

GUIDELINES PhD RESEARCH

The candidate has a master's degree, majoring in research. This means that during the master's program, he/she obtained notions of scientific research. The candidate must substantiate this by adding to the application two publishable articles (15ects) and a draft for PhD research (15ects portfolio including motivation, question, argumentation, research structure, academic relevance and bibliography).

Submission of application

The application to start a PhD research project at the FPTR must be submitted at the meeting of the academic board in September of the new academic year.

Content of the application file

1. Short CV stating relevant education, recent photo, contact information and possible funding scheme
2. Copy of Master's degree with attached list of credits obtained (with sworn translation if not in Dutch/Fr/German or English)
3. For students not graduating from FPTR, a letter of recommendation from a professor at a recognized theological faculty is included in the file
4. An exposé of the planned doctoral research with emphasis on academic relevance

Procedure

After the initial declaration of admissibility by the academic board, a professor will be appointed to act as contact person. This is expected to be the future supervisor. He/she makes an appointment with the PhD student and reports on this to the board.

After evaluation, permission is officially given to start the PhD research and the supervisor is appointed. The research starts as soon as the administrative registration and the financial obligations have been fulfilled.

During the research

The PhD candidate works in close contact with the supervisor. They meet at least once a semester to discuss progress.

The supervisor informs the academic board about the progress of the research.

The PhD student is encouraged to communicate partial results, either in the form of working lectures, seminars or presentation of the partial result in the meeting of the research groups at the FPTR.

Evaluation

Depending on the work done and the partial results presented, the academic board draws up an interim report. The first time this will happen after 2 years. Depending on the evaluation, the PhD student is invited by the board to discuss possible adjustments or changes.

A second and final interim evaluation can take place after 4 years if necessary. Then, after consultation, the finishing date is determined. The dates for submission and public defense are put on the agenda in consultation.

Duration

The length of a PhD research project cannot possibly be set in a guideline. However, we strongly recommend not extending the period and advise against a research period of more than 10 years.

Depending on the circumstances, a supervisor can remain active as a supervisor of a doctoral research project up to five years after emeritus status. The academic board can also propose and implement a change of supervisor.

The first year and the year of defense the full registration fee is charged (€ 850). The intervening years of research are subject to a minimum fee (€ 100,-).