



ACADEMIC REGULATIONS GOVERNING DOCTORAL STUDIES

Approved by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 21 July 2005 and modified by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 4 November 2005

BACKGROUND

The complexity of the regulations governing doctoral studies, essentially contained in RD 778/1998, of 30 May, and in RD 56/2005, of 21 January, as well as in the various agreements reached by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board, has drawn attention to the need for a single document setting out the regulations governing doctoral studies within the University of Barcelona, the aim being to facilitate procedural and administrative aspects during the various stages of postgraduate (third cycle) university studies.

However, it should be borne in mind that these regulations do not, in any circumstances, annul the existing agreements and procedures approved by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board, and which set out in more detail some of the points addressed within the present document.

The present regulations are organised into four chapters:

- **Chapter I:** This describes the regulations governing doctoral programmes, in accordance with RD 778/1998, their duration and structure, the completion of these studies, and entry to the programmes, taking into account the different situations of students.
- **Chapter II:** This describes the thesis stage and aims to cover the various scenarios regarding time limits which may arise due to the fact that students reaching this stage may have completed their doctoral studies under different regulations, and also takes into account the application of articles 11 to 13 of RD 56/2005, covering the preparation and defence of doctoral theses and which form part of the regulations approved by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 11 May 2005.
- **Chapter III:** This deals with the requirements for obtaining the qualification of Doctor, and the issue of the award.
- **Chapter IV:** This deals with the special mentions and prizes awarded by the University of Barcelona.



CHAPTER I. DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

1. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMMES

Doctoral programmes, approved each year by the University of Barcelona, shall have a duration of two academic years, distributed as follows:

- Year 1: Teaching period
- Year 2: Research period

Students who fail to complete one or both periods of the programme in the time established shall be required to begin a new programme, including any modifications which may have been introduced.

In accordance with that set out in article 2.5 of RD 778/1998, governing third cycle university studies, programmes for which fewer than ten students have enrolled will not be offered.

2. STUDY REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH PERIODS

In order to successfully complete a doctoral programme students must obtain a minimum of 32 credits, distributed across the two periods as follows:

a) In the teaching period students must obtain a minimum of 20 credits, or the number established should a particular programme specify a greater number. In any event, at least 15 credits must correspond to core subjects.

Students may obtain up to 5 credits through subjects which do not form part of their programme plan, upon prior authorisation of the tutor. These 5 credits may only be obtained through subjects offered as part of other doctoral programmes, either by the University of Barcelona or by other Spanish universities.

If the doctoral programme contains mandatory subjects, students must pass these in order to successfully complete this period.

Upon completion of this period, students will be awarded a certificate showing their overall achievement and grades as proof that they have successfully completed the teaching period of the programme.

b) In the research period students must obtain a minimum of 12 credits, which shall be awarded for the successful completion of one or more supervised research projects carried out within the relevant department, or, in the case of interdepartmental programmes, at one of the departments offering the programme being followed by the student.

If the doctoral programme contains mandatory research projects, students must carry these out successfully in order to complete this period.

3. TYPES OF DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

The doctoral programmes approved by the University of Barcelona can be classified into three types, in accordance with the number of departments or universities responsible for the programme:



- **Departmental programmes:** A single department is responsible for the doctoral programme.
- **Interdepartmental programmes:** At least two departments are responsible for the doctoral programme. Students may enrol with any of the departments which offer the programme.
- **Interuniversity programmes:** At least two universities are responsible for the doctoral programme, which is offered on the basis of an agreement signed by the universities involved. Those students who enrol in the University of Barcelona for an interuniversity doctoral programme shall be subject to the regulations of this university, and to those set out in the interuniversity agreement.

4. ENTRY TO A DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

In order to enter a doctoral programme, a student's qualifications must comply with the relevant entry requirements, in accordance with the provisions laid down in this section:

4.1. Students undertaking doctoral studies for the first time

a) Entry with awards officially recognised by Spain's Ministry of Education and Science

Candidates who are graduates, qualified architects, engineers or who hold equivalent officially recognised degrees may enter any doctoral programme for which their qualifications fulfil the corresponding entry requirements.

In the event that the student's academic qualifications do not feature among those that allow entry to the programme, the Doctoral Committee of the Faculty in question shall decide whether the student may enter the programme. The student's application must be accompanied by a report from the coordinator of the programme which the student wishes to follow or, in the case of interdepartmental programmes, from the general coordinator of the programme, as well as proof of the student's academic qualifications.

Entry must always be offered by the department responsible for the programme for which the student is applying.

b) Entry with awards from foreign universities

Students with awards from foreign universities must first obtain official recognition of their qualifications from the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science.

Furthermore, those students who wish to enter a programme but do not hold the officially recognised qualifications of graduate, engineer or architect obtained at a foreign university or higher education college shall, in accordance with that set out in section 2 of the first additional regulation of RD 778/98, require the express authorisation of the university's Rector, or whosoever is delegated this power, prior to entry.

The application for authorisation shall be presented using the standard form at the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty offering the programme in question, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Original certificate and photocopy or legally authorised copy of the certificate
- Academic transcript setting out the studies completed and photocopy or legally authorised copy of this transcript.



Documents must be official, have been issued by the competent authorities, and be **legally approved** through diplomatic channels and **translated**, where appropriate, in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Education and Science.

Entry to doctoral programmes will not be offered, prior to official recognition of academic qualifications, to students with a foreign degree that corresponds to the current level of diploma (completion of 1st cycle) in Spain.

As regards entry to a programme offered by the University of Barcelona, only decisions made by the Rector shall be considered.

Entry must always be offered by the department responsible for the programme for which the student is applying.

4.2. Students who have already begun doctoral studies

Students who have begun doctoral studies at the University of Barcelona or other universities may enter doctoral programmes of the University of Barcelona in accordance with that set out in this section.

Regardless of each student's specific situation, the following must be taken into account:

- Students with qualifications from a foreign university who have begun doctoral studies in other universities and who wish to enter a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona prior to having obtained official recognition of their qualifications must apply for the corresponding authorisation, in accordance with the procedure described in section 4.1.b) of these regulations.
- Students who have begun doctoral studies at other universities and have received authorisation to enter a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona must, prior to enrolment, formally transfer their academic record, where appropriate.
- Entry must always be offered by the department responsible for the programme for which the student is applying.

The circumstances may be:

a) Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by regulations prior to those established in RD 185/1985

Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by regulations prior to those established in RD 185/1985 may enter a doctoral programme in accordance with that set out in sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the present regulations.

b) Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by RD 185/1985

Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by RD 185/1985 may enter a doctoral programme in accordance with that set out in sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the present regulations.

As regards doctoral studies which have been successfully completed, students may apply for their accreditation or adaptation in accordance with that set out in sections 9 and 10 of the present regulations.



c) Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by RD 778/1998

Students who have begun doctoral programmes governed by RD 778/1998 may enter a doctoral programme in accordance with the following situations:

c.1) Fewer than 20 credits obtained

Students must enter a doctoral programme in accordance with the procedure set out in sections 4.1 and 4.2. of the present regulations.

However, they may apply for studies which have been successfully completed to be accredited or adapted in accordance with that set out in sections 9 and 10 of the present regulations.

c.2) With a certificate of study awarded for having successfully completed the teaching period of a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona or another university (change of programme)

Students who have successfully completed the teaching period of a doctoral programme and have been awarded the corresponding study certificate may apply for this certificate to be officially recognised by the Doctoral Committee of the Faculty offering the doctoral programme for which the student is now applying.

The student's application must be accompanied by:

- A report from the coordinator of the programme that the student wishes to enter or, in the case of interdepartmental programmes, from the general coordinator of the programme.
- Original certificate of study or a certified photocopy
- Other documentation which may be requested by the Doctoral Committee of the corresponding Faculty prior to a decision being reached.

The official recognition of the certificate of study shall imply recognition of the student's previous doctoral studies and entitle the student to enter the research period of a doctoral programme, provided that entry is offered by the corresponding department.

In the event that the student has obtained credits corresponding to the research period but has yet to achieve sufficient research skills, he/she may follow the procedure set out in this section and apply for the accreditation or adaptation of the work completed, in accordance with that set out in sections 9 and 10 of these regulations.

In the event that the certificate of study is not officially recognised for entry to the programme applied for, the student may enter this programme in accordance with the procedure set out in section c.1) or apply for official recognition in order to enter another doctoral programme.

c.3) With sufficient research skills (Diploma of Advanced Studies)

Students who have demonstrated the proficiency of their research skills at other universities and who wish to continue and defend their thesis at the University of Barcelona may present their application in accordance with the procedure set out in section 4 of the Thesis Stage.

Students who have demonstrated their research proficiency at this university and who wish to continue and defend their thesis in a different department from the one where they obtained their



research experience may present their application in accordance with the procedure set out in section 3 of the Thesis Stage.

5. ENTRY INTO A DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Students whose qualifications meet entry requirements, or whose entry has been authorised in accordance with that set out in section 4 of the present regulations, must be offered entry by the relevant department.

Entry to a doctoral programme is the responsibility of the coordinator, who shall formally acknowledge entry on the enrolment applications presented by students.

In the case of interdepartmental programmes, entry to the doctoral programme is the responsibility of the general coordinator, while departmental coordinators are responsible for entry to the specific department which the student wishes to enter. The general coordinator shall formally acknowledge entry to the programme and the departmental coordinator entry to the department on the enrolment applications presented by students.

The tutor, or the departmental tutor in the case of interdepartmental programmes, shall be responsible for the subjects and research projects to be completed by the student upon entry to the doctoral programme.

6. TEACHING PERIOD

6.1. Requirements

Enrolment in the teaching period is dependent on a student's qualifications fulfilling the programme's entry requirements, or on their having obtained the corresponding authorisation, where appropriate, in accordance with that set out in section 4 of the present regulations.

6.2. Teaching and assessment period

Taught classes will be offered from October to June, with a single assessment period in June/July, according to the calendar drawn up by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board.

6.3. Qualifications

In order to obtain the credits corresponding to the subjects completed during the teaching period, students must achieve a grade of A+, A, B or C.

6.4. Obtaining the certificate of study having successfully completed the teaching period of the programme

Upon completion of the teaching period, students shall be awarded a certificate showing their overall achievement and grades, and this will be officially recognised in all Spanish universities as proof that the student has successfully completed the teaching period of third cycle university studies.

The overall mark will be calculated from the number of credits for each subject passed multiplied by the numerical value of their grade (C: 1; B: 2; A: 3; A+: 4) and divided by the total number of credits obtained by the student.



On the certificate the overall mark will correspond to the following qualitative grades: 1-1.5, C; 1.51-2.5, B; 2.51-3.5, C; and 3.51-4, A+.

6.5. Weighting of qualifications from the previous academic record on the basis of accredited subjects in order to obtain the overall weighted mean of the programme's teaching period

For students who have completed the teaching period since the 2001-2002 academic year the accredited subjects shall have the following weighting in the academic record:

- *Subjects accredited for having successfully completed postgraduate training as a specialist in medicine, chemistry, pharmacy or psychology (in Spain: MIR, QUIR, FIR and PIR, respectively):*

The weighting of accredited subjects will be 1.

- *Subjects accredited on the basis of previous doctoral studies completed in a Spanish university:*

The abovementioned table of numerical equivalences will be applied to the original grade obtained in accredited subjects; this previous grade being considered solely for the purpose of this weighting.

- *Subjects accredited on the basis of previous studies at foreign institutions:*

The Doctoral Committees of the Faculties will analyse each case, taking into account the grades awarded by the original university and the tables established by the Ministry of Education and Science showing the grading systems of different countries and their equivalent in Spain.

6.6. Weighting of qualifications from the previous academic record on the basis of adapted subjects in order to obtain the overall weighted mean of the programme's teaching period

For students who have enrolled since the 2002-2003 academic year the subjects adapted on the basis of programmes partially completed at the University of Barcelona shall have the following weighting in their academic record:

- The table of numerical equivalences will be applied to the original grade obtained in the adapted subjects, this previous grade being considered solely for the purpose of this weighting.

6.7. Additional certification of the programme's teaching period

Students may request an additional diploma-type certificate in accordance with the standard procedures established for this purpose. In the case of interdepartmental programmes the certificate will indicate the nature of the programme and the department in which the student is enrolled.

7. RESEARCH PERIOD

7.1. Requirements

In order to enrol in the research period students must have obtained a minimum of 20 teaching credits, as referred to in clause a) of section 2 of these regulations.



7.2. Teaching and assessment period

There will be a single assessment per student and per academic year for the project or projects carried out during the research period, although this may take place in either June or September.

7.3. Qualifications

In order to successfully complete the research period students must present their supervised research project(s) which must obtain a grade of pass or higher. The student's research ability will be assessed on the basis of the project or projects carried out and, where appropriate, on the basis of any papers published in specialist journals.

In order to obtain the credits corresponding to the supervised research project or projects, students must achieve a grade of A+, A, B or C.

7.4. Change of department in order to carry out the research period in interdepartmental doctoral programmes

In the event that a student on an interdepartmental programme wishes to move to one of the other departments involved in order to carry out the research period, he/she must present an application to the Doctoral Committee of the relevant Faculty, along with a report from the department where s/he wishes to carry out the supervised research.

Upon entry to the new department the student will be assigned a tutor who will agree to the supervised projects for which the student wishes to enrol. Entry to the new department shall be formally acknowledged on the application form upon being signed by the departmental coordinator of the student's new department.

The general coordinator of the programme and the departmental coordinator of the department where the student was initially enrolled shall be informed of the student's new enrolment.

7.5. Certification of supervised projects during the research period

The certificate will only acknowledge the title, grade and number of credits of research projects.

8. ASSESSMENT OF THE KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED BY DOCTORAL STUDENTS DURING THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AND RECOGNITION OF RESEARCH PROFICIENCY

Upon completion of the teaching and research periods of the programme followed, the knowledge acquired by the student will be assessed by means of a viva voce before the relevant examining board, in accordance with that set out in the corresponding regulations.

Students who pass this viva voce will be accredited with having carried out research in a given area of knowledge and as having demonstrated their research proficiency.

8.1. Requirements

In order to sit the viva voce students must have successfully completed the teaching and research periods, in accordance with that set out in section 2 of the present regulations, and must also present the corresponding application form.

8.2. Viva voces and deadlines



Students may only sit the viva voce for the Diploma of Advanced Studies (DEA) in two consecutive examination sessions, counting from the academic year in which they completed the research period, and regardless of whether they have enrolled, applied to sit it or failed to complete their studies.

In order to sit each viva voce students must present the corresponding application form each academic year.

Should a student not demonstrate his/her research proficiency in the abovementioned viva voces, s/he will have to begin a new programme including, where appropriate, any adaptations which may have been introduced.

8.3. Applications

Students who wish to sit a viva voce must apply to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme followed. The application fee due shall be that set by the Catalan government in its official ruling on fees for each academic year.

In exceptional and justifiable circumstances, students may request the withdrawal of their application to sit the viva voce (DEA). The Rector, at the suggestion of the Dean of the corresponding centre and with the prior report of the Vice-Rector for students, shall be responsible for ruling upon such requests and determining their academic and financial effects.

8.4. Qualifications

Doctoral students who have successfully passed the viva voce assessment may be awarded one of the following grades by the examining board: A, B or C. The grade of A+ is not applicable in this case.

8.5. Diploma of advanced studies

Once the viva voce has been passed the student may request the issuing of an additional certificate/diploma of advanced studies, in accordance with the standard procedures established for this purpose. This certificate/diploma shall be officially recognised in all Spanish universities.

9. ACCREDITATION OF SPANISH DOCTORAL STUDIES

9.1. Requirements

Students who have completed a doctoral programme or begun doctoral studies in other universities, whether Spanish or foreign, may enter a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona, in accordance with that set out in section 4 of the present regulations, and apply for the corresponding accreditations, where appropriate.

Only those completed doctoral studies of equivalent content and study requirements shall be subject to accreditation.

Doctoral studies completed in accordance with regulations established prior to RD 185/1985 shall not be subject to accreditation.



9.2. Accreditation of doctoral studies carried out in accordance with the regulations established in RD 185/1985

Only those subjects from the teaching period of the doctoral programme on which the student has been offered a place shall be subject to accreditation.

The application for accreditation, in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Academic certificate for the doctoral studies completed plus a photocopy or legally authorised copy of this certificate
- Transcript of the subject modules completed

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty responsible for the programme, or the body to which such responsibility has been delegated, shall reach a decision regarding the application presented.

9.3. Accreditation of doctoral studies carried out in accordance with the regulations established in RD 778/1998

Subjects from the teaching period and the supervised projects from the research period shall both be subject to accreditation.

However, prior to accreditation the conditions governing entry to doctoral programmes will be taken into account with respect to the official recognition of the certificate of study and research proficiency.

The application for accreditation, in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Academic certificate for the doctoral studies completed plus a photocopy or legally authorised copy of this certificate
- Transcript of the subject modules completed

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty responsible for the programme, or the body to which such responsibility has been delegated, shall reach a decision regarding the application presented.

9.4. Accreditation of doctoral studies carried out by specialists in medicine, chemistry, pharmacy and psychology (in Spain: MIR, QUIR, FIR and PIR, respectively)

Pursuant to RD 1558/1986, which stipulates the general bases of agreements between the universities and health authorities, students who have been offered a place on a doctoral programme and who hold a specialist postgraduate award (MIR, QUIR, FIR or PIR) may apply for the accreditation of subjects from the teaching period; it should be borne in mind that, in accordance with existing directives, subjects of a methodological nature shall not be subject to accreditation.

The application for accreditation, in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:



- Certificate for the award of specialist plus a photocopy or legally authorised copy of the award

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty responsible for the programme, or the body to which such responsibility has been delegated, shall reach a decision regarding the application presented.

9.5. Accreditation of doctoral studies carried out in overseas universities or higher education colleges

Only those subjects from the teaching period of the doctoral programme on which the student has been offered a place shall be subject to accreditation.

The [application for accreditation](#), in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Academic certificate for the doctoral studies completed plus a photocopy or legally authorised copy of this certificate
- Transcript of the subject modules completed

Documents must be official, have been issued by the competent authorities, and be **legally approved** through diplomatic channels and **translated**, where appropriate, in accordance with the regulations of the [Ministry of Science and Innovation](#).

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty responsible for the programme, or the body to which such responsibility has been delegated, shall reach a decision regarding the application presented.

10. ADAPTATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES COMPLETED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

10.1. Requirements

Students who have failed to complete a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona in the time period established may enter a doctoral programme in accordance with that set out in section 4 of the present regulations, and may apply for the adaptation of corresponding subject modules completed, where appropriate.

Subjects from doctoral programmes carried out at the University of Barcelona in accordance with RD 185/85, of 23 January, and RD 778/98, of 30 April, shall be subject to adaptation, as shall those supervised research projects carried out in accordance with RD 778/98 of 30 April.

For adapted taught subjects students must enrol in the academic year that corresponds to the teaching period of the doctoral programme on which they have been offered a place. For adapted research subjects students must enrol in the academic year that corresponds to the research period of the doctoral programme on which they have been offered a place.

10.2. Procedure

The application for accreditation, in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary for students and teaching of the Faculty responsible for the doctoral programme, and must be accompanied by a copy of the academic transcript for the doctorate in the event that the original



programme was not carried out in the same centre. The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty responsible for the programme, or the body to which such responsibility has been delegated, shall reach a decision regarding the application presented.

CHAPTER II: THESIS STAGE

1. THESIS SUPERVISION FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR RESEARCH PROFICIENCY DURING A DOCTORAL PROGRAMME, HAVE HAD THEIR THESIS ACCEPTED AND REGISTERED BUT WHO HAVE YET TO DEFEND THEIR THESIS

Doctoral students who have had their doctoral thesis accepted and have demonstrated their research proficiency during a doctoral programme but who have yet to defend their thesis must enrol for supervision of the thesis, the relevant fees, conditions and procedures being stipulated in the corresponding enrolment regulations.

Enrolment for thesis supervision shall be required in each academic year following the year in which the two abovementioned conditions are fulfilled until such point as the doctoral student applies for permission to deposit the thesis, in accordance with the procedure established for this purpose.

2. UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA PROCEDURES FOR THE PREPARATION, AUTHORISATION, DEFENCE AND EVALUATION OF DOCTORAL THESES, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CORRESPONDING EXAMINING BOARD

The University of Barcelona procedures for the preparation, authorisation, defence and evaluation of doctoral theses, as well as the appointment of examining boards, are governed by the corresponding regulations, which were approved by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 11 May 2005.

These regulations apply to students of the University of Barcelona who carry out doctoral studies in accordance with that set out in RD 778/1998, of 30 April, and to students of the University of Barcelona who have carried out doctoral studies in accordance with the stipulations of RD 185/1985, of 23 January, who may defend their doctoral thesis provided that they fulfil the requirements established in the agreement drawn up by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 6 April 2005.

3. PREPARATION AND DEFENCE OF A THESIS IN A DEPARTMENT OTHER THAN THAT WHERE THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATED HIS/HER RESEARCH PROFICIENCY AS PART OF A DOCTORAL PROGRAMME OFFERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

Those students who, having followed a doctoral programme at the University of Barcelona, wish to prepare and defend their thesis in a department other than that where they demonstrated their research proficiency may apply to the Doctoral Committee of the Faculty to which this department is linked, in accordance with that stipulated in the approved regulations and specific procedures for students who have followed a doctoral programme governed by RD 185/1985 or RD 778/1998.



4. DOCTORAL STUDENTS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES WHO WISH TO PREPARE AND DEFEND THEIR DOCTORAL THESIS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

Those students who, having demonstrated their research proficiency as part of a doctoral programme offered by another university, wish to prepare and defend their thesis in a department of the University of Barcelona must apply to the Doctoral Committee of the corresponding Faculty.

4.1 Students who have followed doctoral programmes governed by RD 185/1985: as of 31 December 2005, the University of Barcelona no longer authorizes the transfer of academic records of students who have obtained the research proficiency for the successful completion of doctoral studies as part of programmes governed by RD 185/1985, although these students may apply for admission to doctoral programmes under the standard admissions procedure.

4.2 Students who have followed doctoral programmes governed by RD 778/1998

Students who wish to prepare and defend a doctoral thesis in this university must apply for official recognition of their research skills and, therefore, authorisation from the Doctoral Committee of the corresponding Faculty.

The application, in accordance with standard procedures, shall be presented to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the Faculty that includes the department where the student wishes to prepare the thesis, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Academic certificate for the doctoral studies completed, which shall include recognition of the student having obtained sufficient research skills and acceptance of the doctoral thesis, where appropriate.
- Favourable report from the Head of Department where the student wishes to prepare the thesis.

The Doctoral Committee of the Faculty shall reach a decision regarding the application and will notify the student of their ruling. The documentation presented by the student and a copy of the ruling shall be passed to the secretary for students and teaching of the Faculty so that it may be filed accordingly.

If the ruling is favourable the student shall pay the original university the costs of transferring the academic record and must apply for acceptance of the thesis and the assignment of a supervisor to the department which has presented a favourable report regarding the application, in accordance with that set out in article 2 of the regulations covering the preparation, authorisation, defence and evaluation of doctoral theses, as well as the appointment of examining boards, in the University of Barcelona. Acceptance for preparation of the thesis at the University of Barcelona shall be formalised through enrolment for supervision of the corresponding thesis in accordance with the requirements and procedures established in the enrolment regulations.

In the event that the application is rejected, the student may apply to the Doctoral Committee of another faculty within the university to prepare and defend the doctoral thesis, in accordance with the established procedure, or enter a doctoral programme.

5. DEADLINE FOR DEFENDING DOCTORAL THESES FOR STUDENTS FROM DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES GOVERNED BY REGULATIONS PRIOR TO THOSE SET OUT IN RD 185/1985



Students who have followed a doctoral programme governed by regulations prior to those set out in RD 185/1985 must defend their doctoral thesis by 2005, the specific agreements reached by the various Doctoral Committees also being binding.

6. DEADLINE FOR DEFENDING DOCTORAL THESES FOR STUDENTS FROM DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES GOVERNED BY RD 185/1985

Students who have followed a doctoral programme governed by RD 185/1985 must defend their doctoral thesis by 2005, the specific agreements reached by the various Doctoral Committees also being binding.

These students may, however, defend their doctoral thesis after this deadline provided they fulfil the requirements and conditions established in the agreement reached by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 6 April 2005.

- The second transitory provision of RD 1393/2007, which governs the organization of public university education, establishes that doctoral programmes organized under previous regulations will be permanently suspended on 30 September 2015. Under the terms of this provision, students following doctoral programmes governed by RD 185/1985 who are preparing their doctoral thesis, pursuant to the agreement reached by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 6 April 2005, must complete their thesis defence by 30 September 2015.

7. DEADLINE FOR DEFENDING DOCTORAL THESES FOR STUDENTS FROM DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES GOVERNED BY RD 778/1998

RD 778/1998 stipulates no deadline for the defence of doctoral theses.

- The second transitory provision of RD 1393/2007, which governs the organization of public university education, establishes that doctoral programmes organized under previous regulations will be permanently suspended on 30 September 2015. Under the terms of this provision, students following doctoral programmes governed by RD 185/1985 who are preparing their doctoral thesis, in virtue of the agreement reached by the Doctoral Committee of the Governing Board on 6 April 2005, must complete their thesis defence by 30 September 2015.

CHAPTER III: AWARD OF DOCTOR

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING AND ISSUING THE AWARD OF DOCTOR

Students who have successfully defended their doctoral thesis at the University of Barcelona may apply for the corresponding award of Doctor in the office of the secretary for students and teaching of the corresponding faculty.

The awards of Doctor shall be issued on behalf of the King of Spain by the Rector of the University of Barcelona. The content of the award shall comply with the corresponding regulations, in accordance with the doctoral studies completed by the student.



The award of Doctor thus obtained and issued shall be regarded as official and valid throughout Spain, shall be binding for academic purposes, and will entitle the bearer to carry out teaching and research in accordance with established legal procedures.

Prior to the award being formally issued and presented the student shall, upon payment of the fees required for its issue, be entitled to a certificate stating that the award is in the process of being issued (provisional award certificate).

The provisional award certificate, which shall be applied for at the secretary's office for students and teaching of the corresponding Faculty, shall have the same status as the award itself as regards the entitlements it affords the student.

Provisional certificates shall clearly state that the student's award is in the process of being issued, as well as any restrictions on the entitlements afforded by the latter as a result of the student's nationality or other legally binding reasons.

The second transitory provision of RD 1393/2007, which governs the organization of public university education, establishes that doctoral programmes organized under previous regulations will be permanently suspended on 30 September 2015. Under the terms of this provision, students following doctoral programmes governed by RD 778/1998 who are preparing their doctoral thesis must complete their thesis defence by 30 September 2015.

CHAPTER IV: SPECIAL MENTIONS AND PRIZES AWARDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

In accordance with that set out in RD 778/1998, of 30 April, which governs third cycle university studies, the University may stipulate rules for the award of other honorary mentions or prizes to those doctoral theses regarded as having merited them.

1. AWARD OF THE MENTION OF EUROPEAN DOCTOR

To obtain the Mention of European Doctor of the University of Barcelona, in addition to following the established procedures regarding authorisation to deposit and defend the doctoral thesis, candidates must fulfil a number of conditions set out in the corresponding regulations and procedures.

Doctoral students who so obtain this Mention will be awarded the corresponding diploma, in accordance with standard procedures.

2. AWARD OF EXTRAORDINARY DOCTORATE PRIZES

Each academic year those doctoral theses that have been defended and approved in the University of Barcelona, in the year prior to the award of the prize, and which have obtained a grade of "A+ *cum laude*" shall be considered for the extraordinary doctorate prize, in accordance with the corresponding regulations and procedures.



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The diplomas for the extraordinary doctorate prize shall be awarded to the successful candidates during the opening ceremony of the following academic year. Those diplomas not awarded during this ceremony shall be passed to the secretary's office for students and teaching of the respective Faculties.

Those Doctors awarded the extraordinary doctorate prize may request that mention of it be included in their award of doctor, in accordance with the regulations established for this purpose.