



REGULATIONS ON THE SUBMISSION OF ARTICLE- BASED THESES

Doctoral programme: Sustainability

- **Document approved by the Standing Committee of the Doctoral School on 09/02/2017.**



Preamble

Article 10.2 of the UPC's Academic Regulations for Doctoral Studies, which were approved by the Governing Council on 19 July 2016, establishes that the academic committee of each doctoral programme must draw up specific regulations that include specific criteria for the submission of article-based theses. It corresponds to the Standing Committee of the Doctoral School to approve these regulations.

Thus, the academic committee of the UPC's doctoral programme in Sustainability, at a meeting held on 28 October 2016, drew up these regulations, which were approved by the Standing Committee of the Doctoral School on 9 February 2017.

1. Object

These regulations establish the criteria for approving applications to submit an article-based doctoral thesis, which essentially consists of a collection of reputable articles in which the doctoral candidate's participation has been significant.

2. Conditions for submitting an article-based thesis

Doctoral candidates wishing to submit an article-based thesis must satisfy the following requirements:

- a. Publications submitted as part of the thesis may not be submitted again as an integral part of other doctoral theses.
- b. The works must have been produced after the doctoral candidate started the doctoral degree.
- c. When the submission of an article-based thesis is applied for, the articles must have been published or definitively accepted for publication.

The doctoral candidate must also meet the following conditions:

- d. For the submission and public defence of an article-based thesis, at least three articles published or accepted for publication in ISI (JCR) journals are required. The doctoral candidate must be the first author of these articles and none of the articles must have been used as a quality indicator for assessment on a doctoral degree.

3. Application

The doctoral candidate must submit a reasoned application, the entry of which will be registered, to the academic committee of the doctoral programme, and provide the following information:

- a. A list of the articles, including the authors, title, publication details (journal, pages, year), area, quartile, impact factor and number of citations.
- b. Authorisation of the thesis supervisor for the submission of an article-based thesis, giving reasons for its suitability.

The doctoral candidate must also provide the following:

- c. A justification of the affinity of the journals and the contribution of the doctoral candidate if there are co-authors other than the candidate and the thesis supervisor(s).
- d. Written authorisation of the co-authors of the articles for their submission as part of an article-based thesis.
- e. A written waiver by co-authors who are not doctorate holders of the right to submit the published research as part of another doctoral thesis.



4. Resolution

The academic committee of the doctoral programme shall meet to assess the appropriateness of submitting an article-based thesis. A favourable resolution may apply to all of the articles submitted or only some of them, if necessary. In this case, the works that may be included in the collection will be indicated. If the ruling is unfavourable, the academic committee will issue a resolution justifying its decision.

The academic committee may, if necessary, delegate checking the facts and authorising the application to the programme coordinator and indicate which articles may be included in the collection.

The resolution shall be communicated to the doctoral candidate in writing within 10 working days from the date of submission.

5. Content of the thesis

The thesis must include the following:

- a. Cover featuring the title, author, supervisors, doctoral programme and, in a clearly visible place, the phrase "Article-based thesis".
- b. Abstract in English and Spanish or Catalan.
- c. Table of contents.
- d. An introduction discussing the state of the art and the thematic unity of the thesis.
- e. Discussion of the results and conclusions.
- f. Full text of the articles in the collection.
- g. Optionally, copies of articles that are not part of the collection may be added as an appendix if they make the thesis easier to understand.

6. Thesis submission

The thesis must be submitted in accordance with the standard procedure outlined in the Academic Regulations for Doctoral Studies. The administrative unit will add the resolution of the academic committee that is authorising the submission of the article-based thesis to the academic record and inform the Doctoral School.

7. First additional provision: interpretation and regulations

It corresponds to the academic committee of the doctoral programme to apply these regulations and to update this agreement in view of the Academic Regulations for Doctoral Studies and/or on the proposal of the Standing Committee.

8. Final provision: entry into force

These regulations shall enter into force the day after their approval by the Standing Committee of the Doctoral School.