

Regulations relating to the Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) degree and Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) degree in artistic research and development at the University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway (UiT).

Adopted by:	Rector on authorization from The University Board
Legal basis:	Sections 3-3, 3-7, 3-9 and 4-13 of the University and University Colleges Act
Applies from	1 January 2023
Archive reference	2022/4015

This is a translation. The Norwegian original has official status. In the event of an inconsistency the Norwegian version shall prevail.

Contents

Regulations relating to the Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) degree and Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) degree in artistic research and development at the University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway (UiT). 1

Chapter I. Introductory provisions.....3

Chapter II. Admission5

Chapter III. Implementation7

Chapter IV. Completion.....13

Chapter V. Joint degrees and cotutelle agreements17

Chapter VI. Appeals18

Chapter VII. Entry into force18

Chapter I. Introductory provisions.

Section 1. Scope

These regulations apply to all education that leads to the two degrees Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) and Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in artistic research and development. These regulations constitute the rules relating to admission to, completion of and graduating with doctoral degrees at the University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway (UiT). [The regulations for studies and examinations at the University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway](#) apply to courses completed as part of the training component of the doctoral programme.

Section 2. Terminology

(1) In these regulations, the two degrees are referred to collectively as the doctoral degrees or individually as the *PhD degree* or *PhD degree in artistic research and development*.

(2) *PhD candidate* refers to someone who has been admitted to a PhD programme at UiT, regardless of employment at UiT. *Research fellow* refers to someone employed at UiT to complete a doctoral degree. The regulations refer to both groups as PhD candidate or candidate, unless special regulations apply to research fellows.

(3) The term *doctoral work* is used for both degrees to refer to the results of the work conducted by the PhD candidate within the agreed period between starting and graduating. The training component is not included.

(4) The term *thesis* is used to refer to the result of the doctoral work that will lead to the PhD degree, cf. Sections 18 and 18-1.

(5) The term *artistic research and development* comprises both performing and creative artistic results, as well as materials documenting critical reflection, also referred to as the reflection component, cf. Sections 18 and 18-2. The term *artistic result* comprises only the performing or creative artistic result.

(6) In these regulations, the term Faculty also includes the Arctic University Museum of Norway and Academy of Fine Arts (UMAK).

Section 3. Objectives and requirements

(1) The PhD education shall qualify candidates for academic research or artistic research and development of an international standard and other work in society in which high requirements apply with regard to academic or artistic insight, expertise and analytical thinking in accordance with sound academic practice and research ethics standards.

(2) The PhD education shall ensure access to training and continuous development of knowledge, skills and expertise and shall make the PhD candidate a stronger candidate in appointment processes after graduation.

(3) When the requirements for achieving the PhD degree and the PhD degree in artistic research and development differ, this shall be emphasised.

Section 4. The PhD education

(1) The PhD education is made up of 180 credits, divided into 30 credits for the training component and 150 credits for the doctoral work. The education shall provide the PhD candidate with knowledge, skills and expertise in line with the description of the PhD education in the [national qualifications framework for lifelong](#)

learning and shall be organised in such a way that it can be completed within the standardised period of time (effective period of three years).

(2) The Faculty shall be responsible for ensuring that the training component, together with the doctoral work, results in qualifications of a high academic level in accordance with international standards, including the completion of doctoral work and training in academic dissemination and an introduction to research ethics, the philosophy of science and scientific methods.

(3) The University shall prepare the PhD candidate for a professional career within or outside of academia.

Section 5. Responsibility for the PhD education

(1) The University Board has the overall responsibility for the education and

- sets out the rules for the organisation of the education
- makes decisions relating to the creation and discontinuation of PhD programmes
- makes decisions relating to admission quotas if a Faculty requests the regulation of admissions to a programme
- makes decisions relating to the creation of joint degrees with other institutions.

(2) The Faculty may establish supplementary regulations to this document. The Rector shall be informed of any supplementary regulations that are made. For the purpose of these regulations, Faculty refers to entities at faculty level.

(3) Faculties shall establish a programme council responsible for academic management of and the PhD programme as a whole.

(4) Duties assigned to the Faculty Board cannot be delegated. Other duties may be delegated to the Programme Council by the Faculty Board.

(5) The Programme Council shall be appointed by the Faculty Board. Members shall be researchers holding PhD degrees or equivalent expertise and PhD candidates. At least 20 % of members shall be PhD candidates. If PhD candidates are represented by a single member, PhD candidates shall be entitled to attend with one additional representative with the right to speak and make proposals.

Section 6. Quality assurance and reporting

(1) All relevant levels at the University have a responsibility for ensuring compliance with the *Quality System for Study Programmes at UiT*.

(2) One aspect of quality assurance is progress reporting and midway evaluations, cf. Sections 16 and 17.

Section 7. The contents of the PhD education

(1) The PhD education is primarily an academic or artistic study conducted under active academic supervision. The education comprises:

- an independent research work, combined research and development or artistic research and development in active collaboration with academic supervisors and other researchers.
- an approved training component
- participation in active environments for research or artistic research and development, nationally and internationally
- academic dissemination closely related to the doctoral work
- compulsory midway evaluation, cf. Section 17

(2) The *PhD degree* is awarded through a doctorate being conferred on the basis of:

- approved completion of the training component
- an approved doctoral thesis

- an approved trial lecture on a given subject
- approved defence of the thesis through a public defence.

(3) The *PhD degree in artistic research and development* is awarded through a doctorate being conferred on the basis of:

- approved completion of the training component
- approved artistic research and development
- approved defence of artistic doctoral work through a public defence

Chapter II. Admission

Section 8. Admission requirements

(1) For admission to the PhD programme at UiT, applicants must hold a master's degree, cf. the descriptions set out in the [national qualifications framework for lifelong learning](#). By special consideration, the Faculty may approve other equivalent qualifications as grounds for admission. Equivalent artistic expertise may also be considered for admission to the PhD programme in artistic research and development. A Norwegian experience-based master's degree (90 credits) alone does not provide sufficient grounds for admission.

(2) Applicants who have completed higher education abroad shall be considered in line with [Section 3-5 \(3\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#).

(3) An experience-based master's degree of 120 credits may provide sufficient grounds for admission to the PhD programme. In such cases, the Faculty shall first obtain an external assessment of whether the independent work in the master's degree is of such a standard academically, methodologically and in terms of theory of science that there are grounds for admission. Such assessments shall be conducted by a Professor/Associate Professor from a relevant academic field at another institution that offers PhD programmes within the field in question. The Faculty shall place decisive emphasis on the external assessment.

(4) The Faculty may establish further admission requirements, such as grade requirements.

(5) Applicants shall document English language proficiency that fulfils the criteria set out in [Sections 2-1 \(1\) or 2-2 \(7\) of the Regulations relating to admission to higher education](#).

(6) One admission requirement is satisfactory funding of the study programme, generally involving a salary on a par with the salary and employee allowance, infrastructure and indirect costs required for research fellowships.

Section 9. The application

(1) An application for a research fellowships at UiT is also an application for admission to a PhD programme. The applicant that is appointed may be asked to supplement their application.

(2) Applicants who are not funded by UiT shall apply directly to the Faculty. The application shall be prepared using the established application form.

(3) Depending on the requirements set out in the job advertisement and/or application form, applicants shall:

- document the qualifications that constitute grounds for admission
- document the necessary English language proficiency
- prepare a project proposal/complete an application encompassing:
 - an academic description of the project, explaining the topic, research questions and the choice of theory and methodology
 - the proposed qualification plan
 - a funding plan, cf. Section 8 (6)
 - documentation of any special need for academic and material resources

- a plan for affiliation with an active environment for research or artistic research and development and any stays at other research institutions
- an academic dissemination plan
- information relating to any intellectual property restrictions to protect the rights of others
- a description of any legal or ethical issues raised by the project and how these can be clarified
- an assessment of the potential for innovation and/or ideas that can be commercialised
- an initial version of the data management plan for projects involving research data.

(4) Applicants whose place of work will not be at tUiT shall be affiliated with another active environment at which the project shall be conducted. The place of work shall be specified in the application. Nevertheless, the Faculty may impose requirements for stays in relevant academic environments at the Faculty for parts of the period.

(5) The application shall specify whether the project is subject to approval from research ethics committees, the data protection officer, NSD, other public institutions and/or private parties (informants, patients, parents, etc.). Such approvals should preferably be obtained and enclosed with the application.

(6) The Faculty may impose additional requirements for further documentation.

Section 10. Admission decision

(1) Decisions regarding admissions are made by the Faculty.

(2) Decisions regarding admission shall be based on an academic assessment of the project proposal and the applicant's potential for research or artistic research and development as stated in the application. If admission quotas have been established and there are more applicants than places, a ranking shall be performed based on an overall assessment of applications. Academic relevance to the academic environment shall be one factor in the assessment.

(3) Admission to the PhD programme is a condition for appointment to the post of research fellow. A preliminary decision regarding admission may be made subject to reservations concerning the preparation/revision of the project proposal, qualification plan, funding, admission capacity, additional qualifications and intellectual property agreements. The applicant's qualifications shall be assessed and found to fulfil the admission criteria for preliminary admission and a minimum of one academic supervisor shall be appointed, preferably the main academic supervisor.

(4) Decisions regarding admission and entering into PhD agreements shall take place no later than three months after appointment, cf. Section 1-3 (8) of the [regulations relating to the terms and conditions of appointment to academic posts](#). The PhD candidate and academic supervisors shall jointly review the project proposal and assess the need for adjustments. A complete project proposal shall be available within three months of appointment.

(5) Admission will be refused if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- agreements with external third parties preclude the publication and public defence of the thesis or artistic research and development work.
- the intellectual property agreements that have been entered into with a third party are so unreasonable that the institution should not participate in the project.
- If less than one year of full-time work on the doctoral project remains at the time of application, the application shall be rejected. This does not apply to applicants from student research programmes.

Section 11. The PhD agreement

(1) Admission to UiT PhD programmes is formalised by entering into a written agreement signed by the PhD candidate, academic supervisors and the Faculty to which the PhD candidate has been admitted. The agreement shall govern the rights and obligations of the parties during the term of the agreement. The agreement shall ensure that PhD candidates regularly participate in and actively contribute to the academic community and shall

facilitate the PhD education being completed within the agreed period of time. The agreement shall be drawn up by UiT.

(2) The following matters shall be governed by the PhD agreement: the terms of study, educational component, length of employment, funding, place of work, academic supervision and the time of midway evaluations. The scope of and budget plan for operating funds shall also be governed.

(3) When a PhD candidate has obtained funding from, appointment at or other grants from external parties, a separate agreement shall be entered into between the PhD candidate, Faculty and external party. Such agreements shall also provide information about any academic supervisor costs, rental costs, indirect costs and other payments.

(4) The PhD candidate shall have at their disposal the necessary infrastructure, including support services for the completion of the doctoral project. The department/Faculty shall determine what constitutes necessary equipment. For PhD candidates with external funding and/or an external place of work, an agreement shall be entered into between the institution and the external party in connection with each research project. Such agreements should generally be entered into at the time of the admission decision being made.

Section 12. Admission to individual courses at doctoral level

The admission requirements for individual courses at doctoral level shall be set out in the course description , cf. [Section 17 of the regulations concerning admission to the University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway](#). If a course is subject to access restrictions, an overview of the prioritisation of applicants shall also be provided in the course description. Unless otherwise specified in the course description, student attending a research study programme may complete doctoral courses on the same terms as PhD candidates.

Chapter III. Implementation

Section 13. Agreement period

(1) The PhD programme has a nominal duration of three years of full-time studies (180 credits). PhD candidates shall be admitted to the programme of study for the established term of the agreement. In connection with required duties and interruption of the candidate's period of study for authorized reasons, the agreement period is to be extended correspondingly.

(2) Upon expiration of the term of the agreement, the parties' rights and obligations under the PhD agreement shall cease. This means that the candidate's admission to the programme will lapse, including the right to academic supervision and access to UiT's infrastructure.

(3) Candidates will retain admission to the programme for up to one year beyond the stipulated term, cf. [Section 47 \(2\) of the regulations for studies and examinations at the University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway](#). The Faculty may also extend admission to a programme of study by application from the candidate. The Faculty may impose terms and conditions in the event of such extensions.

(4) On the condition that the training component fulfils the requirements for the programme concerned, the candidate may apply to the Faculty to submit their thesis for assessment for a PhD degree, cf. [Section 3-10 of the University and University Colleges Act](#).

(5) Semester registration is compulsory for PhD candidates during the term of the agreement.

(6) Part-time students are required to spend at least 50 % of their working hours on the PhD education, cf. [Section 1-3 \(7\) of the regulations relating to the terms and conditions of appointment to academic posts](#).

(7) A candidate shall be entitled to leave of absence from the programme as set out in Section 49 of the regulations relating to programmes of study and examinations at UiT. The Faculty may extend the right to leave of absence for candidates in the supplementary regulations.

(8) Candidates on parental leave from their PhD programme may attend teaching and sit examinations in courses that will form part of the candidate's training component during their period of leave, in line with [Section 14-10 \(4\) of the National Insurance Act](#) and the Norwegian Welfare Administration's circular on [Section 14-10 \(4\)](#) of 18 December 2006.

Section 14. Training component – purpose and content

(1) Courses that are included in the training component shall be at PhD level and must, among other things, include training on the philosophy of science, ethics and dissemination. Training will contribute towards achieving the expected learning outcomes as specified in the [national qualifications framework for lifelong learning](#). The training component must correspond to at least 30 credits, of which 20 credits should be submitted after admission. Elements included in the training component should not be more than two years old at the start of the term of the agreement.

(2) The Faculty must approve PhD-courses that have been completed at another unit or institution when such courses fulfil the academic requirements for the training component, cf. [Section 3-5 e of the University and University Colleges Act](#). An individual curriculum may be approved as an element of the training component if courses are not offered.

(3) If the Faculty itself does not arrange for the entire training component, the Faculty must ensure that the candidates receive equivalent training at other faculties/institutions that provide approved PhD qualifications.

(4) Applications for amendments to the approved plan for the training component shall be drawn up in consultation with the candidate's main academic supervisor and will be decided on by the Faculty.

Section 15. Academic supervision

(1) PhD candidates must receive individual academic supervision in connection with their doctoral work in accordance with applicable guidelines ¹ and the standard time frame established by the Faculty.

(2) In consultation with academic supervisors, the faculties are responsible for ensuring that candidates regularly participate in an active environment for research or artistic research and development. For candidates whose main affiliation is at a different institution, the agreement between the University and the collaborating institution will govern working conditions and ensure that the candidate participates in an active environment for research or artistic research and development.

Section 15-1 Appointment of academic supervisors

(1) Candidates must have a minimum of two academic supervisors, one of which will be appointed the main academic supervisor. The main academic supervisor should generally be employed by UiT and appointed no later than at the start of the term of the agreement.

(2) The main academic supervisor will have the main responsibility for the candidate. If the Faculty appoints an external main academic supervisor, a co-supervisor from the Faculty must be appointed.

(3) Co-supervisors are specialists who provide academic supervision and share the academic responsibility for the candidate with the main academic supervisor.

(4) The impartiality rules set out in [Section 6 to Section 10 of the Public Administration Act](#) will apply to academic supervisors.

¹[Ethical guidelines for supervision at UiT the Arctic University of Norway](#)

(5) Academic supervisors must hold a PhD degree or equivalent expertise within the field and must be actively involved in their field. At least one of the appointed academic supervisors must have previous experience from or training as an academic supervisor for candidates.

(6) The candidate and academic supervisor may jointly or individually request that a new academic supervisor be appointed by the Faculty. The academic supervisor cannot step down before a new academic supervisor has been appointed.

(7) Any disputes relating to the academic rights and obligations of the academic supervisor and candidate can be brought before the Faculty by either party for consideration and a decision.

Section 15-2 Content of academic supervision

(1) The candidate must be in regular contact with academic supervisors.

(2) Academic supervisors have a duty to remain up-to-date with the progress of the candidate's work and to assess such work in relation to the progress schedule.

(3) In order to ensure that the education can be completed within the standard period, academic supervisors have a duty to follow up on academic matters that could cause the completion of the PhD degree to be delayed.

(4) Academic supervisors will provide advice on the formulation and delimitation of topics and research questions, discuss and consider hypotheses, questions and methods, discuss results and the interpretation thereof, discuss the structure and implementation of the presentation, including public defence, linguistic form, documentation, etc. and provide assistance in navigating academic literature and research data, etc. Furthermore, academic supervisors will guide the candidate with regard to research ethics questions relating to the doctoral work.

(5) Academic supervisors will guide candidates in relation to UiT's principles and guidelines for the management of research data²

Section 16 Progress reporting

(1) Annual progress reporting must be submitted by the PhD candidate and academic supervisor. Both the academic supervisor and the candidate have a duty to submit progress reports, cf. Section 1-3(10) of the regulations relating to the terms and conditions of appointment to academic posts. The purpose of the reporting is to obtain a basis for improving the quality of the programme of study and to identify any non-conformities relating to the scheduled progress. The frequency and quality of academic supervision should be a topic in the reports. Progress reporting does not occur during the year in which the midway evaluation is conducted pursuant to Section 17.

(2) Lack of or inadequate reporting from the candidate may result in compulsory termination of the admission to the programme, cf. Section 22-2(1). Academic supervisors who fail to fulfil the reporting duty may be relieved of their academic supervision responsibilities.

(3) If necessary, the Faculty may require special reporting.

Section 17 Midway evaluation

(1) A midway evaluation must be conducted for each PhD candidate. The midway evaluation comprises an evaluation of the candidate's progress in relation to the PhD agreement. The purpose of the evaluation is to evaluate the progress and quality of the doctoral work and ensure that the candidate will complete by the agreed time. In the event that significant shortcomings associated with the doctoral work are identified, measures must be implemented to correct the situation. The format of the midway evaluation will be determined by the Faculty.

² [Principles and guidelines for management of research data at UiT](#)

(2) As part of the midway evaluation, the candidate's education plan as stated in the PhD agreement will be reviewed and adjusted if needed. For projects that involve research data, an updated data management plan must also be included in the midway evaluation.

(3) The semester in which the midway evaluation will take place must be stipulated in the PhD agreement and must be completed before the candidate's course of study has reached the two-year mark. The timing of this can be adjusted if the candidate studies part-time, has been on leave or in the event of other statutory interruptions. It is not possible to postpone midway evaluations for any other reasons.

Section 18. Requirements relating to the thesis and to the artistic doctoral work

(1) The *thesis* must be an independent scientific work that meets international standards relating to ethics, academic level and methodology within the field. Through the thesis, the candidate will help develop new academic knowledge and the thesis must be of a standard indicating that the thesis can be published as part of academic literature in the field.

(2) The *artistic doctoral work* must be an independent work that meets international standards relating to the level and ethics in the field. The performing or creative artistic result will be a central part of this work. At the same time, the performing or creative art must also be accompanied by explicit reflection that enables others to access the working methods and insights created by the artistic research and development.

Section 18-1 Further requirements relating to the thesis

(1) The thesis may be a monograph or a compilation of several smaller works, i.e. a collection of articles. If the thesis is a collection of articles the candidate must explain the correlation between these works in the summary.

(2) The Faculty will determine which languages can be used for a thesis.

(3) The thesis must include a summary in Norwegian and English.

Section 18-2 Further requirements relating to the artistic doctoral work

(1) The artistic result may consist of one or more parts of or a collection of works that constitute a whole. If the artistic work consists of several smaller works, the candidate must explain the correlation between these works.

(2) Normally, only works produced after admission to the PhD programme in artistic research and development should be included, but earlier works may be used in exceptional circumstances, provided that this has been specified in the project proposal.

(3) The artistic result must be an artistic work of a high level with regard to originality, expression, coherence and dissemination. The artistic result will be presented publicly, cf. Section 20(2).

(4) The critical reflection must be documented through submitted materials, specifically with regard to:

- progress with regard to artistic choices and turning points, the use of theory and methods, dialogue with various networks and academic communities, etc.
- placement and description of the candidate's own artistic point of view and work within the field in question at a national and international level.
- contributions to academic development in the field, including innovations.

(5) The candidate is free to select the medium and format of the reflection element and any other documentation.

(6) The Faculty will determine which languages can be used for the reflection and documentation.

(7) A brief written description of the artistic research and development work must be submitted in English and Norwegian. This description will be published.

Section 18-3 Joint works

- (1) Part of joint works can be approved as doctoral work to the extent that the PhD candidate's independent efforts can be identified and documented. The doctoral work must include a signed statement describing the candidate's efforts in the work/works.
- (2) For doctoral works that include a summary, the summary must be designed by the candidate alone.
- (3) If a written work has been developed together with co-authors, the candidate must adhere to national and international standards for co-authorship.
- (4) If the thesis primarily consists of articles, the candidate should normally be the main author of at least half of the articles.
- (5) In its supplementary regulations, the Faculty may allow for multiple candidates to write their thesis together.

Section 18-4 Works that are not accepted

- (1) A PhD candidate cannot submit work or parts of work that have been accepted as the basis for previous examinations, unless such work constitutes a minor part of the doctoral work. Data, analyses or methods from previous degrees can nevertheless be used as the basis for work on PhD projects.
- (2) Works published more than five years before the start of the term of the agreement cannot be part of the thesis. The Faculty may grant dispensation from this in the event of extraordinary circumstances.
- (3) A doctoral work that has been assessed/submitted for assessment at another educational institution cannot be submitted.

Section 19. Public disclosure and availability

(1) The thesis must be publicly available no later than two weeks before the public defence. The thesis must be published in the format submitted for assessment, alternatively as revised based on Section 26-1.

The artistic result must be presented publicly. The reflection element and any other materials included in the assessment must be publicly available no later than two weeks before the public defence. Materials must be published in the format submitted for assessment. The artistic result and the reflection element must be documented in a permanent format and archived.

- (3) No restrictions can be imposed with regard to public disclosure and publication of the doctoral work, with the exception of postponement of the publication date agreed in advance. Such postponement can be agreed between the PhD candidate and the funding sources/employer when the purpose is for these to be able to consider any patenting/commercialisation, cf. [the act relating to the right to employees' inventions](#).
- (4) External parties cannot impose terms for all or parts of the doctoral work not to be publicly disclosed or published.
- (5) In connection with publishing, candidates must adhere to the applicable guidelines relating to institutional crediting. The main rule is that an institution should be cited in a publication, provided that the institution has made a necessary and significant contribution to or the basis for an author's contribution to the published work. The same author should also list other institutions by address if these institutions individually meet the contribution requirements.
- (6) Published parts of doctoral work or documentation of artistic research and development must generally be publicly available through a journal with open access or via the UiT knowledge archive. Unpublished parts of doctoral work must be made publicly available no later than two years after the public defence and unpublished

monographs no later than four years after the public defence. All parts of a thesis must be publicly available no later than five years after the public defence.

(7) Data, methodology, program code and other materials that form the basis for the thesis must be openly available in accordance with the [principles and guidelines for management of research data at UiT](#).

Section 20. Obligation to report on results with potential for commercial utilisation

(1) A research fellow at UiT has an obligation to report on work results in accordance with applicable regulations.³

(2) For PhD candidates with external employers, the agreement between UiT, candidate and employer must specify whether the candidate is subject to a notification requirement.

(3) For candidates without an employer, a corresponding notification requirement must be set down in the PhD agreement between the Faculty and the candidate.

Section 21. Voluntary termination

(1) The PhD candidate and Faculty may agree to terminate the education before the agreed time. In the event of such termination of the PhD education, a written account must be drawn up in which matters relating to any appointments, funding, rights to results, etc. will be explained.

(2) In the event of voluntary termination due to the candidate wishing to change project or switch to a different programme, the candidate must re-apply for admission on the basis of the new project. In this context, the transition to an independent degree (dr.philos) is considered the same as voluntary termination.

Section 22. Compulsory termination decision

(1) A compulsory termination decision means that the PhD candidate's admission to the programme will lapse.

(2) The candidate and institute/faculty in question will have the opportunity to present their views before a compulsory termination decision is made.

(3) If a compulsory termination decision is made for a PhD candidate at UiT, the consequences such a decision will have on the appointment must be considered in accordance with employment law rules.

Section 22-1 Compulsory termination in the event of academic misconduct

The Faculty may make a decision on compulsory termination of the PhD education in the event of academic misconduct pursuant to Section 8-2 of the Research Ethics Act, cf. [Section 4-13 \(1\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#). The Ministry or a special appeals body appointed by the Ministry will be the appeals body for decisions relating to compulsory discontinuation.

Section 22-2 Compulsory termination in the event of breach of duties pursuant to the PhD agreement

(1) The Faculty may make a decision on compulsory termination of the PhD education if a candidate substantially fails to fulfil their duties pursuant to the PhD agreement, cf. [Section 4-13 \(2\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#). Examples of such breach of contract include:

³ [Regulations on the safeguarding and management of work results at UiT](#)

- The candidate has violated the information, monitoring or reporting requirements repeatedly or on significant points.
- The progress of the PhD project is so delayed that it creates reasonable doubt as to whether the candidate will be able to complete the project by the agreed time and this delay is due to circumstances within the candidate's control.
- The completion of the training component is significantly delayed due to circumstances within the candidate's control.
- The candidate has acted in a way that is contrary to the trust required between the University and the candidate during the education, including unlawful circumstances relating to the completion of the education, such as cheating on individual courses in the training component.
- The funding that forms the basis for admission to the PhD programme has been stopped, for example because the candidate has been dismissed from a research fellow post.

(2) Appeals relating to decisions on compulsory discontinuation pursuant to this provision will be considered by the Student Affairs Board, cf. [Section 4-13 \(2\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#).

Section 22-3 Compulsory termination in the event of cheating on examinations or tests

(1) In the event of cheating on examinations or tests during the education, annulment and exclusion may be enforced [pursuant to Sections 4-7 and 4-8 of the University and University Colleges Act](#). PhD candidates cannot be excluded, cf. [Section 4-8 \(3\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#). The Student Affairs Board will make decisions relating to annulment and exclusion. The joint appeals board will be the appeals body, cf. [Section 5-1 of the University and University Colleges Act](#).

(2) If the matter is serious enough to be considered academic misconduct, the Faculty may consider whether there are grounds for compulsory discontinuation cf. Section 22-1.

Chapter IV. Completion

Section 23. Submission

(1) The training component must be completed and approved prior to submission of the doctoral work, cf. Section 14.

(2) The main academic supervisor is responsible for informing the Faculty that the PhD candidate will soon submit their doctoral work, so that the work to appoint the evaluation committee can commence.

Section 24. Appointment of the evaluation committee

(1) The committee will be proposed by the department.

(2) The faculty will appoint a specialist committee (evaluation committee) comprising at least three members to assess the doctoral work and public defence and will appoint one of the members as the chair. The composition of the committee should normally be clarified by the time the PhD candidate submits their thesis.

(3) The committee must be composed in such a way that

- both genders are represented
- at least one member is employed by UiT
- at least one member is not affiliated with UiT
- at least one member does not have their main post at a Norwegian institution
- all members have a PhD degree or equivalent expertise

- at least one member has expertise above associate professor level
 - the majority of the committee comprises external members
 - the majority of the committee are employed at institutions that award doctoral degrees.
- (4) The composition of the committee must be justified and any deviations from the criteria must be justified separately. The justification must show how the committee as a whole covers the field of study addressed by the doctoral work.
- (5) In special cases, the Faculty may appoint an administrative manager in addition to the members. The administrative manager will not participate in the academic assessment of the doctoral work.
- (6) When necessary, the Faculty may appoint a deputy member to the committee.
- (7) Anyone who has been the candidate's co-author or academic supervisor or others who are deemed not to be impartial pursuant to [Section 6 of the Public Administration Act](#) may not be a member of or administration manager of the committee.
- (8) The candidate must be notified of the proposed committee and will have the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposal no later than five working days after the proposed committee composition has been communicated to the candidate.

Section 25. Correction of formal errors (errata)

- (1) A submitted work cannot be withdrawn before a final decision has been made as to whether or not it is worthy of being defended for a doctoral degree.
- (2) Nevertheless, the candidate may submit an application to the Faculty to correct any formal errors after submission. For the PhD degree in artistic research and development, this will apply only to the reflection element. The candidate must enclose a complete overview of all errors (errata) that the candidate wishes to correct when submitting the application. The application must be submitted no later than four weeks before the deadline for the committee to make its recommendation. If the deadline for making a recommendation is shorter than three months, the deadline may be shortened proportionately. Only one application may be submitted.

Section 26. The evaluation committee's recommendation

- (1) The evaluation committee will make a justified recommendation as to whether the work is worthy of being defended for a doctoral degree. The recommendation must normally be available within three months of the committee having received all elements of the doctoral work for assessment. If the PhD candidate is afforded the opportunity to make minor revisions pursuant to Section 26-1, a new deadline will run from the date on which the work is resubmitted. The same will apply in the event of resubmission pursuant to Section 26-2.
- (2) The evaluation committee may require the candidate to submit their data material and supplementary or clarifying additional information before making a recommendation. The committee may ask the academic supervisor to provide an account of the academic supervision and the work on the PhD project.
- (3) The evaluation committee will make its recommendation to the Faculty on the basis of the doctoral work and any additional materials. The recommendation must indicate whether the work is worthy of being defended for a doctoral degree or whether it should be rejected. If the committee is divided in its recommendation, this must also be justified.
- (4) The evaluation committee's recommendation and any dissent must be submitted to the Faculty and the Faculty must submit the recommendation to the candidate as soon as possible. The candidate will be given a

deadline of ten working days to submit written comments on the recommendation. If the candidate does not wish to submit any comments, the candidate must notify the Faculty in writing as soon as possible.

(5) If the candidate's comments could have an impact on the question of whether or not the thesis should be approved, the comments should be submitted to the evaluation committee before the Faculty makes a decision on the matter.

Section 26-1 The Faculty's consideration of the recommendation

(1) The Faculty will consider the evaluation committee's recommendation and any comments.

(2) If the evaluation committee's recommendation is unanimously positive, the doctoral work is worthy of being defended for the doctoral degree.

(3) The evaluation committee may recommend that the Faculty allows the student to make minor revisions before a final decision is made. In such cases, the committee must provide a specific, written overview of what the candidate needs to revise.

(4) If the evaluation committee recommends that a candidate be given the opportunity to make minor revisions, the Faculty must

- consider whether there are grounds to consider the recommendation
- ask the committee to make a final recommendation without the doctoral work being revised or
- make a final decision based on the recommendation and any comments from the candidate.

(5) If the Faculty accepts the recommendation for minor revisions to be made, the candidate must be given a revision deadline of up to three months. A new deadline for the evaluation committee's final recommendation must be set. The candidate cannot appeal a decision that allows for minor revisions.

(6) If the evaluation committee finds it necessary to make in-depth changes with regard to the theory, hypothesis, materials or methodologies in order to make a recommendation with regard to the public defence, the committee must recommend that the doctoral work be rejected. If the committee unanimously recommends rejection and the Faculty assumes this recommendation as the basis for its consideration, the Faculty must make its decision accordingly.

(7) If the evaluation committee is divided in its recommendation, the Faculty may assume the majority recommendation as the basis and make its decision accordingly.

(8) If the Faculty finds that there is reasonable doubt about assuming the evaluation committee's/majority's recommendation to reject, the Faculty may request further clarification from the committee and/or appoint up to two new specialists to provide individual assessments or appoint a new committee, cf. Section 25. The specialist(s) should not be employed by UiT and should not have any previous involvement in the doctoral work. The recommendation and any comments from the candidate must be submitted to the specialists/new committee. When clarifications from the specialists/new committee are available, these must be presented to the candidate, who will have the opportunity to make written comments.

(9) The Faculty must inform the candidate of the outcome of its consideration of the recommendation.

Section 26-2 New submission following rejection of the doctoral work

(1) A doctoral work that is rejected can be resubmitted for reconsideration once in a new version. Such resubmission may take place only after six months and within two years of the Faculty deciding to reject the work.

(2) In the event of resubmission, the Faculty will appoint a new evaluation committee and at least one of the members of the original committee should be reappointed. The committee cannot recommend minor revision in the event of resubmission following rejection of a thesis.

(3) The candidate must state that the work has been assessed previously without being found worthy of public defence. The Faculty must inform the evaluation committee of the work having been previously assessed without being found worthy. The committee may be provided with a copy of the original recommendation upon request.

Section 27. Trial lecture for the PhD degree

(1) The PhD candidate must complete a trial lecture. The lecture constitutes an independent part of the doctoral examination for the PhD degree and must be on a given topic. The purpose of the trial lecture is to test the candidate's ability to acquire knowledge beyond the topic of the thesis and their ability to disseminate such knowledge. The title of the trial lecture will be determined by the evaluation committee.

(2) The title of the trial lecture will be published after the thesis has been submitted and the trial lecture must be delivered before the public defence takes place. The timing will be determined by the Faculty.

(3) The Faculty will publish the title of the trial lecture to the candidate ten working days before the lecture is due to be delivered. The topic of the trial lecture will not be directly linked to the topic of the thesis.

(4) The trial lecture will be delivered in the thesis language unless otherwise approved by the Faculty.

(5) The committee will determine whether the trial lecture has been *passed* or *failed* and must justify its decision if the result is *failed*.

(6) If the result of the trial lecture is *failed*, the candidate may sign up for a new trial lecture. The trial lecture must be delivered on a new topic, as soon as possible and within six months. As far as possible, the trial lecture should be assessed by the same committee. A new trial lecture can be delivered only once.

(7) The trial lecture must be passed before a public defence can be held.

(8) There is no requirement for a passed trial lecture for the PhD degree in artistic research and development.

Section 28. Defence of the doctoral work (public defence)

(1) The public defence should, as far as possible, be held within four months of submitting the doctoral work.

(2) The time and venue of the public defence must be published at least ten days before it is due to take place. Information about where the doctoral work has been published must be provided at the same time.

(3) The public defence will take place in the language used in the doctoral work, unless otherwise approved by the Faculty.

(4) There should normally be two opponents. These will be appointed by the Faculty from among the evaluation committee's members. In special cases, the Faculty may appoint opponents that have not been members of the committee.

(5) The public defence will be chaired by the Dean or someone authorised by the Dean. The individual chairing the public defence will provide a brief summary of the submission and assessment of the doctoral work and, if applicable, the trial lecture. The PhD candidate will subsequently provide an account of the aim and results of the doctoral work. The first opponent will begin the discussion and the public defence will be concluded by the second opponent. The Faculty may determine a different sequence and distribution of duties between the opponents and between the candidate and the first opponent.

(6) Any audience members present wishing to oppose *ex auditorio* (from the audience) must notify the chair of the public defence by the deadline announced at the start of the public defence.

Section 29. Acceptance of the doctoral examination

(1) After the public defence, the committee will submit written notice as to whether or not the public defence has been accepted.

(2) If the public defence is not accepted, the PhD candidate may sign up for a new public defence. The new public defence must be completed as soon as possible and no later than within six months. To the extent possible, the candidate should be assessed by the original evaluation committee. A new public defence may be held only once.

(3) The public defence must be accepted before a doctoral degree can be conferred upon the candidate and a grade transcript for the degree can be issued.

Section 30. Conferral of the degree and certificate

(1) When the majority of the committee have accepted the public defence, a Philosophiae Doctor or Philosophiae Doctor in artistic research and development degree will be conferred upon the candidate.

(2) The University will issue a diploma and diploma supplement

Chapter V. Joint degrees and cotutelle agreements

Section 31 Joint degrees and cotutelle agreements

UiT may enter into collaborations with one or more Norwegian or international institutions regarding collaborations on joint degrees or cotutelle agreements.

Section 31-1 Joint degree

(1) Joint degree refers to a collaboration between multiple institutions in which all institutions are jointly responsible for admission, academic supervision, the awarding of degrees and further tasks as described in these regulations. Such collaborations are normally organised through a consortium and governed by an agreement between the parties to the consortium.

(2) For a completed joint degree, a joint grade transcript is issued in the form of a) a grade transcript issued by all consortium members, b) a grade transcript issued from each of the parties to the consortium or a combination of a) and b).

(3) A joint degree should normally only be entered into if there is already an established, stable academic collaboration between UiT and at least one of the other parties to the consortium. The University Board will adopt further guidelines for joint degree collaborations, including a template collaboration agreement.

Section 31-2 Cotutelle agreements

Cotutelle agreements refer to joint academic supervision of candidates and collaborations relating to the training of candidates. Cotutelle agreements are entered into individually for each candidate and should be based on a stable, academic and institutional collaboration.

Section 31-3 Requirements relating to joint degrees and cotutelle agreements

(1) Agreements relating to joint degrees and cotutelle should, as a minimum, govern admission, funding, the training component, academic supervision, stays at the institutions, reporting requirements, the language of the doctoral work, the format of the doctoral work, assessment, the awarding of degrees, grade transcripts and rights to results. The cotutelle agreement must be signed by the Dean, subject to the restrictions set out in paragraph two. Joint degree agreements must be signed by the Rector.

(2) In agreements relating to joint degrees and cotutelle agreements, the Rector may grant dispensation from these regulations if necessary for the purposes of the regulations at the collaborating institutions. Such exemptions must, individually and jointly, be fully justifiable based on the academic quality requirements that apply to corresponding doctoral degrees at UiT. The qualification requirements for admission, requirements for

the thesis to be publicly available and requirements relating to public defence with an impartial evaluation committee cannot be waived.

(3) The PhD programme at the collaborating institution must also have a scope equivalent to a standard study period of three years. The candidate must be admitted to attend a programme at both institutions.

Chapter VI. Appeals

Section 32. Appeals against rejections of applications for admission, decisions to terminate admission to a programme of study and rejection of approval of elements in the training component.

Rejection of applications for admission to the PhD programme, decisions to terminate admission to a programme of study and rejection of applications for approval of elements in the training component can be appealed to the Student Affairs Board pursuant to the rules set out in [Section 28 onwards of the Public Administration Act](#). Appeals must be submitted to the Faculty.

Section 33. Appeals against grading or formal errors in examinations in the training component

The regulations for studies and [examinations at UiT](#) will apply to appeals relating to grading in connection with examinations and appeals against formal errors in examinations in the training component of the PhD education.

Section 34. Appeals against failed doctoral work, including the public defence

Rejected doctoral work, trial lectures or public defences can be appealed to the Student Affairs Board pursuant to the rules set out in Section 28 onwards of the Public Administration Act, cf. [Section 4-13\(4\) of the University and University Colleges Act](#). Appeals must be submitted to the Faculty.

Chapter VII. Entry into force

Section 35. Entry into force

(1) These regulations will enter into force from and including 1 January 2023. The regulations of 25 October 2012 no. 1150 on the philosophiae doctor (PhD) degree at the University of Tromsø - Arctic University of Norway (UiT) will be repealed on the same date.

(2) Anyone who, at the time of these regulations entering into force, is admitted to a PhD programme at UiT pursuant to the regulations of 25 October 2012, no. 1150 on the philosophiae doctor (PhD) degree at the University of Tromsø - Arctic University of Norway (UiT), shall retain the rights set out in the regulations of 25 October 2012, no. 1150 if this is in their favour.