



**Deutsche
Sporthochschule Köln**
German Sport University Cologne

■ Am Sportpark Müngersdorf 6 ■ 50933 Köln ■

Official Notices

No.: 10/2024

Doctoral Office
Cologne, 11.07.2024

Content

Doctoral regulations of the German Sport University
Cologne from 9th July 2024

Editor: The President

Doctoral regulations of the German Sport University Cologne
9th July 2024

On the basis of §§ 2 (4) and § 67 of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Hochschulgesetz - HG) of 16 September 2014 in the version of the University Freedom Act of 21 November 2018, (GV. NRW p. 547), the German Sport University Cologne has adopted the following Doctoral regulations:

Table of contents

- § 1 Types of doctorate
- § 2 Basis of the doctorate
- § 3 Admission requirements
- § 4 Doctoral study programme
- § 5 Supervision of the dissertation
- § 6 Dissertation
- § 7 Application for initiation of the doctoral examination procedure
- § 8 Doctoral committee
- § 9 Examination Committee
- § 10 Assessment of the dissertation
- § 11 Oral examination
- § 12 Assessment of the oral examination
- § 13 Overall assessment of the doctoral work
- § 14 Publication of the dissertation
- § 15 Doctoral degree certificate and use of the doctoral title
- § 16 Doctoral procedure in cooperation with a foreign partner university
- § 17 Legal contradictions
- § 18 Entry into force, transitional arrangements, expiry, exclusion of complaints

§ 1 **Types of doctorate**

- (1) By way of a regular doctoral procedure (§§ 2-17), the German Sport University Cologne awards the degree
 - Doktorin or Doktor der Sportwissenschaft (Dr. Sportwiss.),
 - Doktorin or Doktor der Naturwissenschaft (Dr. rer. nat.),
 - Doktorin or Doktor der Philosophie (Dr. phil.),
 - Ph.D. Exercise Science, Ph.D. Natural Science or Ph.D. Social Science
- (2) The academic degrees referred to in paragraph 1 may only be awarded once to any one person.
- (3) The German Sport University Cologne may award the academic degree Dr. Sportwiss. on honorary basis in recognition of outstanding achievements in sport science or special non-material services to the promotion of sport science (see regulations for the award of honorary degrees).

§ 2 **Basis of the doctorate**

The regular doctorate is awarded after the doctoral study programme (§ 4) on the basis of an academic paper (dissertation, § 6) and an oral examination (§ 11).

§ 3 **Admission requirements**

- (1) Applicants must have a degree either from a relevant higher education institution with a general standard period of study of at least eight semesters, for which a degree other than "Bachelor" is awarded, or from a relevant Master's programme.
- (2) The degree of Doktorin or Doktor der Sportwissenschaft (Dr. Sportwiss.) / Naturwissenschaft (Dr. rer. nat.) / Philosophie (Dr. phil.) / Ph.D. Exercise Science/Natural Science/Social Science) shall be awarded on presentation of a course of study corresponding to these titles as well as a completed doctorate corresponding to this subject or subject area, provided that upon completion of the course of study no doctorate relating to this degree programme has yet been completed.
The desired doctoral degree must be stated when applying for admission to the doctoral programme.
- (3) Applicants who have completed a relevant degree with a general standard period of study of at least six semesters, must also have successfully completed a postgraduate

course of study that prepares for the doctoral study programme. The doctoral preparatory course at the German Sport University Cologne comprises two semesters as well as appropriate certificates of achievement, which are determined by the supervisor of the dissertation.

- (4) The doctoral study programme and/or dissertation and/or disputation can be completed either in German or English.

Depending on the language chosen for the doctoral study programme, applicants must provide evidence of appropriate German or English language skills. For the English doctoral programme, proof of language proficiency must be provided from one of the test procedures TOEFL, IELTS and Cambridge with language level C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). For the German doctoral programme, proof of language proficiency must be provided in the form of the "Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang" (minimum DSH-2).

The test certificate must be submitted when applying for admission to the doctoral programme.

Proof of language proficiency in German or English is not required for native speakers of English or German or graduates of degree programmes taught entirely in English or German, who have completed their studies at a university of an EU member state or a country whose official language is English or German.

- (5) An application is also possible if another course of study at a university abroad has been successfully completed. However, this course of study must be equivalent to the studies mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 3. The equivalence is decided by the Chair of the Doctoral Committee after examination by the International Office of the DSHS. As a rule, equivalence can be confirmed if the degree at the home university provides admission to doctoral studies.

- (6) As a rule, all applicants must have completed both their studies as a whole and their written academic thesis with a grade of at least "good" (up to and including 2.5). The Doctoral Committee may allow exceptions if the application is approved by two members of the German Sport University who are eligible for supervision. If applicants did not have to prepare a written thesis in the final examination, a thesis must be prepared within two semesters in the usual processing time; the provisions of the examination regulations for Master's programmes on the Master's thesis apply. The Doctoral Committee appoints a reviewer, who is eligible for supervising doctorates; the thesis must be graded at least "good" (up to and including 2.5), the possibility of repetition is not applicable.

- (7) Applicants who have failed a previous doctoral procedure will not be admitted.

- (8) The application for admission to the doctorate must be submitted in writing to the Doctoral committee, stating the working title of the dissertation and the supervisor as well as the subject or subject areas of the dissertation. The doctoral degree to be awarded is to be specified by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor.

- (9) Candidates should be dignified in the sense of the statutory regulations governing the award of academic degrees.

§ 4

Doctoral study programme

- (1) All admitted doctoral students take part in a doctoral study programme at the German Sport University Cologne. The contents and requirements of the doctoral study programme are regulated by the regulations of the doctoral study programme. Periods of study and academic achievements completed at university institutions outside the German Sport University Cologne as well as other achievements equivalent to doctoral studies may be credited.
- (2) When applying for the initiation of the doctoral examination procedure (§ 7), applicants must provide proof of successful completion of the doctoral study programme.

§ 5

Supervision of the dissertation

- (1) All university professors and/or assistant professors and Emmy Noether junior research group leaders at the German Sport University Cologne have the right to supervise doctoral candidates. When accepting the thesis, the supervisor's professional qualifications must be taken into account. In justified exceptional cases and with the approval of the Doctoral Committee, outstandingly qualified junior research group leaders who are funded in competitive third-party funding programmes other than the DFG's Emmy Noether Programme, may also take on the supervision of dissertations. In this case, the granting of the right to supervise doctorates is limited to the duration of the respective funding programme. After completion of the funding programme, the Doctoral Committee may agree to a continuation of the supervisory relationship for a maximum of three years, within which the doctoral examination procedure (§ 7) must have been initiated. This period may be extended if the circumstances of the individual case make this necessary.
- (2) As a rule, the supervisor takes over the role of the first reviewer of the dissertation. The German Sport University Cologne is committed to a high supervision culture, which is made visible by a supervision agreement signed by the doctoral candidates and their supervisors. The conclusion of a supervision agreement must be presented with the application for admission to the doctoral programme (see sample in the appendix).
- (3) A cancellation of the supervisory relationship between supervisor and doctoral candidate is possible by the doctoral candidate or by mutual agreement. The cancellation by the supervisor requires objective reasons of a scientific and/or personal nature. Personal reasons are only applicable if they permanently disturb the relationship of trust between

the parties. The intended cancellation must be reported to the Doctoral Committee in writing.

- (4) If it becomes necessary to cancel the supervisory relationship for reasons for which the doctoral candidate is not responsible, the Doctoral Committee is obliged to exhaust all possibilities for continuing the dissertation.
- (5) If a supervisor leaves the German Sport University Cologne, the Doctoral Committee may agree to a continuation of the supervisory relationship for a maximum period of three years, within which the admission to the doctoral examination procedure (§ 7) must have taken place. This period may be extended if the circumstances of the individual case make this necessary.

§ 6 Dissertation

- (1) The dissertation must be a scientifically noteworthy work written by the applicant. It must demonstrate the ability to carry out independent scientific work and represent an advance in the field of sport science. The dissertation may be submitted as a monograph or as a cumulative dissertation.
- (2) The dissertation in the form of a monograph shall be written in German or English. A short summary (abstract) of the dissertation in German and English must also be prepared.
- (3) The dissertation in cumulative form is written under a common scientific question and usually consists of a number of scientific publications (status: At least accepted) with a review procedure. The coherence of the individual papers results from a specific scientific question and must additionally be adequately substantiated in a scientific framework. The doctoral candidate should be the first author of the publications; otherwise the share of authorship must be proven.
A dissertation, whose scientific framework is written in German or English, is considered a German or English dissertation.
- (4) An intra- or interdisciplinary teamwork should meet the following requirements:
 - a. The scientific content of a teamwork as well as the scientific work actually invested in it, must substantially exceed an individual work; the contribution of each candidate must correspond to the scientific quality of an individual work;
 - b. The candidates must indicate the individual authorship of the work;
 - c. The candidates shall attach a joint report on the course of the collaboration, which shows the essential contribution of the individual person to the work.
- (5) The dissertation cannot have been submitted elsewhere for the purpose of the doctorate.

§ 7

Application for initiation of the doctoral examination procedure

- (1) The application for the initiation of the doctoral examination procedure shall be submitted in writing to the Doctoral Committee, stating the name of the supervisor of the dissertation.
- (2) The application for the initiation of the doctoral examination procedure shall be accompanied by:
 1. Proof of successfully completed doctoral study programme according to § 4;
 2. If applicable, proof of language proficiency (in accordance with § 3, Para. 3);
 3. Four copies of the dissertation;
 4. Curriculum vitae and description of the academic career;
 5. Written confirmation of review by a person authorised to supervise doctorates at the German Sport University, who is also proposed as the first reviewer;
 6. Proposal of a second reviewer by the supervisor of the dissertation.
 7. Proposal of a member for the examination committee (§ 9);
 8. Documentation of the assessment of the dissertation by the plagiarism detection software (in the case of cumulative theses, only the scientific framework text must be checked); further details are regulated in the "Guidelines for the use of plagiarism detection software".
 9. Affidavits and declarations
- (3) The chair of the Doctoral Committee shall decide on admission by written notice.
- (4) If the requirements for admission to the doctoral examination procedure are not fulfilled, the Doctoral Committee shall inform the applicant of this, stating the reasons, and shall give the applicant the opportunity to comment within one month. The Doctoral Committee shall then make a final decision, if necessary, on the acceptance or rejection of the application. Reasons for rejection must be given in writing. The documents submitted in accordance with Para. 2 shall remain with the German Sport University Cologne.
- (5) The doctoral application may be withdrawn as long as the doctoral examination procedure has not been terminated by a negative decision on the dissertation or the oral examination has not begun.

§ 8

Doctoral Committee

- (1) The Senate of the German Sport University Cologne forms a Doctoral Committee. The members are three representatives of the group of university professors/assistant professors. Further members include a member of the group of academic staff who holds a doctorate and a member of the group of students who is registered for the doctoral

programme. These are elected by the members of the relevant group of the Senate for a term of two years. The Doctoral Committee shall elect a representative from the group of university professors/assistant professors as chair and shall determine the order of the deputies.

- (2) The Doctoral Committee shall deal with all questions relevant to the doctoral programme and shall make recommendations in this regard, in particular to the rectorate and the senate. The Doctoral Committee decides in particular on admission to the doctoral programme (§ 3). It appoints the reviewers of the dissertation (§ 10) and the examination committee (§ 9). The Doctoral Committee has a quorum if at least two representatives from the group of university professors/assistant professors and one representative from each of the other groups are present at the meeting.
- (3) All members of the Doctoral Committee are entitled to vote on all decisions to be taken. The Doctoral Committee decides by a simple majority in an open vote; in the event of a tie, the vote of the acting chair shall be decisive.

§ 9

Examination Committee

- (1) If the requirements for opening the doctoral examination procedure are met, the Doctoral Committee, represented by the chair, appoints an examination committee with usually four members. This consists of the first reviewer and the second reviewer as well as two further members appointed by the Doctoral Committee; the candidate has the right to propose one member of the examination committee. All members of the examination committee must hold a doctorate and at least three must have the right to supervise doctoral candidates. If necessary, members who are not members of the German Sport University Cologne may also be appointed to the examination committee with voting rights. Professors at universities of applied sciences may be involved in the supervision of doctorates and may be appointed as reviewers or examiners. A maximum of two members of the examination committee may be co-authors of the publications considered within the framework of the doctorate.
The examination committee appoints a chair from among its members and informs the Doctoral Committee of the decision. In the event that a member of the examination committee cannot participate in the oral examination, a substitute member may be appointed by the Doctoral Committee.
- (2) The examination committee has the following tasks:
 1. it decides on the acceptance and display of the dissertation in accordance with § 10,
 2. it shall conduct the oral examination in accordance with § 11,
 3. it assesses the oral examination (§ 12) and proposes the overall judgement according to § 13.

The task according to point 1 as well as the general handling of the procedure is usually assigned to the chair.

§ 10

Assessment of the Dissertation

- (1) The Doctoral Committee appoints two reviewers for the review of the dissertation.
- (2) The first reviewer is usually the supervisor of the dissertation. The Doctoral Committee shall appoint a person entitled to supervise a doctorate (§ 5 Para. 1) or, if applicable, a professor of a Universities of applied sciences as the second reviewer. In the case of a monograph the second reviewer must be and in the case of a cumulative dissertation, the second reviewer can be employed at another university/university of applied sciences.
- (3) The two reviewers shall each prepare a written review within three months independently of each other and recommend an evaluation of the dissertation based on the following grades:
 - excellent (summa cum laude),
 - very good (magna cum laude),
 - good (cum laude),
 - sufficient (rite),
 - not sufficient (non sufficit).If the grade "excellent / summa cum laude" is awarded, confirmation is obtained from a university professor (or comparable position abroad). This university professor must be employed at another university and may not be a former member of the institute or working group in which the doctoral thesis is being prepared; the nominee may not be a member of the examination committee and may not have published or otherwise cooperated with the working group.
- (4) If one of the two reviewers grades the dissertation as "non sufficit", the Doctoral Committee shall appoint a habilitated member of the examination committee as a third reviewer. If the grading proposals of the two reviewers differ from each other without one reviewer arriving at the grade "not sufficient", an attempt shall be made to reach an agreement on a joint grading proposal with the involvement of the members of the examination committee; if no agreement is reached, the Doctoral Committee shall obtain a further expert opinion. In such cases, the Doctoral Committee shall decide on the final grade of the dissertation in consultation with the examination committee.
- (5) The reviews may contain suggestions for revisions or additions, which are to be considered before going to press or publication (§ 14).

- (6) If the examination committee determines the grade "not sufficient" for the dissertation on the basis of the available reviews, the procedure is returned to the Doctoral Committee. The Doctoral Committee shall issue the candidate with a reasoned notice of rejection including an instruction on right to appeal. The rejection ends the doctoral examination procedure. The candidate may inspect the reports and other doctoral files at the Doctoral Committee.
- (7) If the examination committee decides to accept the dissertation on the basis of the reviews, the dissertation in the two reviews shall be made available for inspection by the members of the group of university professors/assistant professors and the other doctoral holders of the German Sport University Cologne, for a period of two weeks. During the lecture-free period, the period of display is four weeks. In the transitional phase between the lecture period and the lecture-free period, the period for display shall be three weeks.
- (8) An objection to the acceptance of the dissertation must be submitted in writing, stating the reasons, to the chair of the examination committee no later than one week after the end of the display period. The Doctoral Committee shall deliberate on an objection and may obtain further reviews for its deliberations. The Doctoral Committee may determine the grade for the dissertation differently from the grade proposed by the two examiners on the basis of existing objections or on the basis of a different assessment by further examiners, as well as impose conditions for the revision before going to print. If an objection against the acceptance is considered serious and sufficiently substantiated, the procedure shall be in accordance with § 10, Paragraph 6.
- (9) If there is no objection, the chair of the examination committee shall arrange the date of the oral examination with its members, taking into account the wishes of the doctoral candidate, and shall announce the formal continuation of the procedure as well as the date of the examination and issue a public invitation to the university.

§ 11

Oral examination

- (1) As a rule, the oral examination takes place within four weeks after the final acceptance of the dissertation and is announced to the university public at least one week in advance by the chair of the examination committee. It shall be conducted in German or English and shall be open to the public.
- (2) During the oral examination, the candidate shall prove that he or she:
 - a) is able to present the results and the theoretical and methodological foundations developed in the dissertation in a comprehensible manner and to justify and discuss them scientifically in the face of questions and objections;
 - b) can place the topic dealt with in the dissertation in the overall context of the respective subject, taking into account current research developments.

- (3) The oral examination shall be conducted by the examination committee as a collegial examination; the chair of the examination committee and at least two other members must be present. The chair of the examination committee shall chair the examination, ensure that it is conducted properly and sign the minutes of the examination.
- (4) The oral examination shall last one to a maximum of two hours. It consists of
 - a) a 25-30 minute presentation on the candidate's dissertation topic;
 - b) a public disputation by the examination committee with the candidate on factual as well as theoretical and methodological problems related to the dissertation and adjoining areas. The members of the examination committee are entitled to ask questions; the chair may also allow questions from other participants.
- (5) Each candidate shall be examined individually. If the dissertation is part of a team work according to § 6 Para. 3, the disputation shall be conducted with the candidate on the entire team work. In the case of candidates who have written a team thesis, the oral examinations may be combined if desired.

§ 12

Assessment of the oral examination

- (1) Immediately following the disputation, the examination committee shall determine one of the following grades for the oral examination in a non-public session by simple majority:
 - excellent (summa cum laude),
 - very good (magna cum laude),
 - good (cum laude),
 - sufficient (rite),
 - not sufficient (non sufficit).In the event of a tie, the chair shall have the casting vote. Immediately after the grade for the oral examination has been determined, it shall be communicated to the candidate.
- (2) If the examination is not passed, it may be repeated once, at the earliest after six months and at the latest before one year has elapsed, calculated from the date of the examination. An application for a re-examination shall be submitted to the Examination Committee within 14 days of the examination.
- (3) If the re-examination is also failed, the procedure shall be in accordance with § 10, Para. 6. A second re-examination is not permitted.
- (4) The examination shall also be deemed to have been failed if a candidate, without sufficient reason,
 - fails to appear at the oral examination, or

- breaks off the oral examination, or
- has not applied for the re-examination in due time or does not take it.

§ 13

Overall assessment of the Doctoral work

- (1) After the candidate has passed the oral examination, the examination committee discusses the candidate's overall performance and proposes the overall grade to the Doctoral Committee by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the chair shall have the casting vote.
- (2) For the overall grade, the grades for the dissertation and for the oral examination shall be weighted in the ratio 2:1. The overall grade shall be
 - excellent (*summa cum laude*),
 - very good (*magna cum laude*),
 - good (*cum laude*) or
 - sufficient (*rite*).
- (3) The chair of the examination committee shall then forward the documents of the procedure (first and second review in the original form, proof of display of the dissertation as well as the minutes of the oral examination) to the Doctoral Committee. With the confirmation of the overall grade by the Doctoral Committee, the doctorate is completed.
- (4) After completion of the oral examination, the candidate may inspect the reviews and the other doctoral files at the Doctoral Committee within two months.

§ 14

Publication of the Dissertation

- (1) The doctoral candidate must publish the dissertation or parts thereof either as an independent thesis or in a scientific journal or series.

Two forms of publication are possible:

- a) Monograph
 1. Online publication via the Research Information System (FIS) of the German Sport University Cologne;
 2. Publishing house publication
 - Print: Two printed copies
 - Online: Provision of the e-book as a PDF for campus-wide access.
- b) Cumulative dissertation

The scientific framework text is published via FIS with reference to the publications already published or accepted for publication. Original publications may be included upon publisher confirmation.

For all forms of publication:

- the publication must be marked in a suitable place as a dissertation accepted by the German Sport University Cologne, indicating the chair of the Doctoral Committee, the two reviewers and the date of the disputation;
 - the dissertation must have a title page in the prescribed form;
 - a short summary (abstract) of the dissertation in German and English must be included and uploaded in electronic form to FIS.
- (2) The thesis must be submitted to the first reviewer before it is copied or printed. Printing or reproduction can only take place after the first reviewer has given permission for this and a revision confirmation signed by him or her has been submitted to the chair of the examination committee. The first reviewer has a processing time of six weeks for this. In disputed cases, the Doctoral Committee shall decide.
- (3) The copies, both print and online editions, must be delivered to the university library or published in the FIS within two years after passing the examination in accordance with §14(1). Upon justified application before the deadline, the Doctoral Committee may extend the delivery deadline by one year. If the copies are not delivered, all rights acquired through the examination expire after five years at the latest.

§ 15

Doctoral degree certificate and use of the doctoral title

- (1) After timely delivery of the copies of the dissertation and its publication in accordance with §14(1), the doctoral certificate shall be issued immediately with the date of the oral examination. The right to use the doctoral degree shall not be acquired until the doctoral certificate has been issued.
- (2) The doctoral certificate shall be signed by the President and the chair of the Doctoral Committee and shall contain the following information in particular:
1. subject of the dissertation,
 2. grade of the dissertation,
 3. grade of the oral examination,
 4. overall grade.

Upon application, an English transcript may be issued by the examination office.

- (3) If, prior to the award of the doctoral certificate, it becomes apparent that the doctoral performance was deceived or that essential requirements for admission to the doctoral examination were erroneously assumed to have been met, the Doctoral Committee may

declare the doctoral performance to be invalid and the doctoral examination procedure to have definitively failed within the meaning of § 10, Para. 6.

- (4) The doctoral degree may be withdrawn, inter alia,
 - a) if it subsequently transpires that it was obtained by deception, or if essential requirements for the award were erroneously assumed
 - b) if the doctoral candidate has been convicted of an intentional science-related criminal offence
 - c) if the doctoral candidate has been convicted of an intentional criminal offence in the preparation or commission of which he or she abused the doctoral degree.The Doctoral Committee shall decide on the withdrawal.
- (5) The doctoral candidate shall be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is taken in accordance with Paragraphs 3 and 4.

§ 16

Doctoral procedure in cooperation with a foreign partner university

The following shall also apply to foreign doctorates:

- (1) The German Sport University Cologne shall award the degrees listed in § 1 also in cooperation with a foreign partner university. It shall also participate in the awarding of a corresponding academic degree by the foreign partner university.
- (2) The proof of the academic qualification required for the doctorate is to be provided by the candidate through the doctoral performance. These consist of a scientific paper (dissertation) and an oral examination in the form of a disputation.
- (3) The implementation of the doctoral procedure in accordance with § 16, Para. 1 requires an agreement with a foreign partner university in which both universities undertake to facilitate a joint doctorate and regulate the details of the cooperation.
- (4) Section 4, paragraph 2, shall apply with the provision that the application shall additionally be accompanied by:
 - a) a declaration by the partner university stating that it is in favour of opening the doctoral examination procedure;
 - b) a declaration by a member of the partner university that he or she is prepared to review the dissertation.
- (5) The dissertation shall be written in German or in a language specified in the partnership agreement. An abstract in the respective other language shall be added. The supervisors of the dissertation shall be one member of the German Sport University Cologne and one member of the partner university, both of which being entitled to examine the dissertation.

- (6) The dissertation shall be examined by one member of the German Sport University Cologne and one member of the partner university, both of which being entitled to examine the dissertation.
As a rule, the Doctoral Committee shall appoint the supervisor as the first reviewer of the dissertation.
For the language of the reviews, § 16, section 5 shall apply accordingly.
- (7) The oral examination shall be based on § 11. §16, section 5 shall apply accordingly regarding the language of the defence.
- (8) The examination committee shall consist of four members. Two shall be authorised examiners of the German Sport University Cologne and two shall be authorised examiners of the partner university. Each university must be represented by at least one member.
- (9) The examination is an individual examination. The duration of the examination shall be governed by the rules contained in the agreement pursuant to § 16, section 3.
- (10) A bilingual certificate shall be awarded. The certificate shall refer to the cooperating doctoral procedure. The chair of the Doctoral Committee of the German Sport University Cologne shall sign the German part. It is pointed out that the title may not be used simultaneously in the German and the other language versions. The partner university shall issue its part of the doctoral certificate in accordance with its own regulations.

§ 17

Legal contradictions

The Doctoral Committee shall decide on appeals against decisions under these doctoral regulations. The revocation or amendment of performance evaluations is only permissible in agreement with the members of the examination committee.

§ 18

Entry into force, transitional arrangements, expiry, disclaimer

- (1) These doctoral regulations come into force on the day after their publication in the Official Notices of the German Sport University Cologne.
- (2) Decisions on admission as a doctoral student that were already made before these regulations came into force shall remain valid. Upon entry into force of these regulations the doctorate of these doctoral students can be completed until 28.05.2025 in accordance with the Doctoral regulations of the German Sport University Cologne of 20.02.2013 or continued in accordance with the current regulations.

Doctoral procedures already opened at the time of the entry into force of these regulations shall be completed on the basis of the provisions of the Doctoral regulations of the German Sport University Cologne of 20th February 2013. At the same time, the Doctoral regulations in their previous version of 20.02.2013 and 28.05.2020 shall cease to apply. The current doctoral regulations also replace the doctoral regulations dated 16.04.2024.

- (3) The violation of procedural or formal regulations of the HG NRW or the university's regulatory or other autonomous university law can only be asserted against these regulations within one year of their publication, unless
- a. the regulations have not been properly published,
 - b. the Rectorate has previously objected to the resolution of the commission adopting the regulations
 - c. the formal or procedural defect has been notified to the university in advance and the violated legal provision and the fact that reveals the defect have been specified, or
 - d. no reference was made to the legal consequences of the exclusion of the objection when the regulations were publicly announced. The supervisory powers according to § 76 HG remain unaffected.
- (4) Issued on the basis of the resolution of the senate on 9th July 2024.

Cologne, 19th July 2024

The President of the German Sport University Cologne
Univ. Prof. Dr. Ansgar Thiel

Enclosures:

- Sample template for the supervision agreement

These regulations have been drafted in German and English. In case of ambiguities the German version shall prevail.

Appendix

Supervision agreement (sample template)

within the framework of a Doctoral project
at the German Sport University Cologne

This agreement is based on the recommendations of the DFG (form 1.90 - 10/14) and the Council of Science (Drs. 1704-11). It can and should be updated at any time with regard to the further development of the scientific questions of the doctorate as well as the individual qualification elements and milestones in agreement between the supervisor and the doctoral candidate.

Between

.....[Doctoral student]

.....[Scientific institution]

.....[Email-Address]

and

.....[Supervisor]

.....[Scientific institution]

.....[Email-Address]

Second supervisor, if applicable, or mentor

The following agreement is concluded:

1. Topic

The doctoral candidate writes a thesis on the following doctoral topic:

Working title:

.....
.....

Desired doctoral degree: Dr. Sportwiss. Dr. rer. nat. Dr. phil.
 Ph.D. Exercise Science Ph.D. Natural Science
 Ph.D. Social Science

Type of dissertation: Monography Cumulative Dissertation

In the case of a cumulative dissertation, the following goals are set (e.g. number of publications, authorship):

2. Time schedule

2.1 The doctoral project should be completed within _____ years.

2.2 The doctoral candidate undertakes to report precisely to the supervisor on the status of his/her work, adherence to the timetable and participation in scientific events and (inter)disciplinary qualification offers.

The supervisors undertake to provide the doctoral candidate with professional advice. They are responsible for the quality assurance of the dissertation. They organise the doctoral project in such a way, that it can be completed within the planned period of time and support compliance with the time schedule. This also includes (interdisciplinary) career support and networking in the academic field. Detailed discussions on the progress of the doctorate are arranged at intervals of _____ months, the results of which are recorded in writing.

3. Elements of the doctoral project

The following obligatory qualification elements are agreed upon:

(a) Participation in the Doctoral Training Programme of the GSU with the following courses (for more information, see FAQs on the website):



Course	Name of the course	Time frame (in AE)
<i>Compulsory modules</i>		
Theory of Science or Science ethics		
Knowledge management		
Interdisciplinary research colloquium		
Subject-specific research colloquium		
TOTAL COMPULSORY MODULES		95 AE
<i>Elective modules</i>		
1. Doing research autonomously		
2. Developing transferable skills		
3. Learning to teach		
4. Shaping your career		
TOTAL ELECTIVE MODULES		75 AE

TOTAL PHD STUDY PROGRAMME

(b) Discussion of the research results in the (inter)national scientific community. As a rule, at least submission of a publication in a peer-reviewed journal, in the proceedings of an international conference with peer-review procedure or an oral presentation with discussion at an international scientific conference. Different but comparable achievements can only be recognised upon application.

Planned is/are: _____

4. International involvement

Integration of the doctoral project (e.g. stay abroad, conference visit or integration of international guests in the doctoral project). The Department of Research and Scientific Qualification of the Office of Academic Planning and Control (<https://www.dshs-koeln.de/forschung-transfer/forschung-an-der-deutschen-sporthochschule-koeln/forschungs-und-transferfoerderung/>) offers advice on funding opportunities.

Activity	Visited or inviting institution	Country	Duration (in days)

5. Work equipment

The supervisor and the doctoral candidate have agreed on the working materials required to carry out the research work (e.g. laboratory access, measurement technology, computer technology or consumables). The doctoral candidate has been informed about possible restrictive framework conditions. The following is documented (if applicable):

(a) Working space
(b) Finance/Funding (see also counselling Research Service Centre)
(c) Working material

6. Measures to reconcile family and academic work

The following agreements are made (if applicable):

7. Good scientific practice

The participants undertake to comply with the guidelines for ensuring good scientific practice and dealing with misconduct (see https://www.dshs-koeln.de/fileadmin/redaktion/Forschung_und_Transfer/Forschungsservicestelle/Amtliche_Mitteilungen/AM_2022-16-Ordnung_zur_Sicherung_guter_wissenschaftlicher_Praxis.pdf.) The doctoral candidate is aware that, in accordance with §5 Para. 2 of the DSHS doctoral regulations, his/her own work that has already served examination purposes may not be submitted as a doctoral thesis.

8. Regulations for cases of conflict

In the event of conflicts resulting from non-compliance with the above-mentioned obligations, discussions will be held immediately between the parties in order to restore the fulfilment of the agreements made. In particular, the mentor should provide assistance in this regard. If no agreement can be reached, either party can turn to the GSU ombudsperson.

9. Acknowledgement of the Doctoral regulations

The undersigned take note of the current Doctoral regulations of the GSU in the version of The doctoral procedure is conclusively regulated by these doctoral regulations.

The supervision agreement should be copied to:

1. Supervisor
2. Doctoral student
3. Second supervisor, if applicable
4. Mentor, if applicable

Signatures

..... [Place, date]

..... [Doctoral student]

..... [Supervisor]

..... [Second supervisor if applicable]

..... [Mentor if applicable]