

Progress review criteria for awarding ECTS credits in the PhD thesis module (180 ECTS) – Doctoral Studies Council of Educational Sciences

	Component of the PhD thesis module	PhD thesis (180 ECTS credits in total)				Submission requirements	Guidelines for assessment	Observations
		Monograph		Article-based dissertation				
		Minimum required	Maximum credits	Minimum required	Maximum credits			
	<b>TOTAL ECTS credits:</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>180</b>			
1	Student's research plan which must cover the entire period of doctoral studies and include a methodology plan for the PhD thesis	6	10	6	10	The student submits it in written form together with the supervisor's endorsement and estimation of ECTS credits. To be presented and defended either at the doctoral seminar or at the progress review meeting.	The progress review committee assesses the component and awards ECTS credits on the basis of the supervisor's assessment which is given at the doctoral seminar and/or at the progress review meeting.	The student's research plan for the PhD thesis is more nuanced and fully developed than the outline (research plan project) submitted by the student before admission. The plan is submitted for the progress review of the 1st or the 2nd year of studies.
2	An overview of the literature to be used as the theoretical foundation of the PhD thesis	5	10	0	10	The student submits it in written form together with the supervisor's endorsement and estimation of ECTS credits.	The progress review committee assesses the component and awards ECTS credits on the basis of the supervisor's assessment.	
3	Development of the research instruments and the methodological principles for the PhD study	10	20	10	20	The student submits it in written form together with the supervisor's endorsement and estimation of ECTS credits. To be presented and defended either at the doctoral seminar and/or at the progress review meeting.	The progress review committee assesses the component and awards ECTS credits on the basis of the supervisor's assessment.	
4	Article in ETIS (Estonian Research Information System) categories 1.1, 1.2 or 3.1 accepted for publication or Tallinn University Press publication (constituting a part of the dissertation if the dissertation is article-based) – up to 30 ECTS credits.	25	30	90	120	The student submits a copy of the article (or a web address where the article can be accessed) and the e-mail or certificate confirming that the article has been accepted for publication.	The text of the article reviewed by the supervisor: up to 10 ECTS credits; the article in 'submitted' status: up to 20 ECTS credits – ECTS credits awarded earlier; 'under review' status + 5 ECTS credits; 'finally accepted' status + 5 ECTS credits. In total, depending on the article's publishing status, 30 ECTS credits may be awarded cumulatively.	
5	Chapter/division of a PhD thesis in the monograph format	80	120	0	0	The student submits the text of the chapter of the monograph.	The text of the chapter/division of the PhD thesis (at least 20 pages) reviewed by the supervisor: up to 20 ECTS credits. Chapter/division presented and reviewed at the doctoral seminar: + 10 ECTS credits In total, for one chapter of a PhD thesis in the monograph format 30 ECTS credits may be awarded cumulatively.	An unreviewed chapter of a monograph is deemed to be equal to an article in the 'submitted' status in the case of an article-based dissertation.
6	Analytical overview of the PhD thesis	0	0	20	30	The student submits it in written form together with the supervisor's endorsement and an estimation of ECTS credits.		
7	Other research publication (the lowest ETIS category)	0	20	0	20	The student submits a copy of the article or a web address where the article can be accessed.	One published research publication equals up to 5 ECTS credits, depending on the ETIS category of the publication.	In the case of a PhD thesis in the monograph format, the other research publications must be related to the topic of the PhD thesis in a minimum required amount of ECTS credits.
8	Conference or seminar presentation	6	20	6	20	The student submits a copy of the conference or seminar programme and the abstract of the presentation or a copy of the poster presentation.	Oral presentation at an international event: 3-5 ECTS credits. Poster presentation at an international event: 2-3 ECTS credits. Presentation or poster presentation at an Estonian event: 2 ECTS credits.	The conference presentation includes the publication of the abstract (as a rule, the submission of an abstract is required before the presentation can be accepted). The publication of the full text of the presentation as a separate paper is taken into account separately in the category of other research publications.
9	Preliminary examination before final defence	5	5	5	5	Pursuant to Regulations for Doctoral Studies and Defence of PhD Theses.		If the student is required to retake the preliminary examination next year, less than 5 ECTS credits will be awarded.
10	Final defence	5	5	5	5	Pursuant to Regulations for Doctoral Studies and Defence of PhD Theses.		The progress review committee must take into account that the amount of ECTS credits cumulatively awarded to the student may not exceed 175 ECTS credits before the final defence.

\* The minimum and maximum values cover the entire period of doctoral studies. The university monitors the student's credits both in terms of credits awarded in a year and credits awarded cumulatively throughout the entire study period. The sum of the minimum values of components is smaller than the total credits to be awarded for the PhD thesis (180 ECTS credits), since one component may be at its