

Guideline for Cumulative Dissertations of the Directorate of the Doctoral Study Programme of the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies, DSPL 42

The Office of the Studienpräses presents a guideline for theses by publication that can be used by the entire University of Vienna. Individual directorates of doctoral studies are explicitly asked to develop specific guidelines for their disciplines that take into account the different characteristics and requirements of the subject cultures. These guidelines are binding for the selected areas according to study law and are subject to examination by the DSPL and the Studienpräses.

According to relevant expert advice in the studies conference, the DSPL 42 suggests the following guidelines for the preparation of a thesis by publication at the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies:

1. Equivalence

A thesis by publication must be equivalent to the academic qualification of a doctoral thesis in the form of a monograph.

2. Link through an overarching question

A thesis by publication is as a collection of publications based on an overarching question that links the individual parts clearly. This overarching question must be described in a concluding discussion of the essential aspects of the publications. This collection must meet the following criteria:

- At least 100 pages
- Explanation and discussion of the central research question(s), the theoretical approach, the chosen methodology, the state of research and how one's own research is embedded in the state of the art, a consolidating line of argument
- Connecting and meaningful transitions between the individual publications
- Conclusion that analyses the key findings and emphasises the innovativeness of the research and one's own contribution to the debate within the respective discipline and, where applicable, indicates desiderata in research

3. Publications

A thesis by publication consists of at least 4 contributions of academic nature that must comply with the following conditions:

- At least 20-25 pages each
- Accepted in peer-reviewed international journals (written confirmation of acceptance by journals/specialist publishers) or other specialist publications
- Articles that have already been published must not be older than 2 years
- Only one contribution can be in an edited volume or a specialist book; articles in peer-reviewed journals are preferred

- The international position of the specialist journals will be examined by the DSPL or the doctoral advisory boards/subject-related reviewers
- Reviewers should comment on the journals and their position; with reference to the information database for officially recognised journals of the European Science Foundation <http://archives.esf.org/publications.html>

4. Authorship

- Only one contribution can be written together with a co-author
- One's own contribution to the co-authored publication must be clearly indicated and described in the introduction

5. Registration

- The decision to write a thesis by publication must be made prior to the public presentation at the faculty
- A corresponding application for the thesis by publication must be submitted to the SSC prior to registration for the public presentation at the faculty and must be approved by the DSPL
- A letter of approval from the supervisor is required
- A thesis by publication will be definitively approved as such by the DSPL at the public presentation at the faculty
- The form of the doctoral thesis as thesis by publication must be specified in the doctoral thesis agreement