



universität
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Navigating your PhD at the University of Vienna



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**Research Services and
Career Development |**

Center for Doctoral Studies



Agenda:

- **The University of Vienna**
- **The Doctorate – General Frame**
- **Entry Phase of the Doctorate**
- **Achievements & Responsibilities**



Early stage researchers are expected to ...

- **make an original contribution to the field**
- **present research findings at conferences, etc.**
- **engage in scientific activities**
- **increase their research and transferable skills**



Increase your PhD awarness

- ❖ **Learn how the system works**
- ❖ **Get familiar with the common practices at your faculty**
- ❖ **Make sure you know what a PhD actually is.**



- **One of the oldest and largest universities in Central Europe**
- **Subdivided into 15 faculties and 4 research centers (spread over more than 60 locations)**
- **Offers PhD studies in a wide range of fields (Humanities, Social- and Natural Sciences, Law, Economics)**
- **Eight Curricula for 81 Dissertation fields**



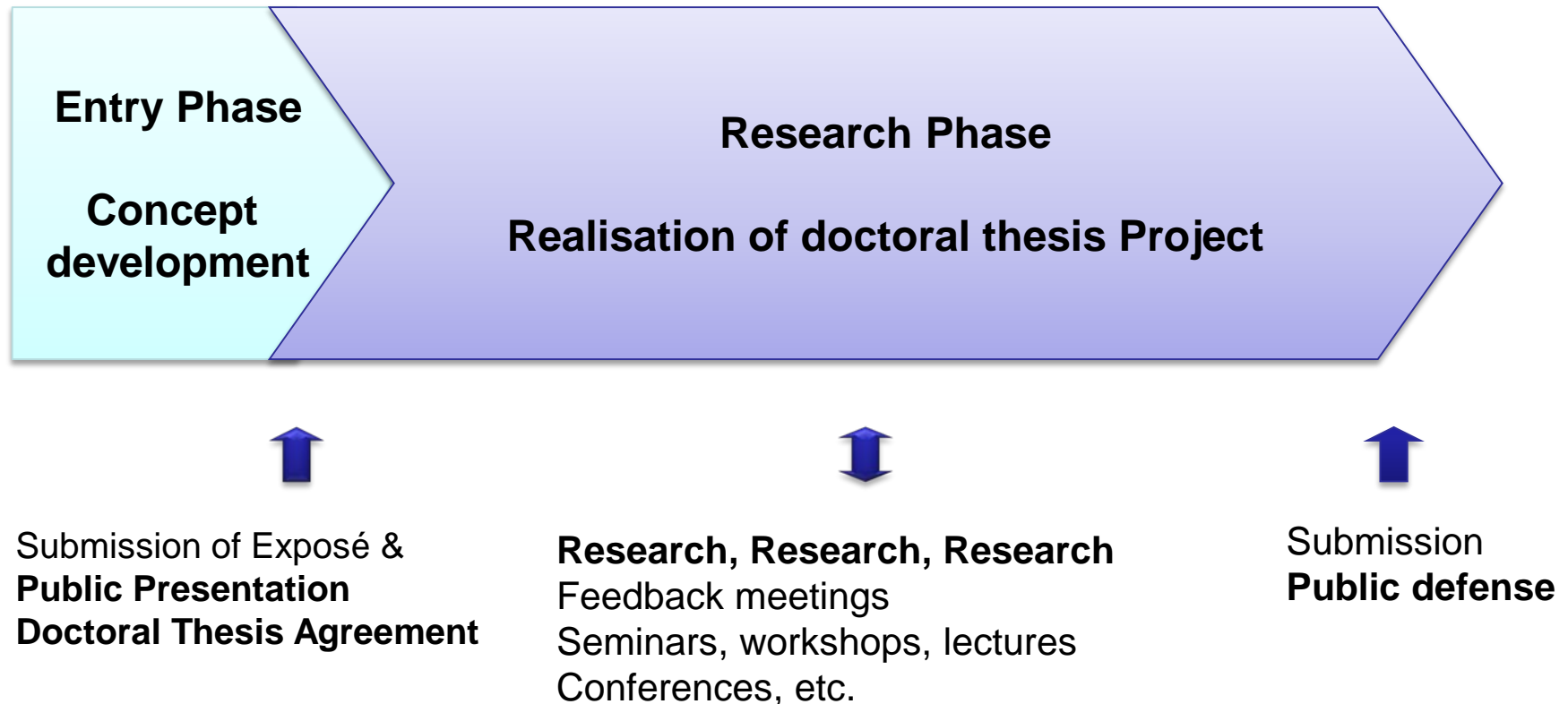
Topic

Institution / Supervisor

Funding



Structure of the Doctorate at the University of Vienna





- Specification of the **research topic** and finding a **supervisor**
- **Planning** the research project
- Writing your **research proposal**
- Submitting and presenting the research proposal in front of the faculty within the **first year**

Recommendation: Attend Public Presentations to get an idea how it is organized at your faculty.



.... a project plan of your dissertation project



➤ **WHAT?**

➤ **WHY?**

➤ **HOW?**



Format:

- **Approx. 10 pages long**

Content:

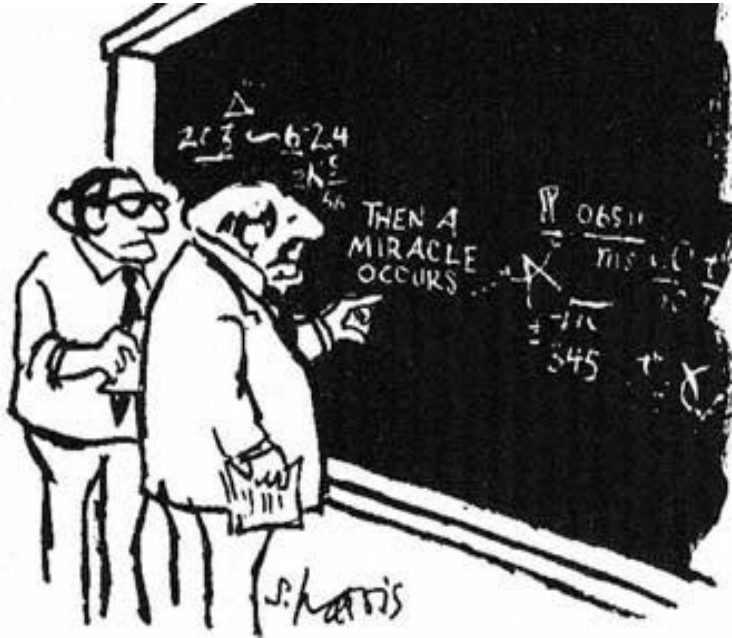
- **Description of the topic including clear research questions**
- **Outline of the state of the art**
- **Illustration of the chosen methods**
- **Relevant literature**
- **Time and work plan**



Guidelines in

- Social Sciences
- Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies
- Philosophy

Recommendation: Join a thesis writing group! They are useful instruments to escape isolation and to foster the exchange of ideas with peers.

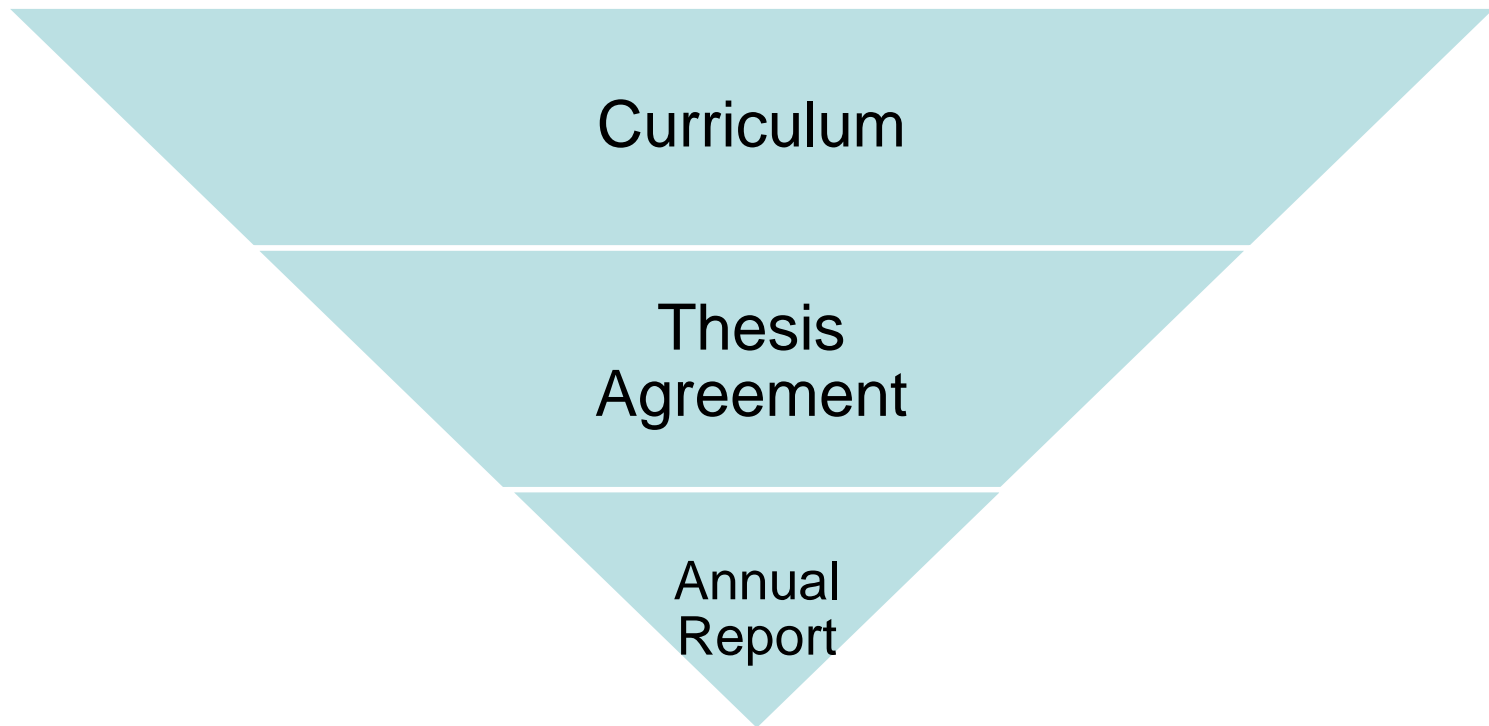


„I think you should be more explicit here in step two.“

- **Mandatory**
- **Quality assurance / feedback through Doctoral Advisory Board**
- **Exchange with peers**

You find all dates and how to apply on the website

<http://doktorat.univie.ac.at>





Make the most of opportunities which arise

- ❖ **Attend workshops, conferences, seminars**
- ❖ **Take part in training seminars**
- ❖ **Get involved in the activities at your department**
- ❖ **If possible, include a research stay abroad**
- ❖ **Build up your future network,**



PhD life includes more than “only” writing a thesis





Planning is essential

- ❖ **A good time management is important!**
- ❖ **Define milestones and divide your project into manageable phases**
- ❖ **Use the annual progress reports as planning tool**
- ❖ **Think about your life after the PhD in due time – what is needed for your future career? Many things need planning far in advance (e.g. publications)**



Doctoral Candidate – Early Stage Researcher

- Your dissertation must be **your** contribution to the scientific community
- Research project is under **your** management



Fellow Doctoral Candidates



Supervisor(s) – Experienced Researchers

- **Experts in your field**
- **Guidance, continuous support, feedback,**

Important: Clarify Expectations!

Directors of the Doctoral Study Programmes

- **Responsible for quality assurance**
- **Acceptance of achievements,**





StudyServiceCenter

- **All administrative issues**
- **Organize public presentation**
- **Collect your documents and forms (doctoral thesis agreement, annual report, etc.)**
- **.....**



Center for Doctoral Studies

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W: <http://doktorat.univie.ac.at>

Consultation

- in person
- per email
- Info sessions



Contact:

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