

	<i>This is an English translation of the original and signed «Studienplan für das PhD-Programm der Graduate School for Health Sciences der Universität Bern» issued in German. The German version is legally valid.</i>
	Study Rules for the PhD Program of the Graduate School for Health Sciences at the University of Bern
	<i>The Faculty of Human Sciences (Philosophisch-humanwissenschaftliche Fakultät) and the Faculty of Medicine (Medizinische Fakultät) of the University of Bern</i> have decided on the following Study Rules as a supplement to and on the basis of Articles 5 and 10 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate of the Graduate School for Health Sciences at the University of Bern</i> , dated September 15, 2008:
	I. General
Scope	Art. 1 These Study Rules govern training at the Graduate School for Health Sciences (GHS), which leads to a final qualification with the title PhD in Health Sciences (specialist area), University of Bern.
Course Content	Art. 2 The doctoral program offers internationally competitive, interdisciplinary training in the theory and practice of health sciences. Students acquire sound expert knowledge in an individually selected specialist area. The GHS research projects and training program focus on the human being in its social and physical environment. The PhD program directs the students to independent scientific work and enables them to assume scientific responsibility and to represent their specialist area within scientific bodies and at conferences.
Supervision	Art. 3 ¹ In accordance with Article 4 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i> , responsibility for the research project must lie with the Thesis Advisor and with an institute or department of the Faculty of Human Sciences or the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Bern. ² In justified individual cases, applicants from Faculties or research institutions outside of the GHS, who are working on a doctoral thesis the content of which is relevant for the GHS, can be accepted. In such cases, the seconding institutions submit a request for individual acceptance of the PhD applicant to the Steering Board in accordance with Article 4 of the Bylaws. The Steering Board makes the decision. ³ The Thesis Committee, in accordance with Article 4 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i> at the GHS, and the doctoral candidate conclude a Doctoral Agreement, which regulates the course, objectives and framework conditions.
	II. Process
Doctoral Studies	Art 4 ¹ In addition to working on the research project, students at the GHS attain a minimum of 18 ECTS credit points through various training options (e.g. visits to symposia, active participation at congresses, course lectures).

	<p>The course lectures and training options on offer are listed in the GHS Curriculum.</p> <p>² The training includes attendance of the compulsory GHS courses specified by the Steering Board, as well as participation in courses relating to the basic knowledge, methodological skills and in-depth knowledge that the GHS requires. Demonstrably existing competence can be taken into account upon application to the assigned Expert Committee.</p> <p>³ The individual training program is a component of the Doctoral Agreement and is suggested by the doctoral candidate and the Thesis Committee, then presented to the Expert Committee for acceptance.</p>
Performance Monitoring	<p>Art. 5 ¹ Performance monitoring must be performed as agreed in Article 4 of the training program.</p> <p>² At the end of the first year after admission to the GHS, there is a two-hour written examination on the questions and methodology of the research project. The Thesis Advisor authors the examination. This examination forms the basis for a critical analysis of the potentials and limitations of the selected procedure for the dissertation. A member of the Expert Committee assesses and marks it in accordance with Article 5 of the Bylaws.</p> <p>³ The examination after the second year consists of a 30 minute public, scientific presentation followed by a discussion of the research work completed up to that point in the presence of the Thesis Committee and in the form of a colloquium. The presentation and discussion should include an overview of the subsequent work and finalize objectives. The examiners decide on the mark immediately after the examination, in accordance with Article 9, Paragraph 4 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i>.</p>
Dissertation	<p>Art. 6 ¹ As a rule, a doctoral candidate is required to submit at least three scientific papers to peer-reviewed journals. One paper, for which the candidate is the first author, must be accepted for publication, and another two must have reached the peer-review stage. Requests to deviate from the number of papers needed for publication under special circumstances can be submitted to the Steering Board.</p> <p>² In addition to the published or submitted manuscripts, a dissertation must include a detailed introduction of the topic of the dissertation and a comprehensive discussion as well as a curriculum vitae with a list of publications and a copyright declaration.</p> <p>³ Upon application to the Steering Board, there is an option to submit the dissertation as a monograph.</p>
Acceptance of the Dissertation	<p>Art. 7 The doctoral candidates submit the dissertation to the GHS administration office together with documents a, b and c named in Article 13, Paragraph 2 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i>. The Thesis Advisor and the Co-referee submit their assessments to the Steering Board at the GHS administration office, in accordance with Article 11 of the <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i>. The Steering Board decides on provisional acceptance of the dissertation and presents the documents to the Faculty where the Thesis Advisor is a member for approval. The Steering Board notifies the candidates of the final decision.</p>
Registration for the Thesis Defense	<p>Art. 8 Registration for and carrying out of the thesis defense is performed in accordance with Article 13 of the GHS <i>Rules for Conferring a Doctorate</i>.</p>

	III Final Provisions
Changes to the Study Rules	Art. 9 Changes to the Study Rules are subject to approval by the Faculties and the University Board of Directors. The Faculties can delegate changes to the Appendix to the Steering Board.
Entry into Force	Art. 10 These Study Rules enter into force retroactively on 1 September 2010.

Bern, 7 July 2010

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine

The Dean:

Prof. Dr. Peter Eggli

Bern, 31 May 2010

On behalf of the Faculty of Human Sciences

The Dean:

Prof. Dr. Roland Seiler

Approved by the University Board of Directors:

Bern, 23 November 2010

The Rector:

Prof. Dr. Urs Würgler