

Doctor of Philosophy

Rule F58

PhD

Minimum total credits: 360

A Doctoral Degree is intended for people who would like to pursue further studies after completing a relevant Master's Degree. A Doctoral degree can be granted in this faculty on the grounds of a thesis or a number of interrelated, publishable manuscripts/published articles in one of the following disciplines.

Doctor of Philosophy with specialisation in Business and Financial Analytics PhD with specialisation in Business and Financial Analytics			
Programme code	Degree code	Academic Plan code	Module code
B6900	69001	BC690024	EEBA9100

Admission

Admission to a Doctoral Degree Programme is subject to approval by the particular departmental chair and/or programme director in which the degree is envisaged, based on satisfactory academic performance and the submission of an approved research proposal in conjunction with the prescribed procedures of the particular department.

No mini-dissertations or dissertations of less than 60 credits or with a duration of less than one academic year will be sufficient to be considered for admittance to a PhD. Adherence to the stated requirements will not necessarily guarantee admission to the PhD.

All students registered should, in collaboration with the promoter(s), prepare at least one publishable manuscript in an approved research journal before the thesis is submitted for examination. Students who wish to pursue the interrelated, publishable manuscripts/published articles route should do so in compliance with the General Academic Rules.

Details Regarding the Process to Register and Complete a Doctoral Thesis

EMS16: Students wishing to complete a Doctoral Degree must comply with the following procedures:

EMS16.1: Submit their academic record as part of an application to the relevant department.

EMS16.2: Submit a copy of their Master's Degree dissertation/mini-dissertation to be used by the relevant department to assess the applicant's writing skills.

EMS16.3: The relevant department may also require the applicant to write a language proficiency test, the results of which will be used in the application assessment process.

EMS16.4: Based on the capacity to provide supervision to unregistered students, write and submit an essay (of not more than 5 000 words) under controlled supervision, in which the applicant describes the scope, focus and envisaged field of the study.

EMS16.5: The relevant department will use the documents listed in EMS16.1 to EMS16.4 to decide on the student's admission to the Doctoral Degree Programme.

EMS16.6: Once admitted, the student must complete a research proposal within 12 months. Therefore, full-time students who register in January (July) must present their research proposal to the relevant department in the following July/August (January/February). Part-time students

who register in January (July) must present their research proposal to the relevant department in the following January/February (July/August).

EMS16.7: Once the relevant department approves the research proposal, the student must present it to the faculty research committee at its September (March) meeting. If approved, the student is allowed to register for the second academic year.

EMS16.8: The faculty research committee may request the student to resubmit the research proposal at its November (May) meeting. If approved at the November (May) meeting, the student is allowed to register for the next academic year.

- a. If the changes required are small, the resubmission is done only in writing at the November (May) meeting of the faculty research committee. The changed written proposal and a cover letter from the student setting out how the student addressed the issues raised by the committee must be submitted to the committee at least two weeks before the meeting.
- b. If the changes required are more substantial, the faculty research committee may require that, along with the resubmission, the student present the proposal again to the committee. This will be done at the November (May) meeting.

EMS16.9: If the proposal is academically seriously lacking, the faculty research committee has the authority to reject the proposal outright, either at the September (March) or November (May) meeting. Outright rejection implies that the student cannot register for the next academic year of the Doctoral Degree Programme and also does not get another opportunity to present the proposal.

EMS16.10: Once the faculty's research committee approves the proposal, the title of the thesis and the supervisors will be registered. Assessors can be registered later.

EMS16.11: If no research proposal has been approved after the first year of registration, the student cannot continue with the Doctoral Degree Programme. (The Dean, with the recommendation of Heads of Department or the faculty research committee, can use his discretion to allow continuation if sufficient grounds exist for doing so.)

EMS16.12: If the student makes any changes to the title of the thesis after the faculty research committee accepts the proposal, the relevant departmental Doctoral committee and the Faculty's Research Committee must approve these changes. The student need not submit a new research proposal. Such changes should be minor and not substantially change the topic. Should substantial changes be made to the title and content of the thesis (i.e. a change of topic), the student may be required to submit a new proposal and undergo the complete approval process anew.

EMS16.13: In addition to approval of the research proposal at the faculty research committee, the student may, following approval at the faculty research committee, also be required to obtain ethical clearance at the UFS ethical committee.

EMS16.14: A Doctoral Degree can be completed either as a Doctoral thesis or interrelated, publishable manuscripts/published articles written under the guidance of a promoter or a promoter and a co-promoter(s). The requirement with respect to a Doctoral Degree in the form of publishable, interrelated articles is that at least three interrelated, publishable manuscripts/published articles are submitted.

EMS16.15: Students must re-register annually until the completion of the Doctoral Degree.

EMS16.16: The degree must be completed within the period prescribed by the University and the faculty regulations.