

## Regulations for the Degree of PhD

### 1. *General principles*

**Art. 1** Pursuant to Art. 2 of the *Study Regulations* (10 October 2001), the Faculty awards one single postgraduate degree (Doctor of Economics) under the Italian title of *Dottore in Scienze economiche (dr. sc. ec.)*.

**Art. 2** The degree is conferred on the candidate who has successfully completed the doctoral programme and satisfied the examiners in the viva voce examination (hereafter *viva*) of the PhD thesis.

**Art. 3** <sup>1</sup> Qualifications for admission:

- a Master's degree (MA / MSc) in Economics of USI in the following classes: *magna cum laude* or *summa cum laude*;
- a Master's degree (MA / MSc) in Economics of a Swiss university of an equivalent standard appropriate to be acknowledged by that university;
- a degree or qualification of an equivalent standard obtained in an approved institution of higher education outside Switzerland, with a final average grade equivalent to 8 (out of 10);<sup>(1)</sup>
- Applicants holding alternative qualifications may also be considered by the Faculty, on a case by case basis.

<sup>2</sup> Applications for a PhD must be submitted in writing.<sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>3</sup> All PhD application files shall be examined and evaluated by the appropriate director of studies in the relevant area of specialisation (art. 16).<sup>(1)</sup>

**Art. 4** Once offered admission as a doctoral candidate, the student must matriculate with the Faculty of Economics, Lugano.

### 2. *The PhD Programme*

**Art. 5** The PhD candidate is required to pursue a regular course of advanced study in Economics, completed by formal examinations.

**Art. 6** <sup>1</sup> The PhD course of studies shall be set out under separate Directives, and approved by the Faculty Council.<sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The doctoral programme prescribes attendance at lectures and coursework awarding a minimum total of 30 ECTS credits.

### **3. The research proposal and the thesis**

**Art. 7** <sup>1</sup> Having secured the supervision of a Faculty professor overseeing his/her research work, the doctoral candidate shall draft a *thesis proposal* two to three pages long. The thesis supervisor then presents the proposal at a Faculty Council meeting.

<sup>2</sup> The Faculty Council approves the project and confirms the appointment of the thesis supervisor.

**Art. 8** <sup>1</sup> The thesis shall demonstrate the candidate's capacity to pursue original research in a given field of study and embody the results of his/her scientific and scholarly investigation in a distinct and significant contribution to the subject.

<sup>2</sup> The thesis may also be 'cumulative', that is to say integrate individual scholarly papers into one; in this case the thesis shall consist of at least three such papers. In addition to the main articles, the thesis shall include an introductory chapter outlining the issues tackled in the separate contributions, a review of the relevant literature, and a summary of the results obtained.

**Art. 9** Having heard the Supervisor's appraisal and checked that the candidate has fulfilled the doctoral programme's requirements, the Faculty Council appoints a board of examiners and designates its chairman.

**Art. 10** <sup>1</sup> The Board of Examiners comprises at least three university professors, of whom one must be an external examiner.

<sup>2</sup> The thesis supervisor is not eligible to chair the Board of Examiners.

**Art. 11** With the approval of his/her supervisor, the candidate shall provide each Examiner with a copy of the thesis.

**Art. 12** The Examining Board's chairman consults with the other members and, when agreement has been reached, recommends to the Faculty Dean that the candidate be admitted to a *viva* examination. A date for the *viva* is set by the Faculty Dean together with the Chairman of the Examining Board.

**Art. 13** The *viva* examination is public.

**Art. 14** <sup>1</sup> At the end of the *viva*, after careful deliberation, the Examiners draw up a report.

<sup>2</sup> If the thesis is rejected, the candidate is not allowed to re-submit.

<sup>3</sup> ... <sup>(2)</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The Examining Board's chairman hands over to the Faculty Dean the minutes of the *viva* examination and the Board's final decision.

**Art. 15** The candidate who has successfully completed his/her *viva* examination must supply a copy of the final version, incorporating any required changes and revisions recommended by the Examiners and in compliance with the Library Guidelines for on-line publication.

#### **4. *Directors of Studies (disciplinary areas) and the Dean*** <sup>(1)</sup>

**Art. 16** The director of studies for each disciplinary field is a tenured professor of the Faculty, appointed by the Faculty Council. Each is in charge of the PhD study programme in his/her respective area, and is responsible for carefully examining all applications for PhD admissions related thereto. <sup>(1)</sup>

**Art. 17** The Dean makes the final decision on the admission of each candidate, taking due account of both the assessment expressed by the respective Director of Studies and the formal administrative checks conducted by the Dean's secretariat; <sup>(1)</sup>

#### **5. *Enforcement***

**Art. 18** Having been ratified by the Faculty Council of 15 March 2006, the present document comes into effect immediately, and is applicable to all candidates accepted for PhD registration after 1 October 2002 (academic year 2002–2003). All amendments ratified by the Faculty Council on 24 November 2010 come into effect immediately and are applicable to any candidate seeking admission to a PhD programme from said date.

<sup>(1)</sup> Amendment ratified by the Faculty Council on 24.11.2010

<sup>(2)</sup> Amendment ratified by the Faculty Council on 12.06.2013