OBTAINING A DOCTORATE DEGREE

Conditions of acquiring the degree in the case of organized training and individual preparation

Conditions of acquiring the degree in the case of organized training:

- Fulfillment of the prescribed educational requirements (240 credits);
- At least two B2 level language exam, one of them has to be in English;
- having successfully passed the complex exam required by the Doctoral School;
- having successfully defended the PhD thesis;
- At least 45 points of publication (from which min. 25 points are from defined quality articles)

Conditions of acquiring the degree in the case of individual preparation:

- at least five years of research activity;
- Publications of defined quality: published in well-known scientific journals, containing new contributions in the field of research.
- At least 100 points of publication (from which min. 60 points are from defined quality articles)

These conditions have to be met by the time of the application. Further requirements are the same as requirements from students of organized training

THE THESIS PROPOSAL

The aim of preparing and defending the thesis proposal is to verify whether the PhD candidates have a solid theoretical foundation and a grounded empirical research method in their research. The thesis proposal can be submitted in English or Hungarian. At the International Relations Multidisciplinary Doctoral School the thesis proposal should contain:

- the relevant academic literature, the antecedents of the theory and research
- proposal of the empirical research,
- units of the research,
- methodology,
- the scheduling of the research,
- bibliography

The Thesis Committee consists of at least three, but no more than five qualified readers, of whom at least one is an external expert. The tutor may also be a member of the committee. At the defense of the thesis proposal (so-called “workshop discussion”), the students who defend their thesis proposal shall report to the Thesis Committee and a professional audience concerning the work they have done and the results they have reached. They shall discuss the thesis to be submitted, and whether the candidate has complied with the requirements formulated during the defense of the thesis proposal.

The decision of the committee can decide between:

- accepting the thesis without changes,
– accepting the thesis with changes (set in the protocol),
– not accepting the thesis, in this case the candidate is able to submit his/her new thesis once more

The regulations of the submission of the thesis can be found on the website of the Doctoral School. Please submit the thesis 6-8 week prior the defense!

The thesis proposal can be submitted when it reaches the 80% of the planned extent of the final thesis. According to the DRU the length of the final thesis is at least 120-150 pages (without appendices). The thesis can be submitted in English or Hungarian, and – only if approved by the Council of the Doctoral School – in any other languages.

THESIS DEFENSE

After the research process the candidate prepares and submits his/her thesis. The thesis can be submitted in English or Hungarian, and – only if approved by the Council of the Doctoral School – in any other languages. (Only in exceptional cases may the Council of the Doctoral School allow submission in other languages)

Based on the proposal of the PhD School, the Doctoral Council of the university requests two official opponents and further members of the Evaluating Committee to evaluate the thesis. The opponents prepare a written opinion of the thesis beforehand, and the PhD candidate reacts on the opinions of the opponents in writing, prior to the defense. During the oral defense, the candidate reviews the main findings of his/her work, and answers the questions of the opponents, of the Evaluating Committee and of those participating at the open discussion. The Committee decides about the approval and evaluation of the thesis by secret vote. Their decision may be:

- summa cum laude,
- cum laude,
- rite,
- not accepted.

Those who have successfully defended their theses will be awarded the doctorate degree. The theses will be stored in the Central Library of the University and in the joint doctoral database of the HAC and SDC.