



Additional Criteria for Structured Doctoral Programmes

These additional criteria to be applied in ASIIN accreditations of structured doctoral programmes are based on the so called "Salzburg Principles", which have come out of a conference organized by the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Science and the European Association of Universities (EUA) in Salzburg in February 2005. The originally 10 principles have subsequently been further developed in October 2010 by the Council of the EUA, which is composed of representatives of the European Rectors' Conferences, eventually resulting in the "Salzburg II Recommendations". The criteria are also aligned with the recommendation of the German "Wissenschaftsrat". Further adjust- and amendments have come out of internal discussions with the ASIIN Accreditation Commission and its 14 Technical Committees. Individual doctoral arrangements are not subject to accreditation procedures and are therefore not covered by these criteria.

Criterion D 1 Research

The core component of doctoral training is the advancement of knowledge through original research.

Graduates acquire advanced, cutting-edge knowledge and are able to demonstrate, on the level of internationally recognised scientific research, a deep and comprehensive understanding of their research field.

They demonstrate the ability to design and carry out an original research project at the forefront of the discipline, contribute to the advancement of science, and are able to adequately present the results to different audiences.

Possible evidences: Description of research activities and projects related to the doctoral programme; Documents/other sources where objectives and learning outcomes are written down and published; Study and examination regulations; Active participation of doctoral candidates at conferences, seminars, research colloquiums; Sample of published dissertations or papers in scientific journals etc.

Criterion D 2 Duration and Credits

Structured doctoral programmes operate within an appropriate time duration.

Applying the credit point system (e.g. ECTS) developed for cohorts of students in the first and second cycles is not a necessary condition for structured doctoral programmes.

Possible evidences: Study and examination regulations; Documents where the courses of studies and their organization are regulated; Statistical data on graduation time; Statistical data on the time spans between the completion of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral defence, and the publication of the thesis, etc.

Criterion D 3 Soft Skills and Mobility

Doctoral candidates are offered a wide range of opportunities for their personal and professional development and take advantage of institutional support for career development and mobility. This includes support structures for professional development, training in transferable skills, and preparation for career choices.

Doctoral candidates are provided with opportunities for academic mobility and international collaboration within an integrated framework of cooperation between universities and other partners.

Possible evidences: Documents that inform about the effective regulations about mobility, professional development, and training courses; Possibly statistical data about mobility and international co-operations; Information on qualification programs, guidance, and career support for early career researchers; Documents on programmes, courses, and integrative measures for international students; Data related to supervision of BA/MA theses, labs etc. by doctoral candidates, etc.

Criterion D 4 Supervision and Assessment

A transparent contractual framework of shared responsibilities between doctoral candidates, supervisors, the institution (and, where appropriate, including other partners) is in place and continuous support by their supervisors is provided. Assessment rules are clearly formulated and binding.

Possible evidences: Documents out of the daily use of the higher education institution that make apparent the existing advice and support concept; Relevant results from internal surveys and evaluations; Supervision and assessment regulations; [...]

Criterion D 5 Infrastructure

Doctoral candidates are provided with an adequate research environment that allows them to appropriately carry out their research projects.

Possible evidences: Co-operation agreements, regulations for internal and external co-operations; Documents out of the daily use of the higher education institution that describe; the equipment and facilities, e.g. laboratory handbooks, inventory lists, financial plans; Access to current scientific publications and books; etc.

Criterion D 6 Funding

Structured doctoral programmes need to have adequate and sustainable funding.

Possible evidences: List of available grants and counselling/information on funding options; Cooperation agreements, regulations for internal and external co-operations; etc.

Criterion D 7 Quality Assurance

The faculty/HEI offering the structured doctoral programme has passed regulations documenting the rights and duties of the doctoral candidates as well as relevant organizational arrangements.

Rules of good scientific practice are followed.

The faculty collects data related to individual progression, net research time, completion rate, dissemination of research results, and career tracking and uses this data to continuously assess the quality of the structured doctoral programme.

Possible evidences: Regulations and Guidelines for structured doctoral programmes; Internal regulations about quality management; Sample information material about the quality management and its results which the higher education institution regularly uses for its internal and external communication; Quantitative and qualitative statistical data from evaluations, study progression statistics, number of graduates etc.