



Regulations for the Doctoral Program Physics

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I. General Information

1. These regulations are based on the Ordinance for Obtaining a Doctoral Degree and the Doctoral Program Regulations Part A at MNF. They apply for all PhD students in experimental and theoretical Physics at MNF.
2. Detailed information on the program can be found on the Physics Institute's website at www.physik.uzh.ch/info/graduateschool.shtml.

II. Admission

Requirements for Admission are:

- A master's in Physics at a Swiss university, ETHZ, EPFL or an equivalent degree. The director of the doctoral program is responsible for the academic evaluation of master's degrees earned at institutes other than a Swiss university, ETHZ or EPFL. The research group leader can demand the completion of specific courses as an additional requirement.
- A successful interview with a research group leader with the right to confer PhDs at the Physics Institute. At least one faculty member must attend.
- A positive decision by the research group leader and the faculty member present at the interview based on students' academic qualifications, the impression they made during the interview and the resources available.

III. Structure of the Doctoral Program

1. **Doctoral Agreement**
Within 6 months from the enrolment as PhD student at MNF, the student, in agreement with the Main Advisor, must submit via the PhD admin tool a brief document (Doctoral Agreement), specifying the main subject of the PhD project.
2. **Doctoral Committee**
Within 6 months from the enrolment, the student, in agreement with the Main Advisor, must complete the formation of the Doctoral Committee and submit it via the PhD admin tool. The Doctoral Committee is composed by at least three members, with at least two members who possess the right to confer a PhD at the Faculty of Science. The Doctoral Committee should meet at least one per year, evaluate the project's progress and should, if necessary, modify the Doctoral Agreement.
3. **Curricular Portion**
The Doctoral Committee determines each PhD student's curriculum individually. Their curriculum should focus on students' specific area of research, while also ensuring a solid general education in physics.
Students must earn a total of 12 ECTS Credits.
 - Credits for conferences or schools: 1 ECTS Credit point per week of participation and an additional point for a personal contribution (presentation or poster);
 - 1 ECTS Credit for participating at the UZH-ETHZ doctoral seminar in particle physicists plus 1 ECTS Credit for a presentation;

- Master courses at UZH or ETHZ count the full ECTS Credits if the exam is taken. Certified attendance without exam counts half of the ECTS Credits;
- Advanced courses at other universities or institutions (eg CERN) as agreed with the PhD supervisor (roughly 1 ECTS credit for 30 hours);
- Maximum 3 ECTS credits may be earned with language and soft skills courses;
- The maximum number of ECTS credits earned from conferences (attendance, talks or posters) is 6;
- students must regularly attend the weekly research seminars during the entirety of their doctorate (no ECTS Credits).

4. Teaching Assistance

A teaching assistance of no more than 420 hours is a component of the doctoral program. The practical trainings coordinator of the physics department is responsible for the assignments. Students are expected to teach each semester, during the last semester before submitting their dissertation, PhD students can be dispensed from their teaching requirements if possible. External PhD students (who have members of the doctoral program as advisors, but are not hired there) are entitled to a reduced teaching load, at least 100 hours.

IV. Doctoral Degree

1. After obtaining the approval from the Doctoral Committee, the students can book a defense date via the PhD admin tool. The booking of the defense date should be made at least 6 weeks in advance.
2. Cumulative dissertations
Cumulative dissertations should include a introduction and discussion of conclusions. The PhD student's own contributions must be clearly evident.
3. Circulation round:
The circulation round consists of at least four faculty members at the Physics Institute in addition to the directly responsible faculty member. Other faculty members (Physical Chemistry, Astrophysics, etc.) may be included if called for by the subject matter. The circulation will be arranged by the main advisor.
4. Colloquium
The colloquium involves a 30 minutes lecture, which is open to the public, and a subsequent minimum 30 minutes closed disputation on questions in the dissertation's subject area. The PhD supervisor and at least two additional members who possess the right to confer a PhD at the Faculty of Science, one of which is not in the Doctoral Committee must be present at the disputation. The reviewers and the direct PhD advisor will be invited to the disputation, even if they are neither members of the faculty nor the doctoral committee.