

The Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies

Regulations for Studies Leading to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

1. Introduction

These regulations deal with the duration, nature and goals of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 "Candidate": A student who has been accepted for doctoral studies in the University but has not yet passed the candidacy examination.
- 2.2 "Research Student": A student who has been accepted for doctoral studies and has passed the candidacy examination.
- 2.3 "The Research Students' Committee": The academic authority responsible for all academic matters pertaining to the acquisition of the Ph.D. degree. (Henceforth: The Committee)
- 2.4 "Curriculum": A program of studies for the Ph.D. degree which includes:
- a. Supplemental study
Courses required for every student, such as prerequisites, practice in research methodology, languages, courses in the student's field, as well as in related fields and seminar lectures.
 - b. Research conducted and the writing of a dissertation.
- 2.5 "Internal Student": A student supported by the University.
- 2.6 "External Student": A student not supported by the University
- 2.7 "Trial Period": A period of up to 12 months from the date of admission into the program and until the approval of the research project by The Committee.
- 2.8 "Period of Candidacy": The duration of study within the Trial Period and until passing the candidacy examination.
- 2.9 "Course Requirements Program": The specific courses required of the student and approved by The Committee.
- 2.10 "Supervisor": A member of the academic staff of the University, who is at least a senior lecturer and has been certified by the department and approved by The Committee to oversee the student's research. The Dean of the Kreitman

School may, in special cases, approve supervision by a (junior) lecturer within the faculty, with the recommendation of the Departmental Masters Committee.

2.10.1. In addition to the responsible supervisor, other advisors or supervisors may offer additional guidance.

2.11 "Examiner": A member of the academic staff of the University, appointed by The Committee, who is at least a senior lecturer or has the equivalent rank at another institution.

Effective
May 1989

2.12 "Board of Examiners": The Supervisor(s), 3-4 additional Examiners and at least one external Examiner, all appointed by The Committee, also serve as the Examiners of the Research Proposal when assessing the Candidates. The Supervisor is responsible for convening this Board.

2.13 "Guidance Committee": A committee composed of two internal, academic faculty members, whose role it is to follow a student's progress and to report to the Committee. In so far as is possible, the members of this Guidance Committee should be selected from among that student's candidacy Examiners. For certain departments or units, the Dean of the Kreitman School may approve some deviation from the prior statement in this paragraph.

2.14 "Judge": A member of the academic staff, who is at least a senior lecturer or has an equivalent rank at another institution, as determined by The Committee.

Effective
May 1989

2.15 "Judges' Panel": The Supervisor and 2-4 additional judges, at least one of whom is from an external academic institution, all approved by The Committee, who will judge the Ph.D. Thesis. It is desirable that each Judges' Panel be identical to that student's Board of Examiners, insofar as possible.

Effective
February 1985

2.16 "Research Proposal": The plan which a Candidate must submit to The Committee after its approval by his/her Supervisor and the Departmental Masters Committee (the topic of which will also be brought to the attention of the Faculty's Graduate Studies Committee). This Research Proposal must include: a formulation of the problems which the student intends to resolve; the approaches and methods for their resolution; and a survey of the relevant literature.

2.17. "Candidacy Examination" A required examination that the student must pass after submitting a Research Proposal. It examines the Candidate's approach to the subject, his/her mastery of the background research and knowledge of the professional literature in the field, and serves to determine the Candidate's qualifications and suitability for doctoral research.

2.18 "Ph.D. Thesis": Original work, either theoretical or experimental, which represents a contribution to the advancement of science. This dissertation is to be written in accordance with the accepted structure and terminology found in the professional literature.

2.19 "Defense of the Thesis": The Defense of the Thesis takes place after the student has fulfilled all the course requirements for the Ph.D. degree. The student is

then asked to present and defend his/her research and conclusions before the Judges' Panel.

Effective
October 2002

2.20 "Supplementary Candidate": A student who has been accepted into a doctoral studies program provisionally, on condition that he/she successfully completes certain predetermined supplementary studies.

3.Organizational Structure of the Kreitman School of Advanced Graduate Studies

Changes in sections 3-3.2.2.5 effective as of February, 1996

Heading the Kreitman School are the Dean and The Research Studies Committee.

3.1 Dean of the Kreitman School

A candidate for Dean of the School will be put forth by the Search Committee, headed by the Rector.

This Search Committee will consist of one representative from each faculty and one representative from each institute. Each faculty's Dean will present one representative to the Search Committee for approval by the University Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will appoint a representative from each of the institutes. The Search Committee will present the name(s) of the candidate(s), not to exceed 3 in number to the Senate. The candidate(s) must have the support of the majority of the members of the Search Committee, including that of the Committee Chairperson.

The Dean of the School will be elected by a majority vote of the Senate from among the candidates submitted by the Search Committee. The term of office is four (4) years. A Dean may be elected for a second term only after a minimal four-year hiatus.

3.1.1 Duties of the Dean of the School

3.1.1.1 The Dean will assume all responsibility for the School and act in concert with the Rector. The Dean will ensure the proper functioning of the School in terms of instruction, research and administration. The Dean will represent the School in the Senate and in other forums, both within and outside the University.

3.2 The Research Studies Committee

3.2.1 Membership in the Research Studies Committee:

3.2.1.1 The Dean of the School will act as Head of the Research Studies Committee.

3.2.1.2 The Head of the Graduate Studies Committee from each academic unit (as defined in paragraph 1.3.2 of the General Academic Regulations).

3.2.1.3 One Senate representative from each academic unit, but from a discipline other than that of the appointed Head of the Graduate Studies Committee, appointed by his/her faculty and approved by the Senate.

- 3.2.1.4 A representative from each institute, appointed by the Steering Committee.
- 3.2.1.5 The Administrative Director of the School will serve as the Coordinator for this Research Studies Committee.
- 3.2.2 Duties of the Research Studies Committee
- 3.2.2.1 To foster the development of advanced research studies.
- 3.2.2.2 To organize interdisciplinary workshops and courses.
- 3.2.2.3 To organize and coordinate series of lectures, symposia and workshops to be given by outstanding scholars in their fields and to allocate funds for this purpose.
- 3.2.2.4 To grant maximal research grants to outstanding students.
- 3.2.2.5 To organize post-doctoral activities in consultation with the Rector.
- 3.2.2.6 To accept research students after having received approval from the academic unit in which the research will take place and with the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee of that faculty.
- 3.2.2.7 To approve Supervisors and Thesis Proposals.
- 3.2.2.8 To approve the Candidate's curriculum.
- 3.2.2.9 To appoint Examiners and Judges.
- 3.2.2.10 To follow the progress of the student by consulting with the relevant departmental Masters committees.
- 3.2.2.11 To discuss the Examiners' and Judges' reports.
- 3.2.2.12 To approve those Ph. D. theses that fulfill the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree. This approval will be given in the name of the University Senate.
- 3.2.2.13 To recommend the granting of degrees before the University Senate.
- 3.2.2.14 To suspend students who do not meet the requirements.
- 3.2.2.15 To routinely update the regulations for graduate study with the Senate's approval.
- 3.2.2.16 To approve the granting of scholarships and fellowships to worthy graduate students.
- 3.2.2.17 To discuss appeals submitted to this Committee by Supervisors or fellow students in keeping with the regulations.
- 3.2.2.18 To do all that is necessary to ensure a normal course of studies.

3.3 The Secretariat for Research Students

The Secretariat for Research Students is responsible for handling all the academic administrative matters throughout the studies leading to a doctoral degree--for the coordination and communication between: faculties, departmental Masters committees, Examiners, Judges, Supervisors and the students. The Secretariat must also implement decisions made by the Committee.

4. Admission to Doctoral Studies

A Candidate can only be accepted for research studies upon the recommendation of the department in which the research will be carried out and with the approval of that faculty's Graduate Studies Committee.

4.1. In addition to the above, the Candidate must fulfill all of the following requirements:

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4.1.1 The Candidate must have a Master's degree from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev or from an equivalent academic institution and must have completed the course work and Masters Thesis with distinction.

4.1.2 The Candidate must be sufficiently educated in the chosen field of research, as determined by The Committee.

4.1.3 The Committee may accept a Candidate who does not yet meet all the requirements in section 4.1.1, if it is convinced that this student is capable of achieving the necessary level and fulfilling the necessary requirements by doing supplementary courses at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev over a period not to exceed one year.

4.1.4 A Candidate deemed worthy of doing doctoral studies must register for those supplementary courses required for attaining a doctorate. Within this framework, the obligatory courses will be completed and the Supervisor and Thesis topic determined. The transition from a Doctoral Candidate status to that of a Doctoral Research Student occurs with the submission of the Research Proposal along with some preliminary conclusions or the first chapter of the work. The duration of studies for an External Student is four years from the day he/she becomes Research Student.

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October 2002

4.2 The Committee may review a Candidate's documentation, invite him/her for an interview and even require he/she take an examination, if this is deemed necessary.

4.3 All doctoral students are accepted for a 12-month trial period.

5 Requirements for Receiving a Ph.D. Degree

Attaining a Ph.D. degree entails the fulfillment of the following requirements:

- a. The appointment of a Supervisor and determination of a research topic (see section 5.1);
- b. Supplemental studies (see section 5.2);

- c. The submission of the Thesis Proposal and the successful completion of the Candidacy Examination (see section 5.3);
- d. Conducting the research and its presentation via a seminar lecture (see section 5.4);
- e. The Ph.D. Thesis (see section 5.5).

5.1 The appointment of the Supervisor and the determination of a research topic

5.1.1 During the 12-month trial period, the student must submit the research topic to The Committee, after it has been approved by both the Supervisor and the head of the academic unit in question.

5.1.2 The Committee will discuss the research topic and appoint a Board of Examiners.

5.2 Supplemental studies

5.2.1 Every student will be required to take supplementary courses (6-10 academic credits) towards the Ph.D. degree, as determined by the Supervisor. The student in a regular course of studies must complete the course requirements by the end of the third year of studies.

5.2.2 The required curriculum is determined by the Supervisor, who takes into consideration both the prior studies and the research topic. This study program must be approved by The Committee upon the recommendation of the Candidate's Departmental Masters Committee. The Examiners may also make recommendations to The Committee, which is empowered to stipulate further requirements.

5.2.3 The student is required to abide by all the regulations regarding the requirements for the Ph.D. degree, such as: submission dates, changes in examination dates, etc.

5.2.3.1 In order to prepare the research student for the duties he/she will be expected to perform after graduation in the fields of research and teaching, the requirements of the curriculum may include formal training in university teaching, if The Committee deems it necessary for a particular doctoral student. The curriculum for doctoral research students includes: academic specialization in teaching practice, research methodology, and eight hours per week of guidance and counseling, as determined by head of the academic unit.

5.2.4 The Committee may oblige the Candidate to study the Hebrew language and to take a Hebrew language examination during his/her course of studies, if it is found that the Candidate's knowledge of Hebrew is inadequate. The Committee sets the date for the Hebrew language examination.

5.2.5 The student must complete all the curricular requirements before commencing to write the dissertation.

5.3 Submitting the Research Proposal and the Candidacy Examination

5.3.1 As a part of the registration process, a Doctoral Candidate must submit the form designating his/her Thesis Supervisor to The Committee. A doctoral student must also submit to The Committee his/her research topic within three months

of acceptance to the doctoral studies program. Then, the student must present the Research Proposal to The Committee no later than 12 months from the date of acceptance into the doctoral program and after it has been approved by both the Supervisor and the Departmental Masters Committee (in as many printed copies as requested along with a digital copy). Research Proposals should include: a formulation of the problem(s) to be dealt with by the student; approaches and methodology for the solution of those problem(s); and a survey of the literature.

In irregular cases, such as prolonged I.D.F. Reserve duty or childbirth, the deadline for the submission of the Research Proposal may be extended by up to half a year. In highly irregular cases, this extension may be up to a year, bearing in mind all the students' general rights, as ratified in 2012 (e.g., adjustments made for fertility treatments, high-risk pregnancy, childbirth, child adoption or acquiring guardianship status and Reserve duty), as ratified in 2012.

5.3.2 The Research Proposal, forming the basis of the Candidacy Examination, is sent by the Secretariat to the Examiners for their perusal prior to the examination date.

5.3.3 The aim of the Candidacy Examination, which takes place approximately one month after the submission of the Research Proposal, is to scrutinize the student's approach to the subject, as well as his/her mastery of the background research and the professional literature. As such, the purpose is to determine the Candidate's ability and suitability to do doctoral research. The duration of/and conditions for the Candidacy Examination (all or partially oral) are determined by the Examiners.

5.3.4 At the conclusion of the Examination, the Examiners forward their recommendations to The Committee for approval. These recommendations include an evaluation of the Candidate's abilities and level of work and determine the possibility of his/her conducting research either at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, or at any other university in Israel or abroad, or at an equivalent scientific institution, within the near future.

5.3.5 Final approval for the Research Proposal is granted by The Committee. The Committee or the Examiners may ask for modifications or changes in the Research Proposal and may require that the student complete supplementary studies relating to the field in question, also setting a date for their completion.

5.3.6 A student who does not submit a Research Proposal, as defined above, is considered to have failed the Candidacy Examination.

5.3.7 A student who fails the Candidacy Examination may retake it one to two semesters later, as determined by The Committee or as per the recommendation of the Examiners. In such a case, the student must resubmit his/her Research Proposal to his/her Supervisor approximately one month before the date of the examination. Nevertheless, The Committee may suspend a student's studies after only one failure as per the Examiners' recommendations. If a student fails a second time, or does not take the Candidacy Examination, his/her studies are suspended.

5.3.8 In the case of a difference of opinion among the Examiners, the final decision rests with The Committee.

5.3.9 A student may change his/her research topic, limit or expand it, with the Supervisor's agreement and the approvals of the Departmental Masters Committee and The Committee. When the topic is changed, The Committee decides if, or to what extent, to give credit for the period of study before the change of research topic.

5.3.10 A student who has changed his/her research topic after the Candidacy Examination must retake the examination on the new topic, unless The Committee, following the recommendations of the Supervisor and the Departmental Masters Committee, decides that the two subjects are close enough.

5.4 Conducting the research

5.4.1 The research must be original--theoretical or experimental. The research will be deemed valuable if it makes an original contribution to the development of knowledge and understanding in its field.

5.4.2 The Supervisor should assist the student in planning and conducting the research, should follow its progress and should help to format the dissertation after the results have been formulated.

5.4.3. A Supervisor who no longer wishes to continue to guide a student, should submit a request, stating the reasons for this decision, to The Committee via the Departmental Committee. If, for any reason, the Supervisor does not continue, The Committee should help the student to find another appropriate Supervisor.

5.4.4 If, after the appointment of a Supervisor, it becomes clear that an additional supervisor should be appointed, The Committee should appoint an auxiliary Supervisor in consultation with the primary Supervisor.

5.4.5 A student who wishes to change his/her Supervisors must submit a request stating the reasons to The Committee.

5.4.6 A doctoral student must submit a Progress Report, approved by his/her Supervisor, to the Guidance Committee and to the Head of his/her Departmental Committee once a year, beginning one year after his/her acceptance as a doctoral research student. After each Progress Report is submitted, the student meets with the Guidance Committee, which assesses his/her research progress and produces a written evaluation, which is approved by the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee. Then, the student's Progress Report and the Guidance Committee's written and approved evaluation, along with the Supervisor's opinion are sent to The Committee for its confirmation no later than one month after receipt of the Report.

5.4.6.1 After receiving the final report from the student (see paragraph 5.5.1), the Guidance Committee makes a recommendation to The Committee as to whether the student is able to summarize and present his/her research for judgment.

5.4.7 Any delay in submitting the final Progress Report must be approved by The Committee. Without such approval, The Committee may take steps to suspend the student's studies.

5.4.8 At an advanced stage of the research, the student must give at least one seminar lecture on his/her research topic. The date, time and place of this lecture are publicized in keeping with University practice.

5.4.9 A Supervisor who feels that his/her student's studies are not efficacious and that no progress is being made may recommend to The Committee that these studies be suspended. The Committee decides whether to accept this recommendation or whether to transfer the student to a different Supervisor.

5.4.10 The Chairperson of the Departmental Masters Committee may, in conjunction with the Supervisor and with the approval of The Committee, appoint a research consultant or consultants. Such an appointment may be made at any time during the research period. Research consultants may advise a student in his/her field and in related fields. The following may be appointed as consultants: faculty members at research or higher education institutions, whose rank is at least equivalent to that of a university lecturer; or professional and specialized scientists, even if they are not employed by an academic institution.

5.5 The Ph.D. Thesis (Dissertation)

5.5.1 In the Final Report submitted to The Committee (section 5.4.6), before starting to write the dissertation, the student should summarize what his/her research has achieved.

5.5.2 The dissertation must include the following sections:

- a. A clear statement of purpose;
- b. A description of the prior research;
- c. A description of the present research and the results;
- d. A comparison of the present research with prior research in the same field;
- e. A discussion of the present research and conclusions;
- f. A bibliography.

Effective
December 2004

5.5.3 In lieu of a dissertation, a student may submit a collection of articles written by the student, which present the research results (see section 10).

Effective
December 2004

5.5.4 The dissertation may be written in Hebrew or English. A Hebrew Thesis must be accompanied by an English abstract. The abstract should comprise ~5% of the total Thesis. An English Thesis must be accompanied by a Hebrew abstract and also by confirmation that it has been professionally edited or, in irregular cases, edited by the Supervisor, with the approval of the Dean of the School. In highly irregular cases, a student may request permission to submit a dissertation written in another language (not Hebrew or English); such a request must be well-explained, substantiated scientifically, and submitted with the Supervisor's recommendation immediately after the student is accepted into doctoral studies. The University Research Students' Committee is entitled to approve such a request as long as they can locate Judges who can handle that language and the Supervisor has a sufficient mastery of it. In those cases in which The Committee approves the writing of the Ph. D. Thesis in a foreign language, it must include both Hebrew and English abstracts each up to ~5% of the total Thesis. The language of the Progress Reports should be determined with the Guidance Committee.

5.5.5 With the conclusion of the actual research process, the research findings should be summarized in a scientific essay, written in accordance with the accepted format and

terminology in the professional literature and in a style appropriate for publication. The Thesis is to be prepared in keeping with the regulations for editing and binding and submitted to the Secretariat. Then, The Committee will appoint the Judges.

5.5.6 The student may submit a dissertation at any time during his/her studies.

5.5.7 The Secretariat sends one copy of the dissertation to each Judge and requests a written opinion, independent of the opinions of the other Judges.

5.5.8 The Committee decides whether or not to accept the dissertation based on the Judges' reports. In case of a difference of opinion among the Judges, The Committee may decide either to add additional Judges to the Panel or to appoint an entirely new Panel. Similarly, The Committee may decide to accept the dissertation after requiring certain corrections added or may demand that a new Thesis be submitted; either way, The Committee will set a time limit as per the Judges' recommendations.

6. Duration of Studies and Regulations

6.1 The duration of the doctoral studies and research may not exceed the period of 4 years from the date of acceptance to the program. If a student has not completed the work within that time period, he/she may apply to The Committee with a detailed request for an extension of the study period, approved by the Supervisor and the Chairperson of the Departmental Masters Committee. Taking all the students' general rights as of 2012 into account (e.g., adjustments made for fertility treatments, high-risk pregnancy, childbirth, child adoption, acquiring guardianship status or prolonged I.D.F. Reserve duty), The Committee will give serious consideration to requests for extensions.

6.2 A student who has not yet submitted his/her Thesis must re-register before the start of each semester.

6.3 A student who cannot continue to study must submit a written request, no later than one month after the beginning of the semester, detailing the reasons for this with an attached recommendation by the Supervisor. The Committee may authorize a leave of one or two semesters. A student who does not return after his/her official leave is thought to have left the program.

6.4 The Committee is empowered reject the re-registration of a student who took a leave without permission.

7. The Bestowal of the Ph.D. Degree

7.1 The Ph. D. degree is granted by the University Senate following the recommendation of The Committee.

7.2 Ph.D. diplomas are handed out at an annual spring graduation ceremony.

8. Combined-Track Doctoral Studies

8.1 In order to be accepted to the Combined-Track program, a Masters student must be in the final stages of research and must demonstrate an outstanding ability in the field.

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May 1989

In addition, the Master's Thesis must be suited to expansion into a doctoral dissertation, in regard to the content, the originality and the novelty. In order to transfer to a Combined-Track, the student must submit his/her request by July (of the second year of his/her Masters studies). This request must include the recommendations of the Supervisor and the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Transfer to the Combined-Track is possible from two years after the start of the Masters studies. In unusual cases, it is possible to transfer to the Combined-Track after three years at the very most.

Effective
October 2002

8.2 The student must complete the entire Masters program (i.e., all of the obligatory course credits) with the necessary grade-point average for admission to a doctoral program.

8.3 Upon acceptance into the Combined-Track, the student is subject to all the rules and regulations incumbent on all the doctoral students. Permission to submit a request for acceptance into the Combined-Track is granted by The Committee following the recommendations of the Supervisor and of the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee. If such permission is granted, the student must submit a short summary of the results of his/her Masters research (in Masters Thesis format) and a Doctoral Thesis Proposal by October (at the end of the second year of his/her Masters studies). Such a student is then examined on the basis of his/her Masters research and Research Proposal in the prescribed manner. With the successful completion of this Candidacy Examination, the student is accepted into the Combined-Track and receives a Masters degree. If the student does not pass this Candidacy Examination, he/she is subject to all the rules and regulations of the Masters program.

8.4 All research performed by the student before entering the doctoral program may be included in the Thesis submitted for the doctorate.

8.5 Every faculty may submit to The Committee detailed requests for additional requirements for their Combined-Track students.

9.The Direct Track to the Doctorate

9.1 Definitions

9.1.1 "The Direct Track": This track is meant solely for outstanding students (the top 10% in their graduating class), who have completed their Bachelors degrees. It allows them to enroll directly into the doctoral studies program, without registering for a Masters degree.

9.1.2 "Additional Professional Studies": The amount of formal studies is determined in conjunction with paragraph 9.3.1.

9.1.3 "Candidate": A student who has been accepted into the Direct Track, but has not yet taken the Candidacy Examination.

9.1.4 All the rules and regulations applicable to doctoral students also apply to students in the Direct Track, unless otherwise specified.

9.2 Conditions for admission into the Direct Track to the Ph.D. degree

9.2.1 A Candidate may be accepted into the Direct Track with the recommendation of the academic unit in which he/she will study and conduct research and with the approval of the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee. In addition, the Candidate must meet the following prerequisites:

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October 2002

9.2.1.1 The Candidate must have a Bachelors degree from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev or an equivalent degree from another recognized academic institution and top marks in his/her studies. The Committee may also accept a student on the basis of other information indicating that this Candidate completed his/her studies in the top 10% of the students in the field.

9.2.2 A Candidate may be admitted into the Direct Track at the beginning of any academic semester.

9.2.3 Application procedures for admission to the Direct Track are the same as those for the standard doctoral program.

9.3 Requirements for receiving a Ph.D. degree via the Direct Track

Receiving a Ph.D. degree via the Direct Track requires the fulfillment of all the conditions stated in section 5 and the completion of additional courses in the field beyond those listed in paragraph 5.2.

9.3.1 These additional courses in the field (another 6-10 course credits) are identical to those required for a Masters degree in the academic unit in which the Candidate is studying.

9.3.2 The curriculum is determined, after consultation with the Supervisor, by the Departmental Masters Committee of the department in which the Candidate is studying. This program of study is brought to The Committee for its approval.

9.3.3 After the Candidacy Examination, The Committee may alter the curriculum in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Examiners and after consulting with the Departmental Masters Committee in which the Candidate is studying. If the Examiners find that the Candidate's background is insufficient, the curriculum may exceed the number of course credits mentioned above (9.3.1).

9.3.4 A Candidate must fulfill all of the study requirements within 4 years from the date of admission into the doctoral studies program.

9.3.5 A Candidate must submit a Research Proposal by his/her third semester of study, which should include research results, presented in a Masters Thesis format. This Proposal is sent to the Departmental Masters Committee for the consideration of additional scientists. This committee may approve or reject this brief Research Proposal. If this brief Proposal is rejected, the student should submit an amended Proposal within 6 months. At this point, if the student is ready to submit a Research Proposal that may serve as the basis for his/her Candidacy Examination, the student will be exempted from the requirement to submit a brief preliminary proposal.

Effective
October 2002

9.3.6 A student in the Direct Track, who has finished the Masters course quota, submitted a research proposal and successfully passed the Candidacy Examination, is entitled to receive a Masters degree. The degree is granted to the student by the faculty in which he/she completed the studies. For students in interdisciplinary fields, The Committee determines which relevant faculty or department will grant the degree.

9.4 Timetable and regulations

9.4.1 The duration of studies in the Direct Track may not exceed 5 years from the date of admission. If the student has not completed the research within that time, he/she may submit to The Committee a detailed request for an extension for the purpose of completing the research. Generally, extensions are not given for more than one year.

9.4.2 A student must submit an application for the appointment of a Supervisor and his/her preliminary Research Proposal (section 9.3.5) no later than the end of the first month of the second semester of his/her studies. Likewise, the student must submit the Research Proposal (section 5.3) no later than the end of his/her third semester of studies.

9.4.3 A student must complete at least three-quarters of the professional courses set for him/her during the first 3 years of study and must achieve a grade-point average of 85 in these course. If the student does not meet these conditions, his/her studies in the Direct Track are suspended.

9.4.4 A student whose studies have been suspended or has decided to leave the Direct Track may request that the courses he/she has completed within the context of the Direct Track be recognized for a Masters degree by the department in which he/she has studied. Then, the degree may be attained by completing the remaining requirements for the Masters degree.

10. Submission of Articles for the Doctorate

10.1 General information

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A Doctoral Thesis may be submitted which is composed of articles that present the results of research conducted by the student. It is important to emphasize that, especially in this case, in which the articles replace the standard dissertation, the student's research must be independent, original and must present a unique contribution to the advancement of knowledge and understanding in the field, if it is to be accepted as a Ph.D. Thesis.

Conditions for submitting the request

10.1.1 At least 3 articles must be submitted, which have been accepted for publication by prestigious, refereed journals in the field. The articles must be written by the student. The student must be the primary author of the articles or it must be explicitly stated in the article that the scientific contribution of all the contributors are of equal importance. This having been said, it must be noted that the same article may not be submitted in two Ph.D. Theses.

10.1.2 Only articles related to the Research Proposal will be accepted for the doctorate.

10.2 How to Submit the Request

The request for the submission of articles as a doctorate must include letters from the Candidate and the Supervisor, as well as copies of the articles:

10.2.1 The student's letter must provide the following details:

- a. About the articles, where they were published or where they have been accepted for publication. (The student must provide evidence of the acceptance of the articles awaiting publication from the publisher of the journal.)
- b. A detailed description of the order of the articles in research process: how they create a continuous and logical structure and address the research topic.
- c. A detailed description of additional chapters dealing with those results that are not included in the articles, but may be included in the research.

10.2.2 The letter from the Supervisor must relate to the articles and to the student's part in each of them, according to the following guidelines:

- a. What was the student's contribution to the article? How much was the student's contribution in comparison to that of the other writers?
- b. The quality of the journal(s) in which the articles appeared or will appear.
- c. A declaration that, despite the fact that the dissertation is not being presented in the traditional manner, the basic rule that the research is independent and original and that it constitutes a unique contribution to the advancement of knowledge and understanding in the field, has been respected.

10.2.3 The Supervisor's confirmation is required stating that the joint authors of the articles have given permission for these articles to be included in this Doctoral Thesis. If such permission is missing, The Committee will decide whether or not an article may be included in the collection of articles in lieu of a Thesis.

10.3 The decision of The Committee

The Committee weighs the student's and the Supervisor's requests and renders a decision.

10.4 The submission process

How to submit the Ph.D. Thesis:

With the conclusion of the studies and the research, the student submits the collection of articles to The Committee as per the following format:

10.4.1 An introduction that relates to the following topics:

- a. An up-to-date review of the general research field;
- b. A broad review of the articles and how they fit into the research field in general;
- c. A description of the order of appearance of the articles; the connection between them; how they create a logical and continuous structure;
- d. The research methodology and the experimental system, with a description of research methods not included in the articles or, where applicable, a detailed description of the methods which are only briefly discussed in the articles. Special emphasis should be placed on methods developed during the course of the research. In the case of experimental work, an in-depth review of the experimental system of the research should be provided.

10.4.2 The articles

This chapter should include the articles (and the pre-publication materials), organized according to the progress of the research process.

10.4.3 Discussion and summary:

- a. An expanded discussion of the research results and their significance.
- b. The principle results presented in the articles.
- c. Special attention should be paid to innovations and unique contributions to the field.

10.4.4 A list of sources for the introduction and summary, not cited in the articles' references.

10.5 Language of the work

The language of a doctorate composed of articles should be Hebrew or English. All other languages must receive special permission from The Committee.

10.6 Judging the Ph.D. Thesis

The Ph.D. judging process, when a Doctoral Thesis is composed of articles is the same as for a standard doctorate. However, because the work is being submitted in a special format, a letter to that effect must be attached for to the Judges' copies. Additionally, a detailed letter from the Supervisor, explaining both the articles and the student's contribution to them, should also be sent to the Judges.