



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DECISION

Reg. No.
STYR 2023/595

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Research Studies Board

Rules for PhD Studies at the Faculty of Medicine

Rules of procedure, regulations, decisions and processes

Valid from January 1st, 2019

All rules are translated from Swedish. In the event of any discrepancy, the Swedish version of this document has preferential interpretation.

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1. About PhD studies at the Faculty of Medicine

Purpose and objective of PhD studies

PhD studies is the highest level of academic education at a university. PhD studies comprise four years of full-time study or eight years of part-time study corresponding to 240 credits and conclude with a doctoral degree. PhD studies can also conclude with a licentiate degree that corresponds to two years of full time-study and 120 credits.

The objective of PhD studies at the Faculty of Medicine is to provide society with qualified researchers who can drive development forward in medicine and health.

In order to accomplish this objective there are a number of learning outcomes¹ that the doctoral student is expected to achieve during the study period, see appendix 1.

Overview of PhD studies

Steering documents

PhD studies are regulated by different steering documents at national, university, and faculty levels.

National regulations and ordinances

At national level, both education and doctoral studentships are regulated by the Higher Education Act² and the Higher Education Ordinance.³

¹ From the qualifications ordinance of the Higher Education Ordinance

² SFS 1992:1434

³ . SFS 1993:100, Chapters 5, 6 and 7

Lund University's rules and policies

At Lund University the following joint steering documents are relevant to PhD studies:

- Lund University's regulations for PhD studies⁴
- Admission rules for PhD studies⁵

The Faculty of Medicine's regulations and steering documents

The present document constitutes the overall steering document that details the regulations, processes and procedures that are applied at the Faculty of Medicine. There is a description of duties within the doctoral education organisation that describes the division of tasks and responsibilities in PhD studies at the Faculty of Medicine⁶.

Additionally, there are general syllabi⁷ that constitute a framework for the subject of the doctoral education. The individual study plan regulates the study programme for the individual doctoral student. There are also regulations for conflict-of-interest in postgraduate education that describe how different conflict-of-interest situations are checked and attested.

General syllabus

There is to be a general syllabus for each qualification to which PhD studies lead. The Research Studies Board approves general syllabi for programmes for both doctoral and licentiate degrees. According to Lund University's regulations the general syllabus is to include the following:

- subject title

4 . Reg. no STYR 2018/562

5 . Reg. no STYR 2017/409

6 . Reg no. STYR 2022/234

7 . Reg. no U 2018/411

- date of approval and of any amendments
- title or titles of the qualification to which the programme leads. If there is more than one title the conditions for specific titles of qualification are to be stated
- learning outcomes according to the qualifications ordinance with specifications of the subject and any additions
- the scope of the thesis (stated in credits)
- the scope in credits of other elements that are included in the programme (courses and /or other credit-earning components, both compulsory and elective), which together with the thesis are to correspond to the total scope in credits of the programme
- the qualifications (general and specific) required to be admitted to the programme and
- the assessment criteria that are applied in the selection process between applicants in order to test their ability to benefit from the programme.

PhD studies subject

At the Faculty of Medicine there is one subject; medical science.⁸ The subject of medical science in this context is a collective term for research that aims in different ways to promote people's health and prevent ill-health as well as palliate and cure diseases. The subject encompasses everything from studies of cells to society such as

- medically relevant models *in vitro* and *in vivo* with molecular-genetic, chemical, cellular-biology, physiological and pharmacological perspectives

⁸ According to the Research Studies Board decision Reg. no U 2018/411, which applies from 1 January 2019.

- explanations of common and uncommon diseases and conditions, and the development of new diagnosis and treatment methods as well as healthcare forms
- the significance of lifestyle, environment, societal structure, working life and the healthcare system for health at individual, group and population levels
- health-promoting interventions and knowledge about how they can be implemented
- professional and organisational developments of relevance to medical science and health science.

PhD studies organisation

At Lund University

Lund University has a central Research Programmes Board which includes a representative from the Faculty of Medicine. The representative must be a scientifically or artistically competent teacher and is appointed by the Vice-Chancellor following a proposal from the Faculty Board. Normally, the representative is also the chair of the Faculty's Research Studies Board. This board is to address strategic PhD education issues, which due to their university-wide nature should not be decided at faculty level. Its remit also covers principles for quality assurance and quality development. The Research Programmes Board has a drafting and advisory role. The vice-chancellor can delegate decision-making to the board in certain matters.

At the Faculty of Medicine

Research Studies Board

At the Faculty of Medicine the overall responsibility for PhD studies is delegated by the Faculty Board to the Research Studies Board.

According to the faculty's rules of procedure ⁹ the Research Studies Board is to continuously ensure that the education is efficient and fit for purpose, and that laws, ordinances and other rules are followed with respect to PhD studies. Furthermore, the board is responsible for continuous quality enhancement of PhD studies, and for the mandatory research supervision course for prospective supervisors.

The board decides on general syllabi, course offerings and syllabi for courses within PhD studies. The board is also responsible for the course content and course management of the research supervisor course. The board decides on the distribution of the framework funding, which includes remuneration for courses and seminars, as well as grants for supervisors, travel, and doctoral dissertations.

The board shall be chaired by teacher who is proposed by the dean and a member of the faculty management. Normally a vice-dean with responsibility for PhD studies is appointed and also made chair of the Research Studies Board. Furthermore, the board is to be composed of four academic staff representatives, three group substitute members, and three student representatives. The chair and academic staff representatives of the board are appointed by the Faculty Board. The board appoints a vice-chair from within its own members. The term of office for members, except the student representatives, is three years. The Research Studies Board can decide on co-opted members.

There are a number of working groups – appointed by the Research Studies Board – which aim to support the board on various matters. The drafting group plans which matters are to be taken up at the next Research Studies Board meeting. The group is composed of the chair and vice-chair of Research Studies Board, study coordinator for PhD studies, representatives from the Research Studies Office, as well as a doctoral student representative. Other working groups, whose aim is

⁹ Reg. no STYR 2018/620

to draft matters and give strategic advice to the Research Studies Board, can be appointed by the board if required.

Chair of the Research Studies Board and vice-dean responsible for PhD studies

According to the Faculty of Medicine's rules of procedure, the dean or the teacher representative in the Faculty Management who is responsible for third-cycle education is responsible for a number of different areas. In practice, it is often a vice-dean with responsibility for third-cycle education who has this role and is thus responsible for decisions to/about:

- establishing the project plan, which should include details of supervisors, supervision, educational arrangements and funding, and the preparatory committee in the admissions process.
- admission to third-cycle education
- adoption of an individual study plan
- change or addition of supervisors
- appointing examiners for third-cycle courses
- appointing opponent, chairman and examining committee for the public defence
- time and location for the public thesis defence
- hire a legal entity for tasks within third-cycle education
- examine requests for credit transfer of previous studies and merits.

Furthermore, the vice-dean with responsibility for doctoral education is responsible for issuing doctoral degrees and preparing cases concerning the withdrawal of resources.

The Research Studies Board has delegated to the Chair of the board to make delegation decisions between meetings. Decisions that are delegated are to:

- grant extension of doctoral student employment due to positions of trust

- amounts for dissertation grants
- decide on remuneration for assignments in third cycle education

Study coordinator for PhD studies

The Chair of the Research Studies Board is assisted by a study coordinator for doctoral education. The study coordinator has an operational assignment to coordinate and coordinate courses at doctoral level, the course for supervisors and to work for quality assurance and quality development of the doctoral program.

The study coordinator makes decisions on credit transfer of courses during the program.

Deputy heads of department for PhD studies

At each of the faculty's six departments there is a deputy head of department (DHoD) for PhD studies. The duties of these DHoDs are delegated by the head of department and they are to have at least the qualifications required for appointment as a docent.

The DHoD for PhD studies is thus a departmental resource who is to support doctoral students as well as supervisors and department management in their handling of matters relating to PhD studies. For research teams, the DHoD is an important resource person particularly concerning information and formalities surrounding PhD studies.

The DHoDs for PhD studies have, among other things, the following duties:

- statements on applicants' specific eligibility in applications to PhD studies
- approval and annual review of PhD students' individual study plans
- evaluation of progression in the course Comprehensive Generic Skills – Portfolio at the Half-time review as well as assessment for the course which must be passed before the student can apply for a thesis defence, and on both these occasions provide feedback to the doctoral student.
- review and approve/reject the application for a thesis defence.

Course leaders

The course leader has overall responsibility for ensuring that the course is of high quality and can be carried out with available resources. Course leaders are appointed by the Research Studies Board and the basic requirement is that they must be competent for the task, according to the boards assessment.

The course leader's responsibility is, among other things, to:

- in cooperation with a course preparation group, prepare new syllabus before a decision on adoption is made by the Research Studies Board
- organise and plan the implementation of the course
- ensure that all students on the course are given equal opportunities to achieve the course objectives.
- administer the content in the course's learning platform Canvas

Research Studies Office

The Research Studies Office, which is part of the Faculty Office, offers services, information and advice on matters relating to PhD studies. The office is responsible for the processing of matters such as admission to PhD studies, admission to courses, allocation of travel grants, thesis defences and the issuing of degrees. In addition, the office drafts matters for the Research Studies Board, ensures that the board's decisions are executed and is responsible for carrying out secretary duties for the board. The office also provides support for and coordination of quality management and evaluations.

2. Prior to PhD studies

Requirements for the supervisor prior to admission of doctoral students

Prior to the admission of a doctoral student, a review is to be conducted concerning supervisors, the project and student finance,

according to the faculty's rules of procedure.¹⁰ The procedures listed below apply at the Faculty of Medicine.

Project

It is important that the research studies project is designed in a way that makes it suitable for a PhD study programme in terms of content and duration. The project plan is therefore reviewed prior to admission of the doctoral student in order to ensure that the plan is reasonable concerning the depth and breadth of the project, thesis components and the timetable for the studies.

Financing the studies

Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, the number of doctoral students admitted to PhD courses and study programmes may not exceed the number that can be offered supervision and otherwise acceptable conditions for study and whose studies are funded.¹¹ This means that the doctoral students' education is either financed by a *doctoral studentship*, or that they are financed by *alternative funding*. The department is responsible in consultation with the principal supervisor for being able to show that there are sufficient resources to fund the doctoral student's entire period of study.

Doctoral studentships

The norm is that doctoral studies are financed through employment in a doctoral studentship at the department. This means that prior to admission there is to be an assessment to determine whether sufficient funds will be available to fund the doctoral studentship salary for the equivalent of four years of full-time study leading to a doctoral degree and the equivalent of two years of full-time study leading to a licentiate degree.

¹⁰ Reg. no U 2018/418

¹¹ Pursuant to the Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7, Section 34

Alternative funding

The forms of student funding at the University other than doctoral studentships are termed *alternative funding*. The Higher Education Ordinance allows higher education institutions to admit applicants who have some other form of funding for their studies if the higher education institution considers that the funding can be guaranteed during the entire period of study and that the applicants can devote enough time to their studies to enable their completion within four years in the case of a licentiate degree or a licentiate degree in the fine, applied and performing arts or eight years in the case of a doctoral degree, i.e. the equivalent of 50% study rate.¹²

At Lund University, alternative funding may not take the form of support from another individual or the student's private capital.

Employment within another organisation

Prior to admitting a doctoral student with alternative funding, such as employment within Region Skåne or at another employer, a written agreement is to be drawn up between the other employer and the faculty in order to ensure scope is granted within the framework of the employment to conduct PhD studies (four years full-time and eight years part-time). Under the rules on the allocation of decision-making powers at Lund University¹³ such an agreement is signed by the dean. The right to make such decisions may be delegated to the vice-dean for PhD studies.¹⁴ Besides the agreement, the supervisor shall, according to the decision taken by the Research Studies Board,¹⁵ be able to show sufficient own research funding to be able to finance time for participation in all compulsory third-cycle courses. In addition, the necessary funding must be available so that the thesis project can be completed within the stipulated time, in accordance with the project plan. The employer must approve the funding plan,

¹² Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7, Section 36

¹³ Reg. no LS 2013/333

¹⁴ STYR 2018/2021

¹⁵ Reg. no. U 2018/418

and certify that time is set aside within the regular position for dissertation work, participation in third-cycle courses and other elements included in the education. A maximum of three months of clinical service per year, relevant to the third-cycle education, can be credited as third-cycle education time.

Funding through external scholarships

The faculty may also admit applicants who have been granted an external scholarship, i.e. a scholarship established by a party other than Lund University, if it is assessed that the scholarship meets the basic criteria for scholarship-based doctoral education. The Research Studies Board has decided on rules of procedure for the review of foreign scholarships for doctoral education, and each scholarship must therefore, before the doctoral student is admitted, be assessed by the Faculty of Medicine's International Council (MIR), which then issues a recommendation to FUN as to whether the scholarship meets the basic criteria for scholarship-based doctoral education, i.e. whether it can be considered part of an aid and capacity-building program, and whether the scholarship conditions are reasonable and clear. However, such assessment is not required for scholarships within a European Union funded program or other collaborations where framework agreements on doctoral training exist at faculty or LU level, such as joint or double degrees.

The funding should be secured for the entire duration of the education and the extent of the funding is to be at least the equivalent of the initial salary after tax of the employed doctoral student or shall otherwise be complemented with a supplementary scholarship.¹⁶ Decisions on setting up supplementary scholarships are made by the dean of the faculty. According to the Higher Education Ordinance the doctoral student is to be offered employment on a doctoral studentship when there remains a three-year period of study. The exceptions to

¹⁶ This is regulated by Lund University's admission rules

this rule are regulated both in the Higher Education Ordinance and in Lund University's admission rules.¹⁷

Supervisor requirements

The principal supervisor to be appointed by the Faculty of Medicine must be a docent or the principal for a three-year project grant from a national/international funder. In cases where the principal supervisor is not a docent, it is required that the assistant supervisor is a docent or professor. The principal supervisor should be employed at Lund University, Skåne University Hospital (SUS), or have some other clear affiliation with the Faculty of Medicine. All supervisors are to have been awarded a doctoral degree and completed the faculty-approved supervisor training.

If the principal supervisor retires during the period of PhD studies, an assistant supervisor who is a docent at the Faculty Medicine available for supervision, and has funding options, should be engaged in the project. It is not possible to take on the role of principal supervisor after retirement age, according to a decision by Research Studies Board.¹⁸ Instead, the principal supervisor can take the role of assistant supervisor.

The Research Studies Board has decided¹⁹ in its steering document on conflict-of-interest situations in PhD studies, that close/family relationships between the doctoral student and supervisors or between the doctoral student's supervisors are not allowed.

The principal supervisor's credentials, experience and suitability as a supervisor are to be assessed in order to start the recruitment of a doctoral student. The supervisor constellation and the respective supervisors' roles in the specific PhD study programme are also to be justified. This means that an assessment to determine the main

¹⁷ Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 5, Section 4a and reg. no STYR 2017/409

¹⁸ Reg. no M 2013/1683

¹⁹ According to meeting minutes from 2011

supervisor's suitability as supervisor is carried out prior to admitting a doctoral student based on:

- the supervisor fulfilling the requirements i.e. that the supervisor is a docent or the principal for a three-year project grant from a national/international funder and that they have completed supervisor training
- an assessment of previous track record (e.g. student completion rate) and the time available to supervise a doctoral student

Application for a PhD project

Researchers who wish to recruit a doctoral student are to send in an application for a PhD project. The application is made through the researcher drawing up a project plan, which is to include a clear plan for PhD studies, funding and the supervisors' assignment. The project plan should contain details about members of the preparatory admission group. The project plan is to be reviewed by the DHoD for PhD studies at the researcher's department and by the vice-dean responsible for research studies.

In cases where the project, funding and supervisor credentials are approved, the supervisor can proceed the process of recruiting a doctoral student.

Advertisement of vacant places

Once the project plan has been quality assessed by the DHoD for PhD studies and the vice-dean responsible for research studies, the doctoral studentship is to be advertised for at least three weeks on the Lund University website. The advertisement is to be handled by a HR coordinator at the researcher's department. Advertising can commence at any time of the year.

According to the Higher Education Ordinance²⁰ exceptions can be made to the requirement for an advertisement. This applies in the following cases:

- when admitting a doctoral candidate who is to take the study programme within the framework of employment by an employer other than the higher education institution
- when admitting a doctoral student who has previously begun PhD studies at another higher education institution, or
- if there are similar special grounds, such as PhD studies using external scholarships.

Admission requirements

In order to be admitted to a PhD programme, an applicant must meet the general admission requirements and any specific admission requirements.

The general admission requirements are regulated by the Higher Education Ordinance ²¹ and the requirements are met by a person who:

- has been awarded a second-cycle qualification,
- has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits of which at least 60 credits were awarded in the second cycle, or
- has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

The Faculty Board may permit an exemption from the general admission requirements for an individual applicant if there are special grounds.

²⁰ Chapter 7, Section 37

²¹ Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7, Section 39

The specific admission requirements are also partly regulated by the Higher Education Ordinance, which states: *Any specific entry requirements imposed shall be totally essential for a student to be able to benefit from the course or study programme. These requirements may comprise*

- 1. knowledge from upper secondary school education or equivalent education,*
- 2. specific professional experience, and*
- 3. necessary language skills or other conditions entailed by the programme.*

In accordance with a decision by the Research Studies Board,²² the following requirements apply for specific eligibility for PhD studies

- at least 60 credits within the subject area for the PhD programme
- For students with qualifications awarded outside Scandinavia, admission to PhD studies at the faculty requires English language proficiency equivalent to a grade of Pass in the TOEFL or IELTS test. The maximum possible points total on the TOEFL test is 660 and the requirement for admission to PhD studies at the faculty is a minimum of 550 points on the paper-based test, at least 213 points in the computer-based test and at least 79 in the online test. For the IELTS test the requirement is that the academic module is completed with a result of not less than 6.5 with no sub-component under 5.0.

Procedure

After the application deadline, a preparatory committee examines the applications received or the candidate's qualifications if the position has not been advertised. The decision to appoint a committee is made by the vice-dean responsible for PhD studies in connection with the adoption of the project plan. The committee shall include at least two

²² According to Research Studies Board minutes, 9 December 2015, Section 53

members of teaching staff holding the qualifications for docentship, of whom at least one shall be someone other than the prospective supervisor. At the Faculty of Medicine, the preparatory committee consists of the DHoD for PhD studies, the prospective principal supervisor and an additional teacher or researcher with at least a doctorate degree. Beneficially, the preparatory committee can be supplemented with additional members to ensure a thorough assessment of the applicant(s). Doctoral students have the right to be represented on the preparatory committee.

If there are several applicants, a selection is made among the eligible applicants considering their ability to benefit from the programme. Important assessment criteria are grades from previous education, the quality of submitted essays and other work samples, and other factors deemed important in relation to what is described in the call. Personal suitability is also an important characteristic that can be assessed through, among other things, interviews and reference taking. Other criteria may also be considered, such as work experience and assignments.

The advisory group shall compile its assessment in a statement containing information about the call, an account of the selection process and a proposal for a suitable candidate with justification. In connection with this, the head of research and development makes a final assessment of the candidate's eligibility and certifies that the matter has been prepared in accordance with the applicable regulations. The HR section at the relevant department must send the statement to all applicants, who then have the opportunity to object to the proposal.

Application

After the deadline for submitting objections has passed, the applicant is offered a place in the PhD program. Those who are selected as prospective candidates in the PhD program have to apply for admission to PhD studies and the application is to include:

- completed application form

- potential application for credit transfer of previous education, articles and knowledge
- the applicant's CV and degree certificate
- the preparatory committee's justification for the selection of the applicant

Decision on admission

Following the application, the vice-dean responsible for PhD studies makes a decision regarding the admission.

A doctoral student may be admitted to PhD studies with the intention of taking a licentiate degree. However, the Research Studies Board apply this form of admission restrictively and only when the aim for both the supervisors and doctoral student is that studies shall conclude with a licentiate degree. On admission, the doctoral student is to use a special form to ensure that they are aware of this type of admission.

Credit transfer of courses

On admission, the doctoral student can apply for the credit transfer knowledge and skills that have been acquired in a professional capacity and from previous education. The review is conducted by the vice-dean of PhD studies. Credit transfer means that the period of study and doctoral studentship are shortened to a corresponding extent.

A doctoral student may also apply for credit transfer of approved third-cycle courses taken at another university or university college during the period of study. An assessment and a decision is made by the study coordinator.

Planning and review of PhD studies

During PhD studies there are several components and tools that can be used to plan the individual study programme and ensure that the studies follow the plan and progression is achieved towards learning outcomes.

Individual study plan

The individual study plan is a key document for both the doctoral student and supervisors for PhD studies. The study plan is to include the doctoral student's and supervisors' obligations and a timetable for the doctoral student's study programme. Rules for the individual study plan are set out in both the Higher Education Ordinance²³ and in the local regulations of Lund University.²⁴

Drawing up an individual study plan

The individual study plan is to be drawn up after a doctoral student has been admitted to the programme, and at the latest 3 months after admission. The study plan is approved by the vice-dean responsible for research studies after consultation with the doctoral student and principal supervisor, and after approval by the DHoD for PhD studies at the respective department. The individual study plan is set up in an electronic system for individual study plans.

The individual study plan is to define the study programme's content and implementation with regard to the research project, literature, courses and seminars. It is also to include a timetable for the doctoral student's study programme, information on how the doctoral student's supervision is organised, a description of the undertakings of the doctoral student and supervisors during the period of study and what is otherwise needed to ensure that the study programme is run in an efficient way. The individual study plan is a document in progress and as such it is updated as soon as this is required by the doctoral student or supervisors.

Annual review

It is of the utmost importance for the doctoral student and supervisors that the individual study plan is reviewed during the study programme. The individual study plan shall according to Lund

²³ Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 6, Section 29

²⁴ Reg. no LS 2012/718

University's regulations for PhD studies²⁵ be reviewed at least once per year. In the review the doctoral student and supervisors are to present an update on progress in the study programme and approve potential changes to the study plan. The study plan is also to be approved by the DHoD for PhD studies and vice-dean responsible for research studies. In cases where the supervisor and doctoral student disagree about revisions of the individual study plan, the Research Studies Board can decide about the changes that need to be made, after consultation with the DHoD for PhD studies. Before a change is made, the doctoral student and supervisors are given an opportunity to comment on the matter.

Comprehensive Generic Skills

In addition to the Research School in Medical Science there is a mandatory course, Comprehensive Generic Skills, in which the doctoral student through continuous reflection and self-evaluation receives support and insight into their learning, and documents fulfilment of learning outcomes for the course. The doctoral student continuously documents their experiences within different areas of the study programme and use these as a point of departure for reflections. The documentation is recorded in a portfolio. At the annual appraisal and/or when revisions are to be made to the individual study plan there is to be a discussion between the doctoral student and supervisors regarding progress in the study programme.

At the half-time review, the portfolio is assessed by the half-time reviewers and thereafter by the DHoD for PhD studies. Prior to the thesis defence the DHoD for PhD studies examines the portfolio. The material that is assessed and examined is the doctoral student's own selection of documentation as well as reflections about the different areas to show that the learning outcomes have been achieved.

²⁵ Reg. no LS 2012/718

Half-time review

Aim

All doctoral students admitted to PhD studies are to undergo a review of their project approximately halfway through their period of study. This is known as the half-time review.

The aim of the half-time review is for the supervisors and the doctoral student to determine whether the project is progressing and achieving the results in accordance with the individual study plan established at the time of admission to PhD studies.

Once the supervisor and the doctoral student are in agreement that half the period of PhD studies has passed, the supervisor takes the initiative to implement a half-time review. The review takes the form of a public seminar, which is announced within by the Research Studies Office in good time. In addition to information about where and when the seminar will take place, an abstract in English should be sent to the Research Studies Office.

Appointing reviewers

The supervisor appoints two external reviewers (outside their own research team) who are to be holders of doctoral degrees and not linked to the project. The reviewers must not have co-authored works with the supervisor and/or the doctoral student within the project in question. One of the reviewers should have specialist expertise within the subject of the thesis project, while the other should have broader expertise within the subject in question. One of the reviewers should be a docent. The Research Studies Board further recommends that the same docent acting as reviewer is also to be a member of the examining committee at the thesis defence.

Documents

Summary

The doctoral student is to write a summary of the project of about 10-20 pages. It is to contain parts of the introductory summary which have already been written, such as introduction, background, aims and

research questions. Existing methods and results and planned studies/publications should be summarised under specific headings. The text can also be used in the final version of the introductory summary.

The summary is also to include a reflection on ethical considerations, where it for each paper is to be notified:

- Existing ethical permits including registration number
- If applications for ethical permits are planned, or
- Reasons why ethical permits are not needed.

The summary is sent to the external reviewers two weeks before the review at the latest.

Individual study plan

The doctoral student is also to send the original study plan and at least one updated version to the external reviewers for inspection.

Portfolio

In addition, the portfolio relating to the course Comprehensive Generic Skills is to be sent to the half-time reviewers for assessment two weeks before the half-time review. The portfolio should be sent in the form of a display page from the electronic portfolio or as a PDF file. Assessment of the portfolio means that the half-time reviewers read and discuss the portfolio with the doctoral student and provide input and suggestions for improvement.

Conducting the half-time review

At the seminar, the doctoral student presents the work completed so far and the plans for further project work up to the thesis defence. The presentation is followed by a question and answer session in which the external reviewers discuss the results and the further planned work up to the degree, as well as checking the doctoral student's expertise in the subject. The seminar concludes with a general discussion between the doctoral student, the audience, supervisors and reviewers. The

main supervisor is to take part in the half-time review and assistant supervisors should participate.

After this, a private discussion takes place between the doctoral student, the supervisors and the external reviewers, addressing both the research work and the doctoral student's portfolio and general development. The doctoral student is also to get a chance to speak privately with the external reviewers. The external reviewers are then responsible for filling in the certificate and assessment template that are provided as support in the evaluation of progression. Thereafter, the PhD student sends the certificate and completed assessment template, along with individual study plan and portfolio, to the DHoD for PhD studies. In cases where the half-time review reveals that progress is unsatisfactory and/or that it has proved impossible to follow the individual study plan, it is up to the DHoD for PhD studies, in consultation with the doctoral student, supervisors and external reviewers, to discuss the continued work towards the thesis defence and, where appropriate, a revision of the study plan.

Courses and seminars

Courses

PhD courses are an important element in the PhD programme and are to provide insights and skills in statistics, ethics, scientific communication etc. The study programme includes a compulsory course package including the course Comprehensive Generic Skills. The other courses that are included are indicated in the general syllabus. In addition, elective courses are also offered.

Syllabi

There is to be a set syllabus for each course offered in PhD programmes. The course director in cooperation with a course drafting group drafts new syllabi prior to a decision on adoption by the Research Studies Board. The syllabus is to be approved in a Swedish version and after adoption it is translated into English.

Admission to PhD courses

After admission to the doctoral program, all doctoral students are admitted to the Research School in Medical Science, which comprises 13.5 credits. The doctoral students are allocated a place at the research school that starts within a few months to a maximum of one year after admission.

The Research Studies Office is responsible for handling the selection and admission of applicants to elective courses. For admission to courses, the following general selection criteria are to be followed:

- doctoral students admitted at the Faculty of Medicine, thereafter
- doctoral students admitted at other higher education institutions, thereafter
- other applicants who fulfil the qualification requirements at the Faculty of Medicine, thereafter
- other applicants who fulfil the qualification requirements

The processing of an application requires that the doctoral student's individual study plan has been updated in the past year. Applicants are prioritised according to the admission date unless otherwise stated in the syllabus.

Examination and registration of credits

The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies appoints examiners for the PhD courses at the Faculty of Medicine. A person eligible to be an examiner for PhD courses is employed as a teaching staff member at Lund University, for which the requirement is holding a doctoral degree or equivalent academic competence and is a docent. For the programme components in which no examiner is appointed, the principal supervisor acts as the examiner. This applies, for example, to courses that doctoral students have taken at another higher education institution or abroad.

The examiner for each PhD course is responsible for reporting Pass results to the research studies coordinator who registers the results in LADOK.

Course evaluations and course reports

The Research Studies Board has decided on a common template for the course evaluations for courses funded by the Research Studies Board. The courses are to be evaluated according to the provisions of *Regulations on course evaluation and course evaluation reports at Lund University*.²⁶ Course evaluations are to be used for continuous development of the courses and are published on the respective course page on the website.

The course evaluations are compiled in a course report. For the Research School in Medical Science, an overall report is compiled annually. For elective courses, a course report is produced per course and year. Course reports are fed back to Research Studies Board. The course reports are to present the course director's reflections on the course content and opportunities for development, as well as statistics concerning applicants, applicants on waiting lists and drop-outs.

Seminars

It is compulsory for all doctoral students²⁷ during at least three years of their PhD studies (for doctoral students admitted to a licentiate degree, the period is 18 months) to take part in at least 18 seminars in the subject of medical science. This includes thesis defences, half-time reviews or equivalent. For doctoral students admitted from 2021-01-01, participation in the seminar "Writing the thesis summary" is mandatory. Participation is documented by the doctoral student in their portfolio, and the component is examined by the DHoD for PhD studies in connection with assessment of the course Comprehensive Generic Skills.

²⁶ Reg. no PE 2010/341

²⁷ According to general syllabus Reg. no U 2018/411

Departmental duties

Doctoral students may have the opportunity to take on administrative duties and participate in boards and committees. The department has the right to decide whether departmental duties are to be included in the position. Departmental duties are planned in consultation between the supervisors and doctoral student. If possible, this is to be discussed at an early stage in connection with admission to PhD studies.

Departmental duties are not to exceed 20% of working hours. Those who take on departmental duties have their doctoral studentship extended to the corresponding extent.

The agreement on departmental duties is to be regulated in the individual study plan. It is important to agree on the extension of the study period that may be linked to departmental duties and also note this in the individual study plan.

Teaching

The doctoral student may teach within the framework of PhD studies. Teaching in first and second-cycle studies requires the doctoral student to have completed at least a two-week course in teaching and learning in higher education. Compensation for teaching comes from the faculty's education funds and this is used for the extension of the doctoral employment. The basis for calculation of an extension of the doctoral employment due to teaching duties is regulated in the local working hours agreement. The calculation of time spent teaching is according to the calculation method used for teaching staff at the faculty.

Supervision during PhD studies

All doctoral students are to have a principal supervisor and at least one assistant supervisor. The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies makes a formal decision on the supervisor and assistant supervisors when the doctoral student is admitted.

All supervisors are to be familiar with the Faculty of Medicine's rules for PhD studies. See also the criteria for supervisors under the heading *Supervisor requirements*.

Principal supervisor's responsibilities

The principal supervisor is according to the duty description in the PhD studies organisation to have overall responsibility for supervision regarding the structure and implementation of the research project, and together with the doctoral student has a joint responsibility for the completion of PhD courses and other components as specified in the general syllabus and the individual study plans. The duties of the main supervisor is among other things to:

- introduce the doctoral student to the research work/project and to activities relevant to the PhD study programme
- participate in the formulation and review of the doctoral student's individual study plan
- enable the doctoral student's participation in relevant PhD courses, seminars, symposia and conferences
- ensure that the research progresses at a reasonable rate so that it will be concluded within the time stipulated. The best way to achieve this is through close and continuous involvement in the research project
- initiate the half-time review
- determine when the doctoral student's research has reached the level required for a thesis defence. The primary responsibility for determining when the research meets the requirements of an academic thesis, in terms of both scope and quality, lies with the supervisor

Duties of assistant supervisors

Assistant supervisors are to act as supervisory support for the doctoral student and can be selected on the basis of a need for subject or methodology expertise for the doctoral student's project. The

respective roles of the assistant supervisors are to be clearly specified before admission and be documented in the individual study plan.

Supervision period

The Research Studies Board has decided that at the Faculty of Medicine, supervisors must devote a minimum of 100 hours to supervising a doctoral student. How that time is allocated should be linked to the doctoral student's needs and activity level, as well as their current stage in the programme. Supervisory hours include the time that the supervisors and doctoral student spend on the doctoral student's education, e.g. research project and courses. Supervisory hours also include time spent reviewing work and planning the thesis defence. Supervisory time is to be divided among the principal and assistant supervisors. The principal supervisor and the doctoral student are to review, and if necessary, update, the individual study plan at least once a year.

Change of supervisor

The doctoral student's right to change supervisor is stated in the Higher Education Ordinance.²⁸

The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies makes the formal decision regarding the appointment of principal supervisor and assistant supervisors when the doctoral student is admitted through establishment of the project plan, as well as any subsequent decision on a change of supervisor. If the principal supervisor reaches retirement age during the doctoral student's period of study or is absent due to long-term illness, redeployment elsewhere, or other circumstances, an assistant supervisor with docent status, availability as a supervisor and funding options should be engaged on the project.

Applications to change supervisor are to be signed by all parties involved (the doctoral student and new and previous principal

²⁸ Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 6, Section 28

supervisors, new and previous assistant supervisors) and is sent to the DHoD for PhD studies who approves or rejects the application. The decision is made by the vice-dean responsible for PhD studies.

Conflicts between supervisors and doctoral students

The Research Studies Board has drawn up an action plan for management of conflicts between supervisors and doctoral students.²⁹ The action plan contains advice on how to work on preventing conflicts and how a conflict can be managed if it arises. The plan includes details for all the contacts that can provide advice and support.

When studies do not go according to plan

If, for various reasons, the doctoral student wishes to take a break from their studies, this is registered in ISP and also in LADOK as reduced activity. However, if the doctoral student wishes to end his/her studies prematurely, the possibility of graduating with a licentiate degree after 2 years of full-time study may be an option. It is also possible to end the studies without a degree by registering non-completion. In case of a non-completion, the doctoral student relinquishes his/her place of study and has no right to resume his/her studies.

Withdrawal of supervision and other resources

The Higher Education Ordinance stipulates that if a doctoral student substantially neglects his or her undertakings in the individual study plan, the vice-chancellor shall decide that the doctoral student is no longer entitled to supervision and other study resources. This process is detailed in the regulations for doctoral education at Lund University.³⁰

²⁹ Reg. no Styr 2017/573

³⁰ Reg. no STYR 2018/562

3. Assessment

There are two levels of PhD degree in Sweden: a Degree of Doctor and a Degree of Licentiate. A Degree of Doctor corresponds to 240 credits, a Degree of Licentiate to 120 credits. The learning outcomes for the two degrees are outlined in Appendix 1.

Degree of Doctor

The doctoral thesis is to be structured as a summary of the research articles the doctoral student has written as sole author or jointly with one or more other persons (compilation thesis). Theses in the form of a unified, coherent research project (monograph thesis) are allowed as exceptions and after a specific application has been made to the Research Studies Board.

A doctoral thesis should be written in English, but the introductory summary can be written in Swedish.

Requirements for a Degree of Doctor

The doctoral student is to have completed their research assignment in accordance with the general syllabi and individual study plan, which means that he or she has:

- completed and been awarded a grade of Pass in the set compulsory courses and any further courses for the PhD studies stated in the individual study plan
- completed a half-time review
- have actively participated in seminars and conferences as required by the general syllabi.

Thesis requirements

The scope of the thesis project is a qualitative assessment. The quality of the thesis is to be assessed from a perspective based on the doctoral student's programme, and to be of the scientific quality expected of an internationally recognised university.

In order for the doctoral student to demonstrate sufficient competence the doctoral student is generally required to have authored three papers of which one is to have been published or accepted. The doctoral student is to be the sole first author of the published paper as well as having a prominent role on the other papers (the benchmark is first or second author). The contribution of the doctoral student in the papers should be clearly distinguishable from the other authors. Supervisors should not be first author on any of the papers. The research papers are to be of a quality that corresponds to the requirements for publication in recognised international peer-reviewed research journals.

Different types of papers can be included in the thesis:

- Articles containing original data published in international peer-reviewed journals
- Meta-analyses and meta-syntheses or systematic reviews according to established methodology. The thesis cannot solely consist of these types of articles.
- Letter to the editor – provided that original data is presented. It cannot replace the paper for which the doctoral student is the sole first author.
- Study protocol – provided that the protocol is clearly linked to the other research papers. It cannot replace the paper for which the doctoral student is the sole first author.

Maximum one paper can have been carried out prior to admission to the doctoral education (after special consideration at the time of admission) and this paper may not be published more than two years prior to admission. A single work should not be included in more than two theses.

Other types of work may be included following individual review by the Research Studies Board

A review to determine whether these quality requirements are fulfilled is carried out in connection with the thesis defence application. In

other cases, the thesis is reviewed by a working group within the Research Studies Board, which can reject the application for a thesis defence. This can occur even though the thesis fulfils the quantitative requirements.

Applying for a thesis defence

An application for a thesis defence is made using a special template and together with appendices is to include:

- Proposal for opponent
 - The opponent is to be a docent, professor or equivalent and come from a higher education institution other than Lund University.
- Proposal for chair of the thesis defence
 - The chair must have relevant expertise within the subject of the thesis. The chair must be someone of senior rank who feels comfortable in the role of chair, and who can maintain a high standard during the thesis defence. There is, however, no requirement for the chair to be a senior lecturer/professor/ docent. For example, it is possible for a member of the examining committee to act as chair. The principal supervisor or assistant supervisor cannot be the chair.
- Proposal for examining committee members
 - Three ordinary members are to be proposed, of whom at least one is to be external i.e. not from Lund University. Two substitutes are also to be proposed. If possible, one of the ordinary members of the examining committee is to have acted as reviewer in the half-time review. All members are to be docents or professors, and to have been asked to take part and to have accepted at the time of the application for the thesis defence. The examining committee can also comprise five ordinary members.

- If committee members find out at short notice that they are unable to attend, the substitutes take their places. If the opponent finds out at short notice that they are unable to attend, the examining committee members can jointly take on this role. Attendance via a digital link is acceptable for the opponent and one of the examining committee members according to a special decision.
- Papers
 - A list of all the original articles included in the thesis. The list is to include information on co-authors, where the articles have been published or accepted, and if they have been submitted to a journal or are still in manuscript form. All the papers included in the thesis are to be attached and a preliminary review is to be made by the examining committee. Information regarding supervisors who is or has been an editor in journal where articles has been published.
- Supervisor statement
 - A statement relating to the main content of the thesis and its newsworthiness. In the case of a compilation thesis the statement is to explain the papers' interrelationship and detail the doctoral student's own contribution to each article. However, the most important aspect is to detail the doctoral student's contribution to each article in terms of planning, follow-up, practical work, manuscript writing and use of initiative. It is to be stated whether the papers have been or will be used in a thesis other than the thesis in question. It is also to indicate if any of the supervisors is an editor of the journals in which the doctoral student has been published. The supervisor statement is to be signed by all supervisors.

- Other information
 - Preliminary thesis title and date of the thesis defence.
 - A list of completed and passed PhD courses.
 - Conflict of interest certification signed by all supervisors and the doctoral student, which certifies that there are no connections or relations involving conflict of interest with the proposed opponent and the examination board.

Conflict of interest

According to the Administrative Procedure Act, a conflict of interest exists when a member of a decision-making body, who is taking part in the deliberation on or reporting of a matter, can be assumed to be lacking in impartiality when making his/her final decision. The Administrative Procedure Act also states that “anyone who knows of any circumstance that could constitute their disqualification is obliged to disclose it of their own volition.” Members of the examining committee and the opponent must therefore be entirely independent of the doctoral student, the supervisor and the project.

The Research Studies Board has decided on regulations for disqualification that describe possible disqualification situations at various times in the doctoral programme, including the establishment of a project plan, admission, change of supervisor/addition, examination of courses, half-time review and dissertation or licentiate examination.

If a disqualification arises in connection with the above occasions, or at other times during the doctoral programme, the disqualified person must inform the university by contacting the head of research and development and report the disqualification.

The Faculty of Medicine otherwise adheres to the conflict-of-interest policy set out by the Swedish Research Council. Their policy sets out the following:

- A conflict of interest exists in the case of close collaboration on a scientific project and coproduction that has taken place within the last 5-year period. A co-written article is deemed to be coproduction.
- A conflict of interest can exist for longer than 5 years if close collaboration has taken place.
- The doctoral student's relationship to his/her supervisor is deemed to be a conflict of interest regardless of how long ago the collaboration took place.
- Exceptions to the 5-year rule can be made if the collaboration was in the form of multi-centre studies. These cases are judged on an individual basis. In these cases the Research Studies Office should be notified in good time.

Processing applications for a thesis defence

- The application for a thesis defence is reviewed by the DHoD for PhD studies, who then sends it to the vice-dean responsible for PhD studies at the latest three months before the thesis defence.
- The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies checks that there is no conflict of interest associated with the proposed examining committee and opponent, that the required number of PhD credits have been obtained, and that the application otherwise follows the existing rules.
- The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies on behalf of the board appoints the opponent, chair of the thesis defence seminar and the members and substitutes of the examining committee.
- The examining committee makes a preliminary assessment and justifies approval for the thesis defence or in certain cases turns down the application.

Preliminary assessment

The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies appoints the examining committee and then assumes responsibility for sending the papers and

thesis defence application to the examining committee members for preliminary assessment. The assessment is to review the quality and scope of the papers regarding study design, material and methodology, data analysis and conclusions, in relation to four years of full-time study. A summarising assessment, with a clear justification of approval or rejection is required. The review is only to result in an approval or rejection of the thesis defence application.

Introductory summary

The introductory summary is to provide an up-to-date description of the focus area and the subject of the doctoral thesis and how the doctoral project fits into this. The introductory summary must be written autonomously by the doctoral student and is to present the doctoral student's contribution to the various papers in their shared context. The introductory summary is to demonstrate that the doctoral student has obtained specific subject knowledge. A critical description and discussion of the methods is to be included in which alternative methods are also discussed. The text should integrate obtained results in the current field of research. It is to present what the doctoral thesis has contributed to the focus area. The summary is also to include how the results of the thesis can be utilised as well as a proposal for continued research.

The introductory summary should be at least 50 pages including figures and tables but excluding title page and references.

Printing and notification of the thesis

The thesis shall be available at the university in a sufficient number of copies to enable a satisfactory review of the thesis at the public defence. The minimum number of copies at the public defence is 25 copies.

The written notification of the thesis defence date is issued by the Research Studies Office. The notification contains details of the time and place for the thesis defence, the doctoral student's name, the thesis title, the thesis subject and the names of the opponent and chair.

The doctoral student complements the notification with electronic publication of the thesis.

Submission of the doctoral thesis

Three weeks before the defence date, the doctoral student shall submit the doctoral thesis to:

- the opponent
- the chair of the examining committee
- members and deputies of the examining committee
- 3 copies to the University Library (UB)
- Research Studies Office (1 copy and receipt from UB)

The thesis defence

At the thesis defence the examining committee makes an updated assessment of the thesis and the doctoral student's expertise in the light of the opponent's observations and assesses the summary and defence of the thesis.

Minutes

The examining committee meets immediately after the thesis defence and a chair is chosen from among the committee members. The principal supervisor is obliged and the opponent, chair and assistant supervisor have the right to be present at the examining committee meeting and participate in the deliberations, but may not participate in the decision. The examining committee members can request that others who are present leave the room before they make their decision.

The doctoral thesis is awarded the grade of Pass or Fail. The committee's decision is based on both the content of the thesis and its defence. If the examining committee's members have differing views, a majority decision applies. Provided the thesis receives a grade of Pass no justification for the decision, or the reasons for individual member's differing opinions is entered in the minutes. However, if the

thesis receives a grade of Fail the reasons are to be entered in the minutes. The minutes are taken even in the case of a grade of Pass. The doctoral student is then to have the opportunity at a later date to submit an application for a new thesis defence of the revised thesis. The minutes of the examining committee's meeting are sent to the Research Studies Office.

Degree of Licentiate

The Degree of Licentiate of Medical Science corresponds to 120 credits. This includes courses and the licentiate thesis.

Requirements for a Degree of Licentiate

For a Degree of Licentiate of Medical Science the norm is that the student has written at least one research manuscript as well as a short introductory summary. The doctoral student is to be the sole first author of the manuscript. The manuscript(s) are to carry academic weight and be structured in the form of a research article, be in publishable condition and contain an indication of the journal in which the manuscript can potentially be published.

Introductory summary

The introductory summary is to provide an up-to-date description of the focus area and how the licentiate project fits into this. The introductory summary is to be autonomously written by the doctoral student and demonstrate that the doctoral student has obtained specific subject knowledge. A critical description and discussion of the methods is to be included in which alternative methods are also discussed. The results are to be summarised and critically reviewed in a discussion. It is to present what the licentiate thesis has contributed to the focus area. The summary is also to include how the results of the thesis can be utilised as well as a proposal for continued research. The doctoral student should also reflect on ethical considerations.

The introductory summary should be at least 25 pages including figures and tables but excluding title page and references.

Applying for a licentiate exam

The application for a licentiate exam is submitted to the Faculty of Medicine's Research Studies Board approximately 2.5 months before the planned date of the examination.

The application is to include:

- A proposal for the opponent. The opponent is to hold a doctoral degree, and is not to work at the faculty in question
- A proposal for the chair of the examination
- A proposal for 3 ordinary members of the examining committee (no more than one of the members may be from the student's research environment) and 2 substitutes. The examining committee members are to be researchers with doctoral degrees
- The title of the licentiate thesis
- A brief account from the supervisor describing the student's research project and individual input in the work, and a certificate stating that the student has passed all the assessed components. It should be stated whether the work has been or will be used in another thesis/dissertation than this one. It should also state whether any of the supervisors are editors of any of the journals in which the doctoral student has published. The supervisor's statement must be signed by all supervisors.
- A list of papers included in the licentiate thesis. The list is to include information on co-authors if they have been submitted to a journal or are still in manuscript form. All the papers included in the licentiate thesis are to be attached.

The vice-dean responsible for PhD studies appoints the opponent, chair and members of the examining committee. The decision is sent by the Research Studies Office to all those concerned.

Submitting a licentiate thesis

Three weeks before the examination date the doctoral student is to send the licentiate thesis and related papers to:

- the opponent
- the chair of the examining committee
- the examining committee members and substitutes
- the Research Studies Office, (3 copies of which 2 are forwarded to the University Library)
- one copy of the licentiate thesis must be available at the department 3 weeks ahead of the examination date.

The Research Studies Office ensures that the availability of the licentiate thesis as well as the time and place of the examination are announced in the calendar on the Faculty of Medicine's website.

Examination

The licentiate thesis is to be defended orally at a public seminar. The members of the examining committee meet immediately after the examination, appoint one of its members to chair the proceedings, and arrive at a grade of Pass or Fail. The principal supervisor is obliged and the opponent, chair and assistant supervisor have the right to be present at the examining committee meeting and participate in the deliberations, but may not participate in the decision. Minutes are recorded and are to be signed by the chair and sent to the Research Studies Office.

Degree certificate and diploma supplement

Once a doctoral student has defended their thesis and the minutes from the meeting of the examining committee has been received by the Research Studies Office, all requirements for a doctoral degree have been fulfilled and a degree certificate can be issued.

The faculty has the right to issue certificates for a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Medical Science and a Degree of Licentiate of Medical Science. The degree certificates for the doctoral and licentiate degrees are to be signed by the vice-dean responsible for PhD studies. Among other things the degree certificate states the title of the licentiate thesis and which PhD courses are included in the degree. In addition to the

degree certificate a diploma supplement is issued, which describes the doctoral degree's place in the Swedish educational system.

Joint and double degrees

Within PhD studies there are opportunities to conduct your studies in collaboration with one or several higher education institutions, Swedish or foreign, and thereby obtain a joint degree or a double degree.

A joint degree means that at least two higher education institutions organise and implement a joint programme that results in a joint degree and diploma. A joint degree requires a special procedure and must be approved by the Research Studies Board.

A double degree means that the doctoral student is admitted and examined at each higher education institution and that the degree certificate states that the doctoral student has obtained a doctoral degree at each higher education institution after collaboration between the institutions. Two degree certificates are issued.

The doctoral student is admitted to both higher education institutions with a supervisor at each higher education institution and is expected to follow all programme elements at both higher education institutions. At least 12 months of the study period should be spent at the partner university. For each doctoral student taking a joint or double degree, an agreement must be signed to regulate the co-operation. The agreement is drawn up in consultation between the supervisors at each higher education institution and is signed by the dean and vice-dean for doctoral education. This should be done when the doctoral student is admitted. An agreement template exists, and the agreement process is handled by the International Office.

The purpose of PhD studies cooperation that leads to a double degree or alternatively a joint degree is to increase internationalisation and promote the conditions for working in an international labour market and enable universities to broaden their skills and benefit from cooperation.

Appendices

Appendix 1, Learning outcomes for PhD studies

Learning outcomes for a Degree of Doctor

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work
- demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Local goals at Lund University

- demonstrate knowledge of sustainable development of relevance to the individual topic
- demonstrate the ability to apply an international perspective in the individual topic
- demonstrate the ability to apply gender equality and equal opportunities perspectives in the individual topic

Learning outcomes for a Degree of Licentiate

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and

- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Local goals at Lund University

- demonstrate knowledge of sustainable development of relevance to the individual topic
- demonstrate the ability to apply an international perspective in the individual topic
- demonstrate the ability to apply gender equality and equal opportunities perspectives in the individual topic