

Requirements for admission to doctoral studies in architecture and urbanism

Necessary documents:

- Letter to the Dean requesting admission to doctoral studies, stating the provisional title of the thesis and the desired doctoral degree (Dr.-Ing. or Dr. phil.)
- Declaration about previous or current applications for doctoral studies at other institutions
- Signed supervision agreement
- Master's certificate
- Curriculum vitae
- Exposé on the dissertation project

Exposé:

The written explanation of the research project should clarify its content and methodology. In addition, applicants document with the exposé their ability in scientific writing. The length of the exposé should not exceed 12 pages (including cover page).

1. Cover page (one page)

The cover pages states the provisional title, the name and contact details of the applicant as well as a table of content.

2. Summary (English and German, approx. half a page each).

The abstract should be generally comprehensible and state the topic, its relevance, the objective and methodology of the dissertation project in a concise form.

3. Topic (approx. one page)

This section serves to explain the topic and the focus of the research. In particular, the relevance in relation to the scientific and societal mission of architecture and urbanism should be explained.

4. State of the art (approx. 1-2 pages)

This section provides a short overview of the already available research results and the methodological approaches to the topic; it outlines the research gap and/or the desired gain in knowledge for the own research.

5. Objectives and methodology (approx. 2-3 pages)

This section defines the working hypothesis, the main research questions, and the expected outcomes of the project. Then, the methodology is outlined, including the choice of methods, the structure of the research steps and the disposition of the work. The resources of any kind relevant to the project are specified (literature, plan material, examinations, statistical data, etc.) and, if applicable, experimental/practical research involvement inside or outside university. Finally, the innovation potential of the outcomes and methodology should be stated.

Faculty of Architecture and Landscape Sciences

Dean for Research

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6. Own preliminary work (approx. half a page)

This section should provide information on the topic selection. This may also include information on relevant competences already acquired and preliminary work carried out in the context of studies or professional practice.

7. Table of contents (1 page)

A preliminary table of contents of the thesis should show the structure of the thesis at the current stage.

8. Work plan (1 page)

The work plan, which can be divided into quarterly sections, should show the linear sequence of the work steps. It should list all work steps (research, data collection, documentation, series of experiments, developments, planned travels or stays at external institutions up to the finalisation of the manuscript). The preparation of the work plan serves to check whether the intended project is manageable in terms of time.

9. Preliminary bibliography (approx. 1–2 pages)

The bibliography lists the titles cited in the exposé and also provides a selection of the literature that is fundamental to the project.

10. Graphic materials

The exposé should contain graphic materials, images, photographs, etc., also exceeding the limit of 12 pages, in an appropriate manner.