



**UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA
BARCELONATECH**

**Departament de Teoria del Senyal
i Comunicacions**

**Agreement to the Academic
Committee of the Department of
Signal Theory and Communications
on his doctoral programme**

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The purpose of this document is to complement and/or clarify those aspects of the Academic Regulations for Doctoral Degree Courses from UPC 20 July 2011 RD 99/2011 (http://doctorat.upc.edu/academic-management/regulations-1/regulations_rd99-2011) that remain open at the discretion of the promoters of the various doctoral programs, for the doctoral program organized by the Department of Signal Theory and Communications.

Given their complementary nature, only those aspects that the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program must establish are discussed.

Chapter I. General provisions

1. Definition of concepts

- **Doctoral Student Activity Report**

The doctoral candidate, as well as the tutor and the thesis supervisor are responsible to maintain the Doctoral Student Activity Report updated.

Chapter II. Doctoral degree courses

1. Course structure

1.2. Duration

In order to request a one-year extension or a further one-year extraordinary extension, the doctoral candidate must present a request to the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program with the agreement of the tutor and/or the thesis supervisor.

3. Admission

3.1. Bridging courses

At the discretion of the tutor and/or the thesis advisor is to decide whether the doctoral candidate needs to complete specific bridging courses. If so, the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program keeps track of the bridging courses completed by each student and will be the responsible to require their pass.

5. Supervision and monitoring

5.3. Doctoral Student Activity Report

The tutor and the thesis supervisor regularly review the student activity report and the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program evaluates it annually. Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program delegates this task to the tutor and the thesis supervisor.

5.4. Research Plan

Candidates must prepare a research plan before the end of the first year; the plan must be included in the student activity report.

This plan, with a maximum length between 20 and 30 pages, can be improved throughout the PhD studies and must be endorsed by the tutor and the thesis supervisor. This research plan must include the following sections:

- I. **Introduction:** Brief description of the research area and the framework of the thesis
- II. **State of the Art**
- III. **Objectives** to be achieved
- IV. **Methodology**
- V. **Planning**
- VI. Relevant **bibliography**.

The first presentation of the research plan consists of a public defence, which is evaluated by a panel composed by three PhD members, being two of them affiliated to the same PhD program and a third external. In case a non satisfactory evaluation is obtained, a second evaluation will be conducted by the Academic Committee of the PhD program, in fulfilment of the UPC regulations.

The tutor and/or the thesis supervisor can propose the external member external to the PhD program organized by the Department of Signal Theory and Communications. In case no proposals are done, a PhD member of the Electronic Engineering Department or the Department of Telematic Engineering will be assigned, as a result of the agreement between the PhD programs of these Departments with the Department of Signal Theory and Communications.

As a result of this agreement between the three aforementioned PhD programs, the PhD members of the Department of Signal Theory and Communications can be selected as external members of the panels that evaluate the research plans of the PhD programs of the Electronic Engineering Department or Department of Telematic Engineering.

Chapter III. Doctoral thesis

3. Examination Panel

In the exceptional event that a member of the examination panel is co-author of a publication derived from the doctoral thesis work, the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program should look out for this participation to be justified. Hence, the tutor or the thesis supervisor will provide the reasons they consider appropriate in that sense.

10. Submission of the doctoral thesis as a summary of publications

The doctoral candidate has the possibility to present the doctoral thesis in the form of a summary of published research. In this case, the doctoral candidate must present a manuscript including, at least, the following sections:

- I. **Introduction:** Description of the research area and the framework in which the thesis has been developed. Brief description of the state-of-the-art. Justification of the thematic unity of the thesis.
- II. **Published research:** Papers presented as separated chapters. These chapters must include a brief description of the paper, the results and the relation with the whole research work.
- III. **Conclusions:** Overall summary of the results and its discussion. Final conclusions.

Appendix I. Information to be provided to the doctoral candidate at the time of their initial registration to the doctoral program in the Department of Signal Theory and Communications

The doctoral candidate to the doctoral program needs to be aware of the Academic Regulations for Doctoral Degree Courses from UPC (http://doctorat.upc.edu/academic-management/regulations-1/regulations_rd99-2011) and the specific clarifications given by the Academic Committee of the Department of Signal Theory and Communications.

The following points of the doctoral regulations are especially relevant:

- The maximum duration of full-time doctoral studies, from admission to thesis defence, is three years with the possibility of extension for one or two years prior approval of the Academic Committee of the Doctoral Program with justified reason.
- The doctoral candidate must register in tutorials annually. The lack of registration of tutorials for two consecutive academic years involves the permanent removal from the doctoral programme.
- The doctoral candidates are responsible for maintaining the Doctoral Student Activity Report updated and the tutor and/or the thesis supervisor shall assess it annually as specified in Section 5.3 of the academic regulations of doctoral studies from UPC.
- The doctoral candidates must prepare a Research Plan, according to the structure specified in Section 5.4 of the academic regulations of doctoral studies from UPC before completing the first year of their thesis. This research plan is evaluated by a panel composed by three PhD members in a public defence. Two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations of the research plan involve the permanent removal from the doctoral programme.