

**Coordinating Team of the Doctoral
School of Civil Engineering Sciences**

Statutes of the
Doctoral School
Civil Engineering Sciences¹
(as at April 2013)

Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing.
Martin **Schanz**
(Chairman)

Technikerstr. 4
8010 Graz
AUSTRIA

Tel. +43(0)316 873-7600
Fax +43(0)316 873-7641

m.schanz@tugraz.at
<http://www.mech.tugraz.at>

DVR: 008 1833 UID: ATU 574 77 929

The **Curriculum for the Doctoral Programme in Engineering Sciences** at Graz University of Technology applies in its currently valid version as approved by the Senate of Graz University of Technology. The Coordinating Team of the Doctoral School is responsible for compliance with all applicable rules and regulations. In addition, the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Civil Engineering Sciences may take decisions pertaining to all study affairs; however, such decisions shall be agreed with the Coordinating Team.

For admission to the doctoral programme, §2 of the Curriculum for the Doctoral Programme Technical Sciences at Graz University of Technology shall apply.

In the following, several points from the curriculum are specified in greater detail.

1 Objectives and Subject Areas

Beyond prior university-level education and training, the objective of the Doctoral Programme in Civil Engineering Sciences at Graz University of Technology is to develop students' ability to do advanced, independent scientific research in the field of Civil Engineering Sciences. Graduates are awarded the academic degree of Doktorin/Doktor der technischen Wissenschaften (Doctor of Technical Sciences; Dr. techn.).

The Doctoral School of Civil Engineering Sciences comprises the following subject areas:

- Engineering Fundamentals (e.g. mechanics, building physics, measuring technology, construction informatics, materials science, structural analysis)
- Structural Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Infrastructure
- Hydraulic Engineering and Water Management
- Construction Management and Economics

This list is not exhaustive. It does not exclude related subject areas and is merely intended as an overview of the core areas of the Doctoral School.

¹This English translation is provided for information only. For all legal purposes, the original German version shall prevail.

2 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctoral School of Civil Engineering Sciences will be awarded the degree of "Doktorin der technischen Wissenschaften" or "Doktor der technischen Wissenschaften", (Latin: "Doctor technicae", abbreviated "Dr. techn.").

3 Members of the Doctoral School

The Doctoral School of Civil Engineering Sciences automatically comprises all institutes of the Faculty for Civil Engineering Sciences. Other professors and staff of Graz University of Technology with a *venia docendi* may also apply for membership at the Coordinating Team. The members agree to comply with all confidentiality regulations that arise from membership in the Doctoral School.

4 Publication Practices

Every doctoral candidate must present in minimum one publication on the topic of his or her dissertation in a scientific journal representative for his/her topic (e.g., listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, in justified cases without peer review). The acceptance for publication shall be deemed sufficient as proof of publication. In case of doubts regarding the quality of the journal a majority vote of the Coordinating Team together with the Dean of Studies decides on acceptance or not. Further, participation with a presentation in a subject-specific conference or workshop has to be presented. If one of both or both conditions are not fulfilled, a third external review must be obtained. In the interest of quality assurance, the Coordinating Team may, in justified cases, insist on an independent third report irrespective of the publication record presented.

5 Courses

The extent of the instructional classes is 14 semester hours, which are broken down as follows:

- *Scientific Methods and Communications*

This part accounts for 4 semester hours and the respective course is named *Civil Engineering Research Seminar*. This course comprises the following modules:

- Active participation at 20 presentations in the DissertantInnen-Seminar
- Two own presentations in the DissertantInnen-Seminar: One short presentation (15 min + 10 min discussion) at the beginning of the PhD-studies and one long presentation (30 min + 15 min discussion) in the last third of the PhD-study.
- Seminar regarding presentation techniques, i.e. participation at a preliminary discussion, presentation of the long talk under supervision, and debriefing of the presentation
- Seminar on paper writing

The course is graded *with/without successful participation*. For a successful participation all parts must be successfully passed.

- *Subject-Specific Basic Courses*

This module comprises 8 semester hours. Every doctoral candidate must present a subject plan that must be agreed upon with the supervisor and confirmed by the Dean of Studies. This plan must contain subjects relevant to the dissertation that are conducive to its progress. It is recommended to include courses at foreign universities or other (equivalent) educational institutions. Modules from

a bachelor program in Civil Engineering or a master's course that the candidate has previously completed may not be included in the subject plan. To support the concept of a broad educational foundation at a high level, candidates are strongly discouraged from choosing only lectures that are held at the supervisor's institute.

- *Privatissimum*

A Privatissimum with 2 semester hours is mandatory. As a rule, the Privatissimum of the supervisor should be selected.

6 Rigorosum

The Rigorosum is a public examination that consists of two parts. The examination shall begin with a 30-minute lecture followed by a 1-hour examination on the wider subject area of the dissertation. Questions from the audience are welcome after the board of examiners has completed its questions.

7 Final Remarks

In specific cases, the Coordinating Team may grant exceptions from these statutes together with the Dean of Studies, subject to a majority vote and in compliance with any and all legal requirements.