

Information about the new doctoral degree regulations (“Promotionsordnung”)



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New items compared the old PhD regulations:

- supervision agreement (Betreuungsvereinbarung) between candidate and supervisor (§4).
- Admission of candidate will be done by doctoral examination board (Promotionsausschuss) (§6).
- After 2 years the supervisor checks whether the PhD thesis should be continued (§6.9).
- The thesis can be a monograph (Monographie) or a cumulative thesis (kumulative Dissertation) (§8).
- Thesis defense consists of
 1. talk about thesis
 2. examination

Both are open to members of the faculty, the candidate can demand to exclude the public from the thesis defense.

Step by Step Instructions for new regulations

Instructions are available on:

<http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/promotion> (german)

http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium-en/promotion-en/promotion-index-en?set_language=en (english)

Instructions and a summary of the new doctoral degree regulations will be translated into english soon. Help welcome!

Doctoral students, who

- handed in thesis before 1.6.2016 → **old** regulations apply.
- were admitted before 1.6.2016 and hand in thesis after 1.6.2016 → can request that **new** regulations apply otherwise the **old** regulations will be used.
- are admitted after 1.6.2016 → **new** regulations apply

I) Admission as PhD student

Fill out application form:

[http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/pruefungen/dateien-pruefungsamt/
PromO_neu_Antrag_auf_Annahme.pdf](http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/pruefungen/dateien-pruefungsamt/PromO_neu_Antrag_auf_Annahme.pdf)

Fill out supervision agreement together with your supervisor

http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/pruefungen/dateien-pruefungsamt/Promotionsvereinbarung_MathPhys.pdf

Confirm that you have read:

Rules about scientific honesty (Redlichkeit in der Wissenschaft). Link is on Web-page.

The doctoral examination board (Promotionsausschuss) will decide about the admission and send a letter with the decision to the doctoral candidate.

2) During thesis work

Regular official meetings with supervisor(s), at least once per year.

- (re)discuss timeline and plan for thesis
- update supervision agreement (Betreuungsvereinbarung)

After 2 years the supervisor will check whether the thesis should be continued and informs the doctoral examination board (Promotionsausschuss) about the result.

4) Thesis

2 types of theses:

- Monograph
- Cumulative thesis (has to be approved by Promotionsausschuss)

Requirements for cumulative thesis:

At least 3 published papers in refereed journals, out of these 2 “main publications” as “main author”. Main author means:

- first author or marked as main author or
- all other authors confirm that the candidate is the main author or
- in case of doubt the Promotionsausschuss decides

5) Hand-in thesis and request examination

Hand-in thesis and fill out form:

http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/pruefungen/dateien-pruefungsamt/4_Antrag_Eroeffnung_Promverfahren_mit_Anlagen_4.pdf

- no “polizeiliches Führungszeugnis” required anymore with new regulations
- 10 weeks needed until oral exam.

Propose Professors for oral examination:

http://www.physik.uni-freiburg.de/studium/pruefungen/dateien-pruefungsamt/PromotionPrueferwahl_Homepage_2.pdf

After you receive a confirmation, go ahead and fix the date of the oral exam

6) Oral exam

Members of the faculty can participate at the oral exam, but the candidate can ask to exclude them.

The exam has 2 parts:

- Presentation of the thesis (30 min)
 - also people outside of faculty can participate (e.g. family, friends)
- Questions to thesis and nearby fields (60 min)
 - only members of the faculty can participate

7) Publication of the thesis

Standard way to publish the thesis:

- Examining board can request changes in the thesis
- Supervisor has to confirm final version of thesis for publication
- Hand-in 4 paper copies
- Electronic publishing on the FreiDok Server