



Regulations for the Doctoral Program Chemical and Molecular Sciences (CMSZH)

Version June 1, 2023

I. General Information

The doctoral studies are regulated according to the Ordinance for the Conferral of a PhD (PVO) and the MNF Doctoral Program Regulations. Additional information can be found on the program's website (www.cmszh.uzh.ch).

II. Admission

1. Admission Criteria

Candidates must hold a university Master's degree (MSc or MEng) or an equivalent university education with a broad scientific focus and a specialization in theory and practice in a scientific subject.

The admissions criteria for a doctorate are described in the PVO §§7, the following, as well as in the general section of the Doctoral Program Regulations. There are no additional requirements for this doctoral program.

2. Application and Evaluation

Applications are submitted directly to one of the research group leaders of the program. After having agreed on a potential thesis project with the research group leader, the candidate applies to the doctoral program.

The selection process involves the presentation of a research project (ideally the Master thesis) by the candidate and will determine whether the candidate's scientific knowledge, motivation and English skills are sufficient for admission. The final evaluation of the required English skills according to PVO §9 is in the responsibility of the head of the doctoral committee.

3. Admission

After having advanced through the selection process and having found a faculty member or a research group leader with the right to confer PhDs at MNF and a willingness to take on the responsibilities of a PhD advisor, the candidate is admitted to the program.

III. Structure of the Doctoral Program

1. Supervision of the doctoral students: Annual committee meeting

At the annual meetings of the doctoral committee, minutes must be kept, which contain the feedback from the committee on the status of the project and the decisions regarding the further course of the project and must be signed by the supervisor of the dissertation and the doctoral student. The minutes must be submitted to the doctoral program by the "Student Admin" tool.

2. Curricular Portion

- Students must complete at least 12 ECTS Credits by the time of their PhD defense, not counting any coursework completed because of additional requirements.
- Each doctoral agreement can individually determine a candidate's compulsory modules or how they will fulfill the required ECTS Credits. Compulsory modules and the curricular program are individually regulated in the candidate's doctoral agreement.
- The course offerings and the number of ECTS Credits per module are listed in the course catalogue. One ECTS Credit corresponds to 30 hours of work. In case of doubt, the doctoral committee decides on the awarding of credit points for modules.
- At least 3 ECTS Credits must be earned in each of the three listed categories (A, B, C).

Module/Course	ECTS Credits
<i>A) Education and Training*</i>	
Institute seminar with guest lecturers	1 per year of study
Courses in transferable skills offered by the Graduate School (CMSZH)	according to VVZ
Additional lectures and courses offered by UZH (for instance in areas of transferable skills)	according to VVZ
Specialized lectures offered in Chemistry/Biochemistry at UZH and ETHZ	according to VVZ
<i>B) Seminars and Exams</i>	
Talk at an internal seminar of the Institute	1 per talk
Cumulative exams – written exercises on scientific and practical topics in Chemistry/Biochemistry (out of N exercises, M points must be obtained).	1 per set of exams
Formulation of an idea for a research project outside of the research area of one's own dissertation (written by the PhD student in a professional format)	2 per project
Oral exams on general knowledge in Chemistry	1 per exam
<i>C) Research and Dissimination</i>	
Presentation at the Graduate School retreat or the «Doktorandentag»	1 per presentation
Participation in a scientific convention with a personal contribution (lecture or poster)	1 per contribution
Application for a research project	1
Application and successful defense of a research project (for instance research credit, Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds, etc.)	2 per project

Scientific publication (with first authorship)	1 per publication
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* In category A at least 1 ECTS must come from lectures and/or courses.

3. Teaching Assistance

The institute is responsible for assigning students to teaching positions according to PVO §10. PhD students are assigned to supervise courses depending on need at the beginning of the semester.

Within the framework of the Doctoral Program "Chemical and Molecular Sciences" at least 300 hours of teaching from the supervision of lectures of the Institute of Chemistry are required. This also applies to external doctoral students who are not employed at the institute, but who are doing their doctorate as part of the doctoral program. In justified cases, exemptions may be granted for external doctoral students by the program director and the required hours of teaching can then be completed at another institution. If the need arises, internal students can be required to teach more than 300 hours.

IV. Doctoral Degree

1. Cumulative Dissertations

Special requirements for cumulative dissertations (such as requirements regarding number and breadth of publications, publication status and primary authorship) are determined by the doctoral committee.

2. Circulation Round

The circulation round for a dissertation is determined by the head of the doctoral committee in consultation with the other members. Specifications in Part A of these regulations must be observed.