

Name of study programme:

Bokmål: Ph.d.-program i humaniora og samfunnsvitenskap samfunnsvitenskap

Nynorsk: Ph.d.-program i humaniora og samfunnsvitskap

Engelsk: PhD programme in Humanities and Social Sciences

Degree obtained

Philosophiae doctor i humaniora og samfunnsvitenskap

Target group

The PhD program in social sciences and humanities is an offer for candidates who have a master's degree with good results and who wish to take a research education qualifying for a further academic career or for other professions where there are high demands of competence and skills.

Admission requirements, prerequisites, recommended prerequisites

To be admitted to a PhD program at UiT, applicants must have a master's degree with a good result, either an integrated master's degree of 300 credits or a 120-credit master's degree based on a bachelor's degree of 180 credits. It is required that applicants should have a grade-point average of B (or equivalent) on their Master's degree in order to be admitted to the PhD programme. The grade-point average also applies to 300 ECTS points integrated five-year Master's degrees, in which all courses are to be included in the grade-point average.

An exception may be granted for applicants with a grade-point average of C (minimum 3.0 when grade points average is converted to numbers and decimals) on their master's degree (or equivalent grade according to other grading systems). The candidates must also document scientific work beyond their master's degree, where they have been the sole or principal author. Examples of what may qualify as scientific works are accepted or published peer-reviewed articles, published academic works and academic reports and studies (blogs, feature articles, reader's posts and other academic dissemination works do not count in this context as scientific work).

The academic character of the PhD project (methodology, perspectives, and theories) determines the project's disciplinary affiliation. Therefore, the applicant should apply for admission to the department under which the doctoral project belongs academically, regardless of whether the applicant holds a master's degree in a discipline at this department. Applicants are nevertheless required to have a professionally relevant basic education for the PhD project, and that the project falls within one or more of the subject areas for research groups / subject groups at the faculty.

Applicants who hold a Bachelor's degree of 180 credits and a Master's degree from a foreign institution (75 or 90 ECTS) can be admitted after individual assessment. The Master's degree should contain a major written work equivalent to 30 ECTS and is subject to one of the following additional requirements:

- An additional subject at the master's level. The applicant should have a total of 120 ECTS at the master's level.
- Scholarly works that are estimated to counterbalance any deficiencies in the formal education (these works may not be included in the PhD programme).

- If a long time has elapsed from the completion of the master's degree to the submitted application for admission to PhD studies (10 years or more), the applicant should refer to their own interest in research with documentation of accepted or published scientific / professional work beyond the master's degree.

Experience-based master's degree of 120 credits can provide a basis for admission to the PhD program. In such cases, the faculty must have obtained an external assessment of whether the independent work in the master's degree is of high quality, academic, methodological and theoretical theory that there may be grounds for admission to the PhD program. Such assessment should be done by at least one professor / associate professor from a relevant subject area at another teaching institution which itself provides doctoral education within the relevant subject area. The admission committee shall attach a decisive weight to the external assessment.

Language requirements: Applicants must document proficiency in English that satisfies the Norwegian Higher Education Entrance Qualification.

Funding Requirements: Admission is contingent on the availability of adequate funding, which as a general rule covers personnel and running costs, and overhead for a doctoral fellow position. For part-time students, it is required that a minimum of 50 % of the student's working time may be spent on the doctoral degree programme.

Candidates who apply for a doctoral fellow position at the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education are simultaneously considered for admission to the doctoral programme.

If the applicant wishes to write a thesis in a language other than those approved in the Faculty's supplementary rules for the PhD Regulations (point 19), an application for this should be submitted together with the application for admission.

Academic content and description of the study programme

The PhD program is an organized research education and consists of an independent research work with a doctoral dissertation and a training component. The program is rated for three years / 180 credits. The PhD program opens for doctoral projects with professional specialization in a number of humanities and social sciences.

The aim of the education is an independent research work with a scientific dissertation on a high international and academic level defended in public disputation.

The aim of the training component is to further develop the scientific education that the PhD student has obtained through previous studies. It will give the PhD student skills beyond the dissertation work and be a support for the dissertation work.

Implementation of the program requires integration and participation in an active research environment, collaboration with other researchers and connection to relevant networks

nationally and internationally.

The PhD students receive close follow-up and academic guidance, but must take responsibility for the planning and implementation of the dissertation work.

Coursework

The 30-credit course consists of compulsory and optional PhD subjects (8000-level) and includes these components:

- Philosophy of science and research ethics. A total of 10 credits.
- Dissemination. A total of 3-5 credits.
- Subject specific theory and methods/ professional approaches and positions. A total of 15-17 credits.

The Faculty offers PhD courses in philosophy of science, research ethics and dissemination, which meet the requirements of the instruction component. These courses are held every year, either in the fall or spring semester:

SVF-8054 Theory of Science, 7 credits (usually given in the autumn semester)

SVF-8038 Research Ethics, 3 credits (usually given in the spring semester) SVH-8001

Research dissemination, 5 credits (usually given in the autumn semester, overlapping with the Norwegian version SVH-8002)

SVH-8002 Forskningsformidling 5 credits (usually given in the spring semester, overlapping with the English version SVH-8001)

Elective subject-specific PhD subjects in theory and method / academic approaches and positions are given by the departments / centers and vary from year to year.

An optional PhD subject can be exchanged with a conference participation if certain conditions are met and will then be approved with 5 credits.

PhD students may attend PhD courses organised by the Faculty or other faculties/institutions. The PhD students are encouraged to attend courses organised by national graduate schools, national PhD courses and PhD courses at other institutions. The instruction component should be completed early in the doctoral programme, preferably during the first two to three semesters.

Specific rules apply to PhD students admitted to the local research school CASTL.

Doctoral thesis

The thesis is to be an independent piece of academic research that meets international standards of ethics, scholarship and method in its field. Through the thesis, the student will contribute to the development of new knowledge, and the thesis shall be at a level meriting publication as part of the scientific literature in the field.

The thesis may either be a monograph or a collection of several smaller research papers.

A monograph based dissertation is a work written about a simple delimited subject, while an article-based dissertation is a combination of several minor works consisting of articles and a summary called 'kappa'.

The PhD student will receive individual academic supervision while working on their doctoral thesis. There will be appointed at least two supervisors (Principal and Co-supervisor) of whom at least one should be employed within an academic community relevant to the PhD student's project at a department or a centre at the Faculty.

The supervisors are to provide advice on the formulation and delimitation of topics and problems, discuss and assess hypotheses, methods, results and their interpretation, conception and implementation of presentation, including organization, language, documentation, and so on, and assist in finding relevant literature and data such as available through libraries and archives, etc. Supervisors are further expected to provide supervision in relation to ethical questions connected with the thesis.

Structure of the study programme

At the time of admission to the study program, each PhD student shall draw up an individual education plan in consultation with his supervisor (s), which contains a plan for the dissertation work and a plan for the training component.

Example of the building up a study for a PhD student's study at a 3-year admission agreement starting in the spring semester:

Semester			
1	SVH-8038 Research Ethics, 3 credits SVH-8001 Research dissemination (overlapping with the Norwegian version SVH-8002) 5 credits	SVH-8900 Thesis work	
2	SVH-8054 Theory of Science, 7 credits SVH-8002 Forskningsformidling (overlapping with the English version SVH-8001), 5 credits	Optional subject, 5 credits	SVH-8900 Thesis work
3	Midtveisevaluering	⁴ Optional subject, 5 credits	SVH-8900 Thesis work

4	SVH-8900 Thesis (work with dissertation and supervision) Possibly studying abroad	Optional subject or conference participation, 5 credits
5	SVH-8900 Thesis (work with dissertation and supervision) Possibly studying abroad	
6	SVH-8900 Thesis (submission and dissertation) SVH-8890 Trial lecture	

Study abroad is recommended in the second or third year of the study for a period of 3-10 months.

Mid-term evaluation is mandatory for all PhD students with admission to the PhD programme in the autumn of 2018 and later, and will be completed in the 3rd or 4th semester of the studies (4th or 5th semester for students on the 4- year admission agreement) .

Description of learning outcome

After graduating, the PhD student will receive the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge

The candidate

- can handle theoretical and/or artistic topics within their area at an advanced level
- is in the forefront of knowledge within his/her field of study, and can contribute to develop new knowledge, theories, methods, interpretations, and forms of documentation
- can connect their own projects to broader scientific discussions and consider the use of different methods and approaches in their research

Skills

The candidate can

- formulate research questions, plan, and carry out research, and handle scientific and/or artistic development at a high international level
- handle complex scientific research questions and challenge established knowledge and practice in the subject area
- write different types of academic texts⁵ within their field of study and reflect on the writing process

- participate in academic discussions and provide constructive feedback on scientific work

General competence

The candidate can

- identify, reflect on and deal with topics connected to research ethics and conduct research with academic integrity
- manage complex interdisciplinary work tasks and projects
- disseminate orally and in writing research and development work through acknowledged national and international scientific channels, and channels targeting the general public
- consider the need for, and initiate, innovation by contributing in an independent way to complex and innovative projects

Relevance of the study programme

A doctorate degree is Norway's highest education and qualifies for research activities of international standard and for other work in society where high standards of scientific insight and analytical thinking are required, in accordance with good scientific practice and research ethical standards. For example, the education provides qualifications for a further career as a researcher at universities, colleges, research foundations or business and other sectors where research and development is conducted and high demands are placed on knowledge and competence. With a doctorate you can also get positions with work / responsibilities in leadership and management in knowledge companies; undertake investigative tasks in government and municipal administration; drive knowledge dissemination and teaching; participate in product development and international cooperation; and you have attractive skills in an international labor market

Work scope and learning activities

Teaching methods for the courses in the training will consist of either lectures, seminars and / or guidance on written or oral presentation. Lectures are given by academic staff at the departments and centers at the faculty, or by staff at other faculties, and by external lecturers from other institutions. The teaching methods and scope are described in more detail in the individual subject descriptions. Expected workload for the training component should be a total of 30 credits is one semester (estimated at 750 - 900 working hours).

For the dissertation, the teaching method consists mainly of supervision with the appointed Principal and Co-supervisor (s). The supervision include the preparation of a plan for the dissertation and the training component (student's individual education plan), academic dialogue, assistance to the student in establishing professional networks, written and oral feedback on the dissertation text, etc.

The PhD student can receive a total of 240 hours of supervision during the course of the

research training, including the time needed for preparation and after-school work. This equals 40 hours per semester.

In the middle of the course, the student's progression will be evaluated. The mid-term evaluation is organized by the institutes / centers and is usually held as a seminar of half a day's duration.

Examination and assessment

Assessment

The training component must be approved by the program board before the thesis can be submitted for evaluation.

Mid-term evaluation must be completed and approved before the thesis can be submitted for assessment.

Examination

Two-part exam: Sample lecture and defense of dissertation in public disputation. The test lecture is assessed for pass/fail. Upon passing the Trial lecture, the candidate shall defend the dissertation in public disputation. The thesis is considered passed/failed.

Doctoral thesis

A monograph should normally be no longer than 300 pages.

A collection of research papers must contain a summary article and at least three papers of normal size. Co-authored works may be approved as part of a doctoral thesis to the extent that the doctoral student's individual input can be identified and documented. A signed statement describing the nature of the student's contribution(s) is to accompany the thesis. Co-authored articles may provide a reason to expand the number of articles. If the thesis consists primarily of articles the student must normally be the main author on at least half of the articles

The doctoral thesis should follow research ethics rules and conventions for academic quality assurance. For co-authored articles, the criteria of the Vancouver Convention shall normally form the basis. In case of departures from the criteria of the Vancouver Convention, the reasons for this should be outlined in the declaration of co-authorship.

The articles should have a level equivalent to the level required for publication in recognized scientific peer-reviewed journals. This applies also to book chapters.

In a separate part of the doctoral thesis, i.e. the summary article, the PhD student should not only summarise but also explain from an overall perspective the connection between the research questions and conclusions presented in the various papers and, in this way, document the coherence of the doctoral thesis. This shall also include a summary of the contribution to the field of research. Moreover, the summary article should also explain the

methodology and theory used in the dissertation if this is not evident from the research papers. If the thesis contains previously published articles, the summary article should also contain any necessary updates so that the thesis as a whole emerges as academically up-to-date. Alternatively, such updates may be incorporated into each article. The PhD student must be the sole author of the summary article. The length of such a summary should normally be between 40 and 80 pages.

Language of the doctoral thesis:

The doctoral thesis should be written in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, English or Sami. If the student wishes to use a language other than the above-mentioned options, he/she must have made an application concerning this at the time of admission, cf. Point 7 of the faculty's supplementary rules.

A doctoral thesis may also include film or other material. In such case, it should be clarified how such material should be viewed in the context of the doctoral thesis. If this is not clear in the actual doctoral thesis, a detailed explanation may be provided in an appendix to the doctoral thesis.

Language of instruction and examination

The teaching language of PhD subjects in the training component is Norwegian/Nordic and/or English.

The doctoral thesis should be written in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, English or Sami. The examination language for the trial lecture and the dissertation shall be the language of the dissertation or Norwegian unless the Faculty approves otherwise.

Internationalisation

The study program makes use of the following internationalization arrangements:

- English-language teaching and curriculum literature
- Organization for participation in international research schools
- Recognition of International Conference Participation with credits in the training component
- International PhD student environment (ToDoS)
- Foreign grant for stays at foreign university / institution
- International exchange agreements and cooperation agreements

A stay abroad is recommended for the second or third year of the study years and for a duration of 3-10 months. Staying at a foreign learning institution will be relevant to the student's PhD project and as well gives academic benefit in the dissertation. The Faculty annually announces foreign grants that PhD students can apply to cover additional costs with the implementation of a foreign stay.

UiT has exchange agreements with several foreign universities for PhD students. These are usually linked to specific subject areas. For further information, contact the international

coordinator at the HSL-faculty.

Administrative responsibility and academic responsibility

The Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Teacher Education has the administrative responsibility for the PhD program. The academic responsibility for the PhD program in the humanities and social sciences is carried out by the PhD committee at the HSL-faculty, which is also the program committee for the PhD program.

Quality assurance

Various forms of evaluation of the PhD subjects are used. Which form fits the individual subject is best determined by the academic responsible. This may include oral evaluation in plenary, form handed out directly to students or use of web form (web-based survey tool). Academic responsible also provides evaluation report. The evaluation reports of student's and academic responsible are submitted to the PhD Committee and are included in the further work on improving the quality of the PhD program.

Other regulations

More detailed information about the PhD program can be found in the faculty's supplementary rules for the PhD Regulations: <https://uit.no/hsl/phd>

The deadlines for application to the PhD programme in Humanities and Social Sciences for applicants without a doctoral fellow position are April 1 and October 1. The application should follow a fixed application form:

https://uit.no/forskning/art?dim=179014&p_document_id=199642

The application should be sent to UiT the Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, Postbox 6050 Langnes, 9037 Tromsø