verdict

For the assessment "passed with distinction" ("mit Auszeichnung") this grade must be proposed in both evaluations as well as in a third, external evaluation and the overall assessment must be unanimous. In addition, a publication on the topic of the doctorate or an accepted manuscript with the doctoral candidate as first author must be available.

Transition and concluding provisions

These specific regulations of the Department of Biology shall enter into force on the day after their publication in the supplement to the statutes of the Technische Universität Darmstadt. At the same time the specific regulations of the Department of Biology of 16 November 2011, statute supplement 2012-1 p. 6, expire.

Doctoral procedures that have already begun can be completed upon application in accordance with the previous regulations, provided that this is compatible with the provisions of the General Doctoral Regulations of the TU Darmstadt.

Darmstadt, 31.07.2019

Dean of the Department of Biology
of the Technische Universität Darmstadt

Prof. Dr. Heribert Warzecha
