

Doctoral Programme of Education and Society

Doctor of Philosophy (Education) and Doctor of Philosophy degrees

Curriculum 2014–2017, validity continued until **31 July 2019** (decision of the Faculty Council, 18 May 2017)

GOALS OF POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

“Pursuant to the Government Decree on University Degrees (794/2004), the purpose of the postgraduate education is for the student to become well-versed in his/her own field of research: its development, basic problems, research methods and social significance. In addition to this, he/she must obtain such knowledge of the field of research as enables him/her to independently and critically apply the methods of scientific research and create new scientific information.”

The purpose of the Doctor of Philosophy (Education) and Doctor of Philosophy postgraduate degrees is to ensure that the student becomes well-versed in his/her own field of research and its social significance and gains the knowledge and skills needed to apply scientific research methods as part of research groups or networks. The student must achieve such knowledge of educational sciences that enables understanding research findings in the field, following scientific developments and engaging as an expert in changing environments. The student must also demonstrate independent and critical thinking in the field of research in question, skill in relaying research data and the capacity to operate within global scientific communities. In addition to this, the student must gain mastery of up-to-date methods of data acquisition and research ethics, the latest research regarding his/her own field, the national and international trends regarding the development of the field, and the practices of teaching and supervision.

DEGREE STRUCTURE

The total scope of a doctoral degree in education is 240 credits, of which the dissertation and other studies account for 180 credits and 60 credits, respectively.

The PhD (Ed.) and PhD degrees both consist of the following **studies**:

- I Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (40 ECTS)*
- II Studies supporting the development of scientific expertise (20 ECTS)*
- III Active participation in the research seminar, writing a dissertation and defending it in public (180 ECTS)*

STUDIES INCLUDED IN THE PhD (Ed.) DEGREE

I Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (40 ECTS)

Learning outcomes: A student who has completed the studies has mastered the processes and practices of demanding expert tasks, especially research and teaching and supervision at an institution of higher education in national and international contexts. The student has broad and multidisciplinary knowledge of the current discussion around education and the relevant areas of interests. He/she has formed a view of the social impact of the discipline and the significance of research in the process. The student has a wide-ranging command of scientific approaches and methods of research and analysis at an in-depth level. The student has mastered the research ethics and philosophy of social and human sciences, written and oral scientific communication, and the changing practices of information retrieval.

The module *Studies in education, theory of science and methodology* (40 ECTS) is divided into three parts:

A *Educational studies, in particular studies related to the student's own field of research* (at least 10 ECTS)

B *The philosophy of science, research methodology and research ethics* (at least 10 ECTS)

C *Studies in scientific communication* (at least 10 ECTS).

These modules cover content, scientific philosophy and research methods, research ethics and scientific communications pertaining to educational sciences and especially the student's own field of research.

Methods of completion: The student can compile a course module from the offering of [EDU](#) and the [University of Tampere Doctoral School](#) in the manner agreed upon with the supervisor. At least 5 ECTS must be completed from all parts (**A–C**).

Each doctoral student prepares a [personal study plan](#) in cooperation with the supervisors. The plan involves agreements on how and when the study modules and courses presented in this curriculum will be completed.

Example: The methods of completion presented below are only one option.

Courses:

A *Educational studies, in particular studies related to the student's own field of research* (at least 10 ECTS)

A.1. The current theoretical questions in educational sciences (5–10 ECTS)

The student writes a learning diary having participated in scientific seminars where the research groups and researchers of the School of Education and visiting Finnish and international researchers present their own research and discuss the current topics in educational sciences. Other methods of

completion must be agreed upon with the supervisors in conjunction with preparing the HOPS.

A.2. Systematic literature review on the research theme (5–10 ECTS)

B The philosophy of science, research methodology and research ethics (at least 10 ECTS)

B.1. Research methods in education (5-10 ECTS)

The methods of completion are agreed upon in the HOPS. The student can choose either courses from the selection of the School of Education or the University of Tampere Doctoral School, or he/she can complete the course in another way agreed upon separately with the supervisor.

B.2. Academic reading skills in education and data acquisition (3 ECTS)

Active participation in the course which deals with data acquisition as a process from the viewpoint of a student's research project.

B.3. Research ethics (5 ECTS)

The student prepares a lecture diary or presentation on the education organised by the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity.

B.4. Courses by the University of Tampere Doctoral School

“Philosophy of science” 3 ECTS, “Research ethics” 4 ECTS, “Evaluation, validity and reliability of research” 5 ECTS, “Philosophy of science” 3 ECTS

or similar course agreed upon with the supervisor that supports training as a researcher.

C Studies in scientific communication (at least 10 ECTS)

C.1. The dissertation as a writing process – towards scientific expertise, 3 ECTS

The active participation in the course focusing on the doctoral dissertation as a writing and working process.

C.2. Conference practices and delivering a conference presentation, 3–5 ECTS

The student prepares a poster or paper presentation for a Finnish or international conference.

C.3. Workshop in writing an article, 5–10 ECTS

During the article workshop, the student writes an article for a national or international peer-reviewed publication in one's own field.

C.4. Growing as a scientific professional, 3 ECTS

As the public defence of the student's dissertation draws closer, he/she writes a reflective essay on his/her own research path and position in the scientific community and working life.

C.5. Courses by the University of Tampere Doctoral School

"Managing the research process in doctoral studies" 4 ECTS, "ABC of scientific communication" 2 ECTS, "Speech communication for researchers" 3 ECTS, "Communication, popularisation and media skills" , "Academic writing" 2 ECTS, "Writing scientific journal articles" 2 ECTS, "Writing a scientific article efficiently" 2 ECTS, "Academic presentations" 2 ECTS

or similar course agreed upon with the supervisor that supports training as a researcher.

II Studies supporting the development of scientific expertise (20 ECTS)

Learning outcomes: A student who has completed the studies has an in-depth command of content that supports his/her own field of research, even beyond the field of education.

Content: The studies supporting the development of scientific expertise (20 ECTS) contain

- advanced studies in disciplines other than education,
- international studies and
- courses and modules related to scientific activities and participation in the research community.

These studies consist of advanced study modules outside the field of education, which are to be agreed upon separately with the supervisor, as well as other studies that support the themes of the student's own research in a multidisciplinary manner. The minor subject studies are constructed from the offering of University of Tampere units other than the School of Education. The module must include at least 10 ECTS in advanced minor studies.

1. Advanced minor studies (at least 10 ECTS)

2. Education as social activity (5 ECTS)

During the course, the doctoral students deepen their understanding of education as social activity: the essential subjects of learning include, for example, publishing in educational sciences and the practices of scientific evaluation in scientific communities.

2.1. Introduction to the theme (1 ECTS)

2.2. Participation in scientific activities and research communities (4 ECTS)

The student compiles a module of no more than 4 ECTS from the following: participation in publishing work and editing the scientific publication and/or supporting conference activities, hosting international guests and active participation in scientific societies, participation in project applications on one's research field.

3. Exchange period abroad (5–10 ECTS)

Visit (recommended length 3 months) including travel arrangements, preparations and presentations on one's own work. After the visiting period the student will deliver a presentation in the research seminar or other research event of the unit.

4. Research-based teaching and supervision (5 ECTS)

Participation in supervising master's or bachelor's theses covering the contents or methods in one's own dissertation. Teaching at the university about topics or methods covered in one's own dissertation. Participation in the development of a university curriculum. The student must write a reflective essay on these experiences.

5. Courses by the University of Tampere Doctoral School

"Basic studies in university pedagogics" 10 ECTS, "Guidance module" 5 ECTS

6. Others (5 ECTS)

Other study alternatives must be agreed upon with the supervisor in conjunction with preparing the HOPS.

III Active participation in the research seminar, writing a dissertation and defending it publicly (180 ECTS)

Learning outcomes: A student who has completed the research seminar has mastered scientific discussion and argumentation on his/her own research subject. In addition, the student is capable of critical reading and feedback in his/her field. After the dissertation process, the student is capable of independent scientific work.

STUDIES INCLUDED IN THE PhD DEGREE

The total scope of a doctoral degree in education is 240 credits, of which the dissertation and other studies account for 180 credits and 60 credits, respectively. The PhD studies consist of the following:

I Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (40 ECTS)

II Studies in education supporting the development of scientific expertise (20 ECTS)

III Active participation in the research seminar, writing a dissertation and defending it publicly (180 ECTS)

I Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (40 ECTS)

See description above in connection to the PhD (Ed.) degree.

II Studies in education supporting the development of scientific expertise (20 ECTS)

Learning outcomes: A student who has completed the studies has an in-depth command of the content provided under the discipline of education.

Content: Advanced studies in education

Courses: The courses are formed based on the master's degree programme in a manner agreed upon with the supervisor.

III Active participation in the research seminar, writing a dissertation and defending it publicly (180 ECTS)

Learning outcomes: A student who has completed the research seminar has mastered scientific discussion and argumentation on his/her own research subject. In addition, the student is capable of critical reading and feedback in his/her field. After the dissertation process, the student is capable of independent scientific work.

LICENTIATE DEGREE IN EDUCATION (intermediate degree)

The total scope of the licentiate degree in education is 120 credits, of which the licentiate thesis and other studies account for 80 credits and 40 credits, respectively.

The other studies consist of the following:

- *Active participation in the research seminar (5 ECTS),*
- *Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (30 ECTS) and*
- *Studies supporting the development of scientific expertise (at least 5 ECTS).*

Active participation in the research seminar (5 ECTS) Studies in education, theory of science and methodology (30 ECTS)

A Educational studies, in particular studies related to the student's own field of research (5–10 ECTS)

B The philosophy of science, research methodology and research ethics (5–10 ECTS)

C Studies in scientific communication (5–10 ECTS)

See description above in connection to the PhD (Ed.) degree.

Studies supporting the development of scientific expertise (5 ECTS)

See description above in connection to the PhD (Ed.) degree.

Licentiate thesis (80 ECTS)

The licentiate thesis is an independent study in the field of education, which indicates the author's mastery of the theoretical basics of the discipline as well as in-depth knowledge of the research area and its methodological principles. The thesis must demonstrate that the student can utilise this knowledge and skills in the development of his/her own work. An acceptable licentiate thesis can also be a collection of scientific publications or manuscripts approved for publication that deal with the same collection of research problems, accompanied by a summary on them, or a work of equal scientific merit. The publications may also include joint publications, if the portion prepared independently by the author can be indicated.

More information on the approval of a licentiate thesis is available on the unit's website. A student may apply for a degree certificate once all studies encompassed by the degree have been completed and entered into the study register.