

DISCLAIMER:

THIS TRANSLATION OF THE “Erste Ordnung zur Änderung der Promotionsordnung der Philosophischen Fakultät der Universität zu Köln” PUBLISHED IN “Amtliche Mitteilungen 23/2022” IS NOT LEGALLY BINDING.

**First regulation on the amendment of the
Doctoral Regulations of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the
University of Cologne
from March 9, 2022**

According to § 2 sect. 4 and § 67 sect. 3 of the North Rhine-Westphalian Higher Education Act (Hochschulgesetz – HG), as amended by the *Hochschulzukunftsgesetz* (HZG NRW) from September 16, 2014 (GV. NRW. S. 547), last amended by article 1 of the act to further amend the Higher Education Act and the *Kunsthochschulgesetz* from November 25, 2021 (GV. NRW. S. 1210a), the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne issues the following regulations:

Article I

The Doctoral Regulation of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities from March 12, 2020 (official notice 9/2020) is amended as follows:

1. § 3 sect. 2 includes the following wording:

“(2) The following persons are voting members of the PhD board:

1. the Dean as the board’s chairperson, represented by the Vice Dean for Research and Young Academics if unable to attend;
2. one faculty member of each subject group of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities;
3. two research associates;
4. two students admitted to the doctoral program of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities;
5. one employee belonging to the group of technical and administrative staff.

Advisory members of the PhD board are the speaker as well as the managing director of the Graduate School unless they are members as listed under nos. 1 to 3. The doctoral committee may consult with additional advisors.

The faculty members must come from different departments of the range of disciplines belonging to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The research associates must have doctoral degrees and the student members must be admitted to the doctoral program of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The *Engere Fakultät*, the highest decision-making body on faculty level, selects the members of the PhD board as well as their representatives. The faculty members and the research associates are elected for a period of three years; the student members and the employees from the group of technical and administrative staff are elected for one year. Re-election is possible. The term of a representative ends when the term of the full member they represent ends. If a member or a representative resigns or is discharged during their term, a replacement will be elected for the remaining period.”

2. § 8 includes the following wording:

“§ 8

Right to Award Doctorates; Supervisors

(1) Faculty members to whom the Faculty of Arts and Humanities has conferred the *venia legendi* (permission to teach) in one of its disciplines through habilitation are eligible to supervise doctoral studies. Appointed professors of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities as well as appointed honorary professors or junior professor from one of the disciplines of the faculty are eligible supervisors as well. If a clear affiliation to a specific discipline is not given, the PhD board may decide. In exceptional cases, the right to award a doctorate may, upon request, be conferred to members of other faculties or universities if they meet the conditions listed under § 65 sect. 1 of the HG; the eligible members of the *Engere Fakultät* may decide such cases. Without prejudice to § 10 sect. 1 sent. 2, the right to award doctorates may only be exercised up to two years after an appointment to another faculty or university. Upon request, the PhD board may approve exceptions.

(2) Upon request, the right to award doctorates may, in justified exceptional cases, be conferred to junior researchers holding a doctoral degree, provided that they are equivalent to junior professor regarding their teaching and research contribution to existing funding programs; the eligible members of the *Engere Fakultät* may decide such cases.

(3) Upon request, a temporary right to award doctorates may be conferred to researchers from other faculties or universities who supervise doctoral candidates within the framework of a temporary post graduate program that takes place in cooperation with these faculties or universities, provided that they meet the conditions listed under § 65 sect. 1 of the HG. In these cases, the right to award doctorates is limited to the supervision of doctoral candidates of the temporary post graduate program and is only valid up to two years after its termination. The eligible members of the *Engere Fakultät* decide on such application.

(4) If the first supervisor is not permanently employed at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, a professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities must be

appointed as a second supervisor. Should the first supervisor according to sent. 1 leave the university before the supervised doctoral project is completed, the supervision may be continued upon their request, as long as the doctoral candidate has already been admitted to the doctoral program according to § 4. The PhD board decides such cases. If a continuation is not granted, the second supervisor steps in.

Sent. 1 does not apply to retired or emeritus professors of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.”

3. § 10 includes the following wording:

“§ 10

Evaluation of the Dissertation

(1) The chairperson of the PhD board appoints two¹ or three² reviewers, who have the right to award doctorates according to § 8, for the evaluation of the doctoral thesis. The reviewers are usually the supervisors of the doctoral project. At least one of the reviewers must be an authority in the discipline in which the dissertation is written. This is usually the first reviewer; the chairperson of the PhD board decides on exceptions. In geography, the first reviewer should be the supervisor of the thesis, while the second reviewer should generally be a representative of a discipline belonging to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. If the doctoral thesis is written in the framework of a temporary post graduate program and the first reviewer is an external person, the second reviewer is generally a representative of a discipline belonging to the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Regarding interdisciplinary dissertations, the chairperson of the PhD board may consult up to two further experts, depending on the complexity of the thesis. The second reviewer, or any further reviewer may be a member of another – also foreign – faculty.

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4. In § 17 sect. 1, no. 3 is cancelled. Subsequently, the numbering changes from 4. to 3. and from 5. to 4.

5. § 18 sect. 2 sent. 1 includes the following wording:

“Upon request, the Dean may give the doctoral candidate permission to temporarily use the doctoral title if the thesis has been accepted for publication by a commercial publisher.”

6. § 18 sect. 3 includes the following wording:

“Upon the fulfillment of all requirements regarding the doctorate, including those according to § 17, the doctoral candidate will receive the doctoral certificate in Latin, signed by the Dean and bearing the seal of the Faculty of Arts and

¹ Two reviewers in the case of a disputatio.

² Three reviewers in the case of a defensio.

Humanities. The certificate bears the date of the defensio or disputatio as well as an indication of a partner university if § 19 applies. The overall grade is noted on the certificate. Once the doctoral certificate is awarded, the candidate may use the doctoral title; the doctorate has been completed.”

Article II

The present regulation becomes effective on the day after its publication in the official notice of the University of Cologne.

Should provisions of the present regulation conflict with the regulations of the rectorate of the University of Cologne regarding the handling of exams in times of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in their valid version, the latter regulations and resolutions have priority over the provisions of the present regulation for the period of their validity.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the *Engere Fakultät* of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne from January 26, 2022, after review of legitimacy by the rectorate of the University of Cologne from February 2, 2022.

Cologne, March 9, 2022

The Dean
of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities
of the University of Cologne

signed by

University Professor Dr. Stefan Grohé