

Doctoral Regulations of the University of Tübingen for the Interfaculty Subject of Neurosciences

On the ground of § 38 clause 4 clause 1 of the State Higher Education Act (LHG) of 1.04.2014, the University of Tübingen Senate decided on 16.07.2015 the following doctoral regulations, according to § 19, clause 1 number 10 LHG. The rector gave his approval on 30.07.2015.

List of contents:

- § 1 Awarding the degree of Doctor of Natural Sciences in the subject of neurosciences
- § 2 Doctorate board
- § 3 Doctorate committee
- § 4 Acceptance as a doctoral candidate
- § 5 Doctoral studies
- § 6 Requirements for admission to doctorate
- § 7 Application for admission
- § 8 Decision on admission
- § 9 Thesis
- § 10 Appointment of evaluators
- § 11 Examination of the thesis
- § 12 Suspension for revision of the thesis
- § 13 Evaluating the thesis
- § 14 Oral examination
- § 15 Implementation and timing of the oral examination
- § 16 Evaluating the oral examination
- § 17 Repeating the oral examination
- § 18 Overall grade
- § 19 Certification
- § 20 Repeating the examination process
- § 21 Publishing the dissertation
- § 22 Completing the examination
- § 23 Special conditions for the doctorate in joint supervision with a foreign university
- § 24 Cheating, forfeiture of doctorate
- § 25 Inspecting the doctorate files
- § 26 Entry into force and transitional arrangements

§ 1 Awarding the degree of Doctor of Natural Sciences in the subject of neurosciences

The University of Tübingen awards via the science faculty and the medical faculty in the subjects of neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neuroscience and neural information processing the academic degree of Doctor of Natural Sciences (Dr. rer. nat.) on the basis of (i) studies accompanying the doctorate, (ii) a scientific treatise (dissertation) and (iii) an oral examination in the form of a defense.

§ 2 Doctorate board

(1) The doctorate board makes all decisions for which this doctoral regulation has no special procedures. Chairman of the doctorate board is in rotation one of the chairman of the joint committees for two years respectively. The rotation begins with the chairman of the joint neural and behavioural sciences committee, followed by the chairman for cellular and molecular

neuroscience and the chairman for neural information processing. For decisions transferred to the chairman¹ of the doctorate board, the doctorate board can give guidelines.

(2) The doctorate board consists of members of the joint committees set up by the senate in accordance with § 15 (6) LHG for the courses of neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neuroscience and neural information processing to the extent that these belong to the group of people defined according to § 3 (1) and (2).

(3) For decisions on the evaluation of dissertations in accordance with § 13 clause 6 the members of the extended doctorate board come to vote. The extended doctorate board consists of the members of the doctorate boards of the science faculty and the medical faculty.

The chairman of the doctorate board can call in the evaluators for advice when dissertations are being evaluated. If objections are raised under § 13 clause 3, the evaluators must be called if they so wish.

(4) The doctorate board has a quorum if at least half of its members are present, the extended doctorate board, if at least a quarter. It does not sit in public. Decisions are reached by a majority vote unless stipulated otherwise. In the event of a tie vote the chairman has the casting vote. Abstention from voting is not permissible. If so decided on the evaluation of dissertations, the report will show apart from the results of voting and as required the opinion forming- and voting process, how many members followed which opinions or objections or parts thereof respectively.

(5) The participants are bound to secrecy. This obligation also includes the confidentiality of consultation documents.

(6) The duties of an ombudsperson according to § 38 clause 4 (2) LHG is resumed by the ombudsperson of the Medical Faculty or the Science Faculty.

§ 3 Doctorate committee

(1) The doctorate board appoints for each doctorate process a doctorate committee, which as a rule consists of the primary supervisor of the doctoral candidate and two extra members. The members of the doctorate committee are recruited from the circle of professors, junior professors, emeritus and retired professors, private/ university lecturers and honorary professors of the science faculty and the medical faculty and from the circle of appropriately qualified universities of applied sciences, visiting professors, members of research institutions outside universities and foreign colleges/universities.

(2) Furthermore the doctorate board can appoint academic colleagues as supervisors of dissertations and members of a doctorate committee, as far as these are funded as junior research group leaders from the funds of science organizations or have received the position of junior research group leader in a comparatively competitive selection process at a local scientific institution (such as e.g., the Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics, the Centre for Integrated Neuroscience, the German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases or the Bernstein Centre for Computational Neuroscience).

(3) In each case a representative of the subject in which the candidate has completed his studies should be a member of the doctorate committee. If this subject is located in another faculty or another department, one of the three members of the doctorate board is to be recruited from that faculty or department. At least one member must be a natural scientist. All members of the doctorate committee have in the relevant proceedings the same rights as the members of the doctorate board.

The doctorate board can pass on the task of appointing the doctorate committee to the

chairman of the doctorate board.

(4) The doctorate committee tests the competency of the candidate (§ 4 clause 5), decides on the scope and content of the doctoral studies and possibly additional work to be provided (§ 5 clause 3), discusses the doctoral candidate's concept with the latter (§ 5 clause 5), comments in writing on the latter's interim reports (§ 5 clause 6), and forms together with another examiner the examination committee for the oral examination (§ 15 clause 1). For the evaluation of the thesis the extended doctorate board is responsible in accordance with § 2 clause 2.

§ 4 Acceptance as a doctoral candidate

(1) Anyone who intends to complete a thesis in the area of neurosciences must apply for acceptance as a doctoral candidate. The application must be submitted to the chairman of the doctorate board and is to include:

- a. application form for admission to the doctorate program,
- b. history in tabular form (curriculum vitae),
- c. proof of successful completion of a course of study (in accordance with clause 2 or clause 3 respectively in conjunction with clause 4)
- d. a letter of recommendation and a letter of intent from the future primary supervisor, as well as a dissertation agreement (*Promotionsvereinbarung*) between the doctoral student and the primary supervisor according to § 38 clause 5 (3) LHG,
- e. a two- to three-page exposition of the intended thesis project, its working title and a timetable,
- f. proof of proficiency in English; as rule in the form of an international recognized examination in the English language, if the mother tongue is not English or there was no study at an English-speaking college/university.

(2) Requirement for acceptance as a doctoral candidate is the successful completion of a course of study at a German university, for which a standard period of study of at least four academic years is fixed, in the subject of neurosciences or in the subjects of biochemistry, biology, chemistry, information technology, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, physics or psychology or in an appropriate mathematical/natural science- or engineering science subject. In the area of medicine, the successfully completed second section of the medical examination in accordance with the approbation licensing for doctors is required.

(3) Particularly qualified graduates of a study course at a university of applied science or university of cooperative education are admitted to the doctorate work if proof is adduced in an aptitude test that the qualification for scientific work in the doctorate subject is available as for university graduates. The same applies for particularly qualified graduates of a bachelor's degree who do not fall under clause 2. Requirement for admission to the aptitude test is generally that the candidate belongs to the top 10% of their examination year at the university of applied science or university of cooperative education at which they were enrolled at the time of their final examination; this requirement is to be proved by the candidates by attestation from the relevant institution. The aptitude test is carried out as a rule over two or at the most three terms. The doctorate board decides on the study work to be produced in this timeframe on the basis of generally up to 30 ECTS, for especially qualified graduates of a bachelor's degree to up to 60 ECTS, as necessary at the suggestion of the supervisor.

(4) Other domestic and foreign final degrees, if of equal value, may be taken into account on application. With regard to the equality of foreign final degrees the equivalence agreements approved by the Education Committee and University Rectors Conference are to be taken into consideration. In the event of doubts about equivalence, the Central Office for Foreign Education can be consulted. The chairman in agreement with the responsible subject representatives will make the decision. If there is no agreement, the doctorate board decides.

(5) If proof is brought in according to clause 1, the doctorate committee checks in conversation with the candidate whether the latter has sufficient basic knowledge of natural sciences for a doctorate in the subject of neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neurosciences or neural information processing or whether such knowledge can probably be acquired within a year and whether the aptitude for deeper scientific work is present or to be expected and establish, whether and if necessary what work must be produced by the candidate from the neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neurosciences or neural information processing within the framework of doctoral studies (§ 5). If thereupon acceptance as a doctoral candidate comes into consideration, the doctorate committee makes a decision on the scope and content of the doctoral studies in accordance with § 5 clause 2 and on the possible additional work to be produced in accordance with clause 1. The additional work is not to exceed 12 ECTS points and to be so applied that the doctoral studies are not extended by more than one year. Clause 3, also in connection with clause 4, remains unaffected.

(6) Normally, the chairman of the doctorate board decides on the application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate on the basis of the positive recommendation of the doctorate committee. In cases of doubt or if concerns are raised on the part of the doctorate committee against acceptance, the doctorate board always takes the decision. Acceptance can be rejected if the requirements in clause 1 are not met, the prospective theme for a thesis in the subject of neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neuroscience or neural information processing is inappropriate, the advisory opinion of the doctorate committee is that the candidate does not have sufficient basic knowledge of natural sciences for a doctorate in the subject of neural and behavioural sciences, cellular and molecular neurosciences or neural information processing and that such knowledge probably cannot be acquired within a year or that the aptitude for deeper natural scientific work in this subject is not present and also not anticipated, or if no member of the science faculty or medical faculty prepared for or committed to the appraisal of theses is in a position to supervise the thesis to be produced.

(7) The chairman assigns the candidate to a member of the doctoral committee for primary scientific supervision in accordance with § 3 paras.1 and 2. He also establishes in which order both the other members alternatively administer the supervisory function.

(8) Acceptance as a doctoral candidate can be revoked if the candidate does not discharge his duties within the framework of the doctoral studies according to § 5 and possibly clause 5.

(9) Rejection and revocation of acceptance as a doctoral candidate are to be justified in writing and accompanied by instruction on the right to appeal.

§ 5 Doctoral studies

(1) The doctoral studies are designed to last three years. The courses are usually held in English.

(2) As a rule, courses totaling 18 ECTS credit points must be produced for the doctoral studies. Successful participation in courses is to be proved by certifications. When choosing the courses, the various neuroscientific disciplines are to be adequately taken into consideration with regard to the preparatory training of the candidate and the prospective theme of the thesis.

(3) The doctorate committee decides on the scope and content of the doctoral studies in accordance with clause 2 and on the additional work that may have to be produced in accordance with § 4 clause 5 clause 1. If it cannot agree, the doctorate board takes the decision.

(4) If the candidate has already produced academic work at home or abroad that corresponds to the doctoral studies then the scope of the doctoral studies can be decreased. In every case proof of at least 10 ECTS credit points is to be produced.

(5) 12 months at the latest after being accepted the doctoral candidate presents to his doctorate committee a comprehensive concept and updated timetable for the thesis on the basis of his preliminary work and initial results. The period can be extended if in accordance with § 4 clause 5 additional works has to be produced. The doctorate committee discusses the further project with the doctoral candidate and recommends to him any necessary changes. Thereafter the doctoral candidate presents his work for the doctoral studies to the doctorate committee on an annual basis, as well as an interim report on the state of his work. This is noted in writing in the report. Also, on a yearly basis the doctoral candidate reports orally in the doctoral candidate colloquium or his work group seminar on the progress of his work.

§ 6 Requirements for admission to doctorate

Requirement for admission to the doctorate is acceptance as a doctoral candidate at the beginning of the doctoral period and the successfully completed doctoral studies in accordance with § 5.

§ 7 Application for admission

(1) The application for admission to the doctorate process is to be directed in writing to the chairman of the doctorate board. The application must include:

- a. the title of the thesis,
- b. the academic- and home address of the candidate including current e-mail address,
- c. the names of the desired evaluators,
- d. the names of the desired examiners for the oral examination.

(2) The application is to be accompanied by:

- a. 5 copies of the thesis (§ 9),
- b. a presentation of professional and scientific career (CV),
- c. proof of the successfully completed doctoral studies in accordance with § 5 clause 2 in connection with clause 3 and 4,
- d. proof of the yearly meeting of the doctoral candidate with his doctorate committee in accordance with § 5 clause 5,
- e. an explanation of any previous, aborted or completed doctoral process or equivalent examination process which the candidate has undergone,
- f. a declaration whether the present thesis has already been published in whole or in part and whether it has ever been filed in whole or in part as a thesis or other examination work, as the case may be where and when, in which subject and with what result,
- g. a declaration on the following lines: "I hereby declare, that I have authored the work filed for the doctorate with the title myself, only used the sources and auxiliary materials cited and have labeled as such places adopted literally or with regards to content. I affirm under penalty of perjury that these statements are true and that I have concealed nothing. I am aware that the submission of a false affirmation under penalty of perjury is punishable by imprisonment of up to three years or a fine."
- h. In the case of § 9 clause 2, a declaration by the doctoral candidate confirmed by the doctorate committee is to be included in respect of all publications, where several authors have collaborated (presentation of own contribution).
- i. a declaration of criminal convictions, disciplinary actions and pending criminal- and disciplinary proceedings, as far as the duty of disclosure is not excluded by § 51 of the Federal Central Register Law,
- j. a declaration by the candidate, that the opportunity for this doctorate process was not commercially procured for him. In particular the candidate must declare that he has not called in any organization which searches for advisers for the preparation of theses in return for remuneration or which carries out in whole or in part for him the obligations incumbent on him with regards to examination work. The candidate further confirms that

he is aware of the legal consequence of using a commercial doctorate agent and the legal consequence of untruths in this declaration (debarment from acceptance as doctoral candidate, debarment from admission to the doctorate process, severance of the doctorate process and revocation of the award gained in accordance with § 25)."

k. a police clearance certificate not older than six months.

(3) Up to the decision on the thesis under § 13, the doctorate application can be withdrawn via written declaration to the chairman of the doctorate board without giving reason, with the result that it is considered not to have been submitted.

§ 8 Decision on admission

(1) As a rule, the chairman decides on admission within 14 days. If he considers the requirements for admission not to have been met, then the doctorate board will decide at its next session.

(2) Admission is to be refused if

- a. the requirements listed in § 7 are not met,
- b. the documents are incomplete and upon request are not completed in time,
- c. there are conditions concerning the candidate that would justify a divestment of the doctorate,
- d. the candidate has already earned a doctorate or a corresponding degree in the field of neurosciences or is in the process of obtaining such a degree,
- e. the present thesis has already been rejected in a doctorate process or corresponding process in the field of neurosciences,
- f. a recapitulation process under § 21 has been ended unsuccessfully or
- g. it has been established in accordance with § 21 that the candidate is not capable of independent scientific work,
- h. the candidate is already habilitated in the same subject were he/she intends to do a doctorate.

(3) As a rule, admission is to be refused if more than one doctorate process in the subject of neurosciences or in a corresponding field or subject has already been ended unsuccessfully.

(4) If in the scope of the basic law a doctorate process in the subject of neurosciences or in a corresponding field or subjects has already been ended unsuccessfully, the admission applies as admission to a recapitulation of the process under § 21. The doctorate board can decide that this counts as equivalent in the case of an unsuccessfully ended comparable process outside the scope of the basic law.

(5) The decision on the application for admission is communicated immediately in writing to the candidate; in the case of rejection giving the reasons and accompanied by instruction on the right to appeal.

§ 9 Thesis

(1) The thesis is an independent scientific work by the doctoral candidate, in which the latter presents own research results, which provide new scientific insights, in a suitable form and to an appropriate extent. Scientific publications or manuscripts accepted for publication can be included. In this case, also a coherent overall concept directed towards the subject must be present, which must be presented in a synopsis of at least 15 pages.

(2) If the thesis or parts of the thesis are part of one or more joint projects, then the candidate must have independently drawn up his contributions on his own responsibility. His individual

work must be clearly recognizable and his contributions must correspond to the scope and content according to the specifications under clause 1. The candidate must outline the framework of the joint project, give the names of colleagues and their share in the joint project, show the significance of his own contributions for the joint project and produce a declaration by his colleagues as far as these are accessible.

(3) The thesis is to be written in German or English; the doctorate board decides on exceptions. In every case a summary is to be attached in English.

§ 10 Appointment of evaluators

(1) If the candidate is admitted to the doctorate process, then the chairman immediately appoints a main evaluator and an additional evaluator according to § 7 clause 1 (c), taking into account the suggestion of the candidate. The main evaluator is usually the primary supervisor appointed in accordance with § 4 clause 7. If the chairman does not wish to follow the suggestion of the candidate, the doctorate board will decide.

(2) Evaluators are generally appointed from the circle of persons listed in § 3 clause 1 and 2. One of the evaluators must be a full-time professor at the science faculty or medical faculty.

§ 11 Examination of the thesis

(1) The evaluators are to produce their reports, to be composed in writing, within two months. If this period is exceeded the chairman may, irrespective of other measures, recruit another evaluator.

(2) The evaluators recommend the acceptance or rejection of the thesis or its return for revision (§ 12). The reports must contain:

- a. a critical evaluation of the content,
- b. a substantiated recommendation for the acceptance or rejection of the thesis,
- c. if accepted, one of the following marks will be suggested:

summa cum laude (excellent)	=	0
magna cum laude (very good)	=	1
cum laude (good)	=	2
rite (adequate)	=	3

The "very good" = 1 mark can be devalued by a minus sign by 0.3 (= 1.3). The "good" = 2 mark can be enhanced by a plus sign by 0.3 (= 1.7) or devalued by a minus sign by 0.3 (= 2.3). The "sufficient" = 3 mark can be enhanced by a plus sign by 0.3 (= 2.7).

(3) If the "excellent" (summa cum laude) mark is suggested by both evaluators, the evaluators are to be increased to three in accordance with § 3 clause 1 and clause 2 by the chairman of the doctorate board. This third evaluator must be from outside the university, may not belong to the doctorate committee and may not participate as a voting member on the doctorate committee/doctorate board. Before the recruitment of additional evaluators the supervisors are given the opportunity to state an opinion as necessary. They can object to the intended recruitment. In this case, the doctorate board decides on the recruitment of the evaluators.

§ 12 Suspension for revision of the thesis

At the suggestion of an evaluator and with the agreement of the candidate the chairman may return the thesis for a singular revision within a period to be established after hearing the candidate. If the thesis is resubmitted, it is in its current version the object of the renewed process under § 11. The recruitment of evaluators carried out under § 10 is retained if no other decision is made. If the candidate does not meet the deadline, the process is continued with the thesis in its filed version, unless he is not responsible for exceeding the time limit.

§ 13 Evaluating the thesis

(1) If the reports are available, the chairman immediately informs all full-time professors, private- and university lecturers of the science faculty and medical faculty. The communication must include the title of the thesis, the name of the author, the names of the evaluators and the grades suggested by them, the beginning and end of the display period and the place of display.

(2) The thesis is displayed together with the reports in the secretariat of the Graduate Training Center of Neuroscience for inspection by the full-time professors, private- and university lecturers of the science faculty and medical faculty. If the display takes place during the lecture period, then at least 2 weeks are to be arranged for it; if during a lecture-free period, then at least 4 weeks. If the display takes place partially during the lecture period and partly outside it, then the respective part of each is to be calculated accordingly.

(3) The addressees of the communication have the right during the display period to file a substantiated objection to the suggestion of the evaluators on the acceptance, rejection or grading. They also have the right to suggest the return of the thesis for revision. In this case proceedings take place in accordance with § 12.

(4) The candidate has the right to inspect the reports and possible objections as well as the right to state his own position. He can request that his position is communicated to the members of the doctorate board before the taking of the decision.

(5) If the reports/the grading of the evaluators are in agreement and no objection raised and no position expressed from the side of the candidate (clause 4 clause 2), then the suggestions of the evaluators applies as the result of the evaluation of the thesis. If all the evaluators suggest acceptance of the thesis and their suggestion differs by only one grade, then, if no objection is raised and no position expressed from the side of the candidate, the average grade is formed from the suggested grades. In so doing only the first decimal place after the full stop is taken into account, all other places being dropped without rounding.

The thesis can only then be marked as "excellent", if all three evaluators (§ 11 clause3) suggest the "excellent" grade.

(6) If there is no agreement under clause 5, then the doctorate board decides on the evaluation of the thesis; it can decide to obtain further reports before a decision. In the event that rejection of the thesis is suggested in a report or in an objection, the decision is first of all taken regarding the acceptance of the thesis. If acceptance of the thesis is decided upon, then the decision on the grade is effectuated by each member of the doctorate board voting for a grade in accordance with § 11 clause 2 or for rejection (value of 4). From the votes cast the arithmetic mean is formed; in so doing as in clause 5 only the first place after the full stop is taken into account.

(7) If the thesis is rejected, the doctorate process is ended. The chairman issues the candidate with a substantiated ruling with an instruction on the right to appeal attached. A copy of the thesis remains with all the reports and as necessary objections or position of the candidate with the files of the joint committee.

§ 14 Oral examination

(1) With the acceptance of the thesis the candidate is admitted to the oral examination. The candidate is given the opportunity to inspect the reports and objections two weeks at the latest before the defense.

(2) The oral examination takes place in the form of a talk about the work itself and a defense of the work (disputation). He must stand for questions and answers on the methods and results of his work, the status of the topic of the thesis and conterminous questions from the doctorate subject in a scientifically sound manner and altercate with basic arguments from the referees and members of the board of examiners. The candidate decides whether the disputation is to take place in German or English.

§ 15 Implementation and timing of the oral examination

(1) If the thesis is accepted, the chairman of the doctorate board recruits four examiners who form the board of examining and determines one of them to be the chairman of the board. The examiners are recruited from the circle of persons listed in § 3 clause 1 and 2. As a rule, the evaluators are to be recruited as examiners. At least two examiners are to belong to the science faculty or medical faculty. The doctorate board can decide upon representation from the candidate or the chairman that disciplines not resident in the faculties must also be represented.

(2) The chairman of the doctorate board determines the date of the defense in consultation with the examiners and the candidate. This should take place within six weeks after acceptance of the thesis and must take place within half a year after this point in time. If the candidate does not appear on the set date, the examination counts as failed. For absence through no fault of the candidate, a new date is set.

(3) The chairman of the examining board leads the defense. The talk is to last a maximum of 30 minutes, questioning and discussion a minimum of 30 and maximum of 60 minutes. A protocol is to be produced of the course of the oral examination and determination of the grade.

(4) The defense is public, depending on the available places. Attendance does not extend to the consultation and announcement of the examination result. Only the members of the examination board set up under § 15 clause 1 may put questions to the candidate in the defense. For important reasons or at the request of the candidate listeners are to be excluded.

§ 16 Evaluating the oral examination

(1) Following the defense the examiners come together in a closed consultation session and decide on the grading of the oral performance.

(2) After the consultation, each examiner gives one of the grades listed in § 11 clause 2 or grade 4 (inadequate). If the grades differ from one another, then the arithmetic mean is formed from the votes cast. During this process - as stated in § 13 clause 5 - only the first place after the full stop is taken into account. The examination is passed if an average of at least 3.5 results.

(3) At the end of the evaluation the grade is communicated to the candidate. If the examination is not passed, then the chairman of the doctorate board issues the candidate with a substantiated ruling with instruction on the right to appeal attached, in which the opportunity for recapitulation of the oral examination is also mentioned.

§ 17 Repeating the oral examination

(1) If the oral examination is not passed, it can be retaken once. The candidate can present himself at the latest at the end of twelve months for the resit. The chairman can extend these

periods in special circumstances. The examination is carried out in accordance with §§ 14-16.

(2) If the oral performance is again judged to be inadequate, then the entire doctorate examination is failed. In the case of non-appearance, § 15 clause 2 applies accordingly. The chairman issues the candidate with a substantiated ruling with an instruction on the right to appeal attached.

§ 18 Overall grade

(1) Upon successful completion of the oral examination the chairman establishes the overall grade for the doctorate. This is produced from the double-weighted grade for the thesis and the simple weighted grade for the oral examination. The overall grade for the doctorate is as follows:

For an average up to 0.1	=	summa cum laude (excellent)
for an average above 0.1 up to 1.5	=	magna cum laude (very good)
for an average above 1.5 up to 2.5	=	cum laude (good)
for an average above 2.5 up to 3.5	=	rite (adequate).

The chairman informs the candidate of the overall grade.

(2) The overall grade "summa cum laude" (excellent) is only then given if (i) all three reports obtained for the thesis suggest the grade of "summa cum laude" (excellent) and (ii) the evaluation of the disputation produces a grade of at least 0.5, whereby none of the oral individual marks can be worse than "magna cum laude" (very good). From the votes cast the arithmetic mean is formed, where as in § 13 clause 5 only the first place after the full stop is taken into account.

§ 19 Certification

The candidate receives if he wishes a certificate showing which overall grade successfully concluded the doctorate process. In the certificate it is to be noted that this does not give the right to use the doctor's degree.

§ 20 Repeating the examination process

If a candidate's doctorate process has ended unsuccessfully, then he is admitted once more to a doctorate process if the doctorate board does not establish on the grounds of previously produced work that the candidate is not capable of independent scientific work. When admitted again to a doctorate process, a new thesis is to be submitted.

§ 21 Publishing the dissertation

(1) The candidate is bound to publish his thesis within two years, calculated from the day of the oral examination. On substantiated request the chairman can extend the period.

(2) Before printing or electronic publication the successful doctoral candidate has to give the chairman a written declaration, whether and if so in how far the printed version differs from the version submitted with the application for admission. If both versions differ from each other, then the main evaluator or, in case of his prevention, the other evaluator or the chairman must approve the modifications; the modifications are to be approved if the differences are not substantial. The successful doctoral candidate can in the event of refusal contact the doctorate

board.

(3) A partial printing of the thesis can only be allowed in special cases. The doctorate board takes this decision.

(4) The title page of the thesis is to be designed according to a template set by the doctorate board. At the end of the thesis the author can reproduce the professional and scientific career (CV) submitted with the application for admission. If the thesis appears as an independent printing by a commercial publisher, a journal or in electronic form, then the depositary copies must contain the title page as an insert according to clause 5. Before publication the title page, and as necessary also the foreword, dedication and CV to be produced to the chairman for approval.

(5) The following rule applies to the depositary copies to be delivered:

1. As a rule, the number of depositary copies is 37.
2. If publication in a journal follows or if a commercial publisher takes over distribution beyond the book trade and a minimum print run of 150 copies is verified, then only 4 depositary copies need be delivered.
3. The duty of publishing and distributing the thesis can also be fulfilled by delivering an electronic version, whose data format and data storage medium correspond to the specifications of the university library of the University of Tübingen. In this case an additional 6 depositary copies are to be delivered. The successful doctoral candidate must ensure that the electronic version corresponds to the printed copies.

In the case of number 1., at least 4 copies, in the case of numbers 2. and 3., at least 4 and 6 copies must be printed out on age-resistant, wood- and acid-free paper and be durably bound.

In the cases of numbers 1. and 3., the successful doctoral candidate grants the University of Tübingen the non-exclusive right to produce and distribute additional copies of his thesis within the framework of the legal duties of the university library. In the case of number 3., he furthermore grants the non-exclusive right to make the thesis available over data networks; the successful doctoral candidate is to be instructed beforehand that the granting of this right can prevent or complicate a later publication of the thesis elsewhere.

(6) If the successful doctoral candidate reneges on the duty of publication or if he does not deliver the set number of depositary copies before expiry of the set period, then the doctorate board can pronounce the loss of all rights, which the successful doctorate has gained via the examination.

§ 22 Completing the examination

(1) If the successful doctoral candidate has delivered the depositary copies, then the chairman has the doctorate certificate issued, which is signed by the president / rector and by the deans of the science faculty and medical faculty. If the doctorate is carried out within the framework of the International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS), then the representative of the IMPRS also adds his signature.

(2) The doctorate certificate is in German. It includes the title of and grade for the thesis, the grade for the oral examination and the overall grade of the doctorate. If the grade for the thesis or oral examination has a place after the full stop, then it is rounded to the nearest whole mark; if the place after the full stop is a five, then the suggestion of the main evaluator is decisive. The certificate is dated from the day of the delivery of the depositary copies. If a doctorate is carried out within the framework of the International Max Planck Research School, then this is noted on the doctorate certificate.

(3) The doctorate certificate has a translation in English attached and at the request of the successful doctoral candidate a certificate with comments on the content of the doctoral studies. If the doctorate is carried out within the framework of the International Max Planck Research School, then a certificate is always issued and signed by the representative of the IMPRS.

(4) If the thesis is published by a commercial publisher or in a journal, then the chairman can arrange for the production of the certificate before delivery of the depositary copies, if publication is guaranteed within two years.

(5) With the handing over of the certificate the doctorate is completed and with this the right to use the doctor's degree is obtained by the successful doctoral candidate.

§ 23 Special conditions for the doctorate in joint supervision with a foreign university

(1) Regular doctorate processes can be carried out in joint supervision with a foreign university, if an agreement has been made with the foreign university to which the doctorate board has agreed. In this agreement, the stipulations of §§ 4-8 & 14-18 can be deviated from. For the rest the general conditions of the doctoral regulations apply if no differing rules are laid down in the agreement or as follows.

(2) The candidate is supervised by one academic instructor, each from both universities involved. The supervisor from the foreign university is appointed in the Tübingen doctorate process as second evaluator, if indisposed then another member of this university suggested by the foreign university. In the agreement to be concluded under clause 1, it must be ensured that the Tübingen supervisor of the thesis or alternatively another member of the science faculty or medical faculty is involved in the doctorate process of the foreign university.

(3) As far as the national language of the foreign university is concerned, the thesis can be produced in English, French or Spanish. In each case, a summary in English is to be included, see § 9 clause 3.

(4) If an equivalent oral examination takes place at the foreign university with the participation of the Tübingen supervisor or an alternatively recruited member of the University of Tübingen, then this can replace the oral examination after this doctorate regulation. In this case, no overall grade is formed. Details are governed by the agreement to be concluded with the foreign university.

(5) If an oral examination is carried out after this doctorate regulation, then professors from the foreign university can be appointed as examiners. Details are governed by the agreement to be concluded.

(6) The doctorate award and the corresponding foreign award can be awarded by both universities jointly. If two separate certificates for the award are displayed, then these contain the note that this is a doctorate under joint supervision. In all cases it is to be noted that the successful doctoral candidate has the right to use the doctorate award either in the German or foreign form and that the names of both universities, which supervised the doctorate process can be added in brackets.

Both universities always issue separate certificates for the evaluation of the doctorate work.

§ 24 Cheating, forfeiture of doctorate

(1) If the candidate attempts to influence the results of his examination through deception or the use of non-permitted aids, the examination so concerned is marked with "inadequate" (4.0) or rejected. The doctorate board takes this decision. In severe cases of an attempt at deception in

the oral examination this can debar a recapitulation of this examination (§ 17 clause 1).

(2) If it ensues after the announcement of the evaluation of the doctorate performance that the candidate has cheated in producing work, that substantial requirements for the doctorate have been wrongly accepted as given or that there are other violations of the law, then the relevant decisions can be reversed under the conditions of § 48 of the State Administration Procedure Act. If the doctorate certificate has already been issued, then in this case it is recalled. The doctorate award can also be withdrawn under the relevant statutory provisions.

§ 25 Inspecting the doctorate files

(1) The candidate has the right to inspect the files of the doctorate process within a year of completing the doctorate process. § 13 clause 3 remains unaffected.

(2) Inspection is granted upon written request. The request is to be directed to the chairman. The chairman determines time and place of the inspection: it takes place under supervision.

§ 26 Entry into force and transitional arrangements

(1) This doctorate regulation enters into force on the day after the publication in the 'Official Notices of the University of Tübingen' (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen der Universität Tübingen*).

(2) Doctorate processes are carried out according to the doctorate regulation previously in force if the candidate has already made an application for admission before the entry into force of the current doctorate regulation. The candidate can, as long as the date of the oral examination is not yet set, request the carrying out of the doctorate process in accordance with the current doctorate regulation.

(3) Candidates who have been accepted as doctoral candidates before the entry into force of this doctorate regulation can make a request for the corresponding application of the previous conditions. The doctorate board decides on this request and has to grant it if the application of this doctorate regulation would be disadvantageous to the candidate compared with the corresponding application of the previous conditions. The requirement for a written dissertation agreement as stipulated in § 4 clause 1 is not applicable for doctoral students who had already been accepted before this regulation came into force.

Tübingen, 30 July 2015

Professor Dr. Bernd Engler

Rector

This is a translation of the German version of the doctoral regulations as published in:

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Please note that only the German version of the doctoral regulations is legally binding.