

COMMITMENT AGREEMENT

Approved by the Executive Council of the University
of Vic on 5 June 2012

Reviewed and updated by the Management Committee
of the Doctoral College on 19 January 2021



UNIVERSITAT DE VIC
UNIVERSITAT CENTRAL
DE CATALUNYA

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Doctoral studies are a stage of research training designed for students to gain general and specific competences that are primarily related to the values of the scientific method, critical thought and communication. Doctoral studies involve the development of an original, innovative research project, which is complemented by a personal training plan drawn up to support the execution of the project and to define the student's professional career.

This commitment agreement sets out the obligations and commitment of the signatories, the procedure for resolving any disputes that may arise, aspects related to industrial and intellectual property, and, in general, the tasks of supervising the doctoral student's research activity during the preparation of the doctoral thesis.

1. Objective

The doctoral student, the thesis supervisor(s), the thesis tutor, when applicable, and the coordinator of the doctoral programme are committed to working together to train the doctoral student correctly and to develop research that leads to the preparation and then the defence of the doctoral thesis. In this process, they must take into account the procedures and deadlines established in the *Doctoral Studies Regulations*, the *Code of Good Practices*, and the *Regulations on Intellectual and Industrial Property* of the University of Vic (UVic), as well as any other applicable regulations.

2. Obligations and time commitment of the thesis supervisor(s) and the tutor

The thesis supervisor agrees to hold regular work meetings with the doctoral student to supervise and monitor his/her research activity and provide guidance on the progress of the thesis project. In addition, the supervisor must ensure that the doctoral student takes greater initiative and gains autonomy as the project progresses.

The supervisor agrees to follow administrative procedures to incorporate the doctoral student into his/her research group at the UVic in no more than 6 months after the doctoral student is admitted to the doctoral programme.

When applicable, the tutor agrees to advise, guide and monitor the training activities of the doctoral student. This responsibility may be taken on by the thesis supervisor, if so determined by the Academic Committee for the Doctoral Programme.

To ensure the quality of doctoral theses, the supervisor and, when applicable, the tutor must submit an annual report on the assessment and monitoring of the doctoral student to the Academic Committee for the Doctoral Programme in question.

3. Obligations and time commitment of the doctoral student

The doctoral student agrees to complete the doctoral studies in accordance with the *Doctoral Studies Regulations*, the *Code of Good Practices*, the *Regulations on Intellectual and Industrial Property* of the University of Vic, and any other applicable regulations. Specifically, he/she agrees to the following:

- Complete enrolment for the doctoral thesis every year.

- Pay attention to, observe and follow the thesis supervisor's and, when applicable, the tutor's indications and recommendations on training activities associated with the training plan and on research.
- Regularly inform the thesis supervisor and, when applicable, the tutor about progress with the aforementioned activities, the development of the research project, the results obtained, and any problems that may arise during the preparation of the doctoral thesis.
- Before the deadlines established by the Academic Committee for the Doctoral Programme, submit the Thesis Research Plan and the Doctoral Student Activities Record for an annual evaluation of the work completed in the academic year, and for an assessment of the research project at the end of the doctoral studies.

The doctoral student agrees to the following conditions regarding the confidentiality of results, in accordance with the *Code of Good Practices*:

To keep secret any confidential data or information that may be provided or disclosed to him/her orally, in writing, in graphic form, or by any other means by the thesis supervisor(s) or any other member of the research team to which he/she belongs; not to disclose, communicate, transfer or divulge such data or information to any third party; and to use any information obtained solely for the purpose of completing his/her doctoral thesis.

The doctoral student undertakes not to disclose any information concerning the research project in which he/she is participating that is identified as confidential without first obtaining the express written authorization of the thesis supervisor(s). Notwithstanding, where necessary, the doctoral student may follow the special procedure for the authorization and defence of doctoral theses subject to knowledge and technology transfer agreements, as established in the University of Vic's *Doctoral Studies Regulations*.

Doctoral students are obliged to sign any confidentiality agreements that are deemed necessary by the research project supervisor(s).

Obligations regarding confidentiality and secrecy shall continue in force and remain binding even after the termination of the relationship between the doctoral student and the University of Vic for preparation of the doctoral thesis.

4. Code of Good Practices

With the aim of attaining quality research and ensuring that the attitudes and procedures of researchers at the University of Vic are in line with the principles of integrity and social commitment, the doctoral student, thesis supervisor and, when applicable, the tutor undertake to know and comply with the University of Vic's *Code of Good Practices*, which is governed by current legislation, and the *Regulations* of the University of Vic.

5. Intellectual and industrial property

Doctoral students have the right to be recognized as the owner of a doctoral thesis and of publications that are extracts or parts of the thesis that correspond to them in accordance

with articles 18 to 21 of the Revised Text of the Intellectual Property Law.

Likewise, doctoral students have the right to appear as co-authors, together with the research staff of the University of Vic and / or entities of all papers, articles or communications that describe research work in which the doctoral student has been significantly involved in, or derived from their doctoral thesis.

In the case of any industrial property rights' eventualities, doctoral students have the right to exercise their industrial property rights in proportion to their contribution in accordance with the current legislation of the university.

6. Settlement of disputes

If any of the obligations set out in this document are breached or any other dispute arises among the signatories that cannot be settled by mutual agreement, the parties shall inform the coordinator of the corresponding doctoral programme, who shall act as a mediator.

If the mediation of the coordinator does not settle the dispute, it shall be referred to the Academic Committee for the Doctoral Programme. If this Committee cannot reach a settlement, the dispute shall be referred to the University of Vic's Exec-

utive Committee of the Doctoral School, which shall issue a decision.

If the doctoral programme is carried out in collaboration with another institution, the parties shall abide by the specific provisions on settlement of disputes contained in the collaboration agreement between the two institutions, which the signatories to this document must be familiar with.

7. Term of the agreement

This agreement is in effect from the date of its signature to the date of the doctoral thesis defence, with the exception of provisions concerning obligations that continue indefinitely. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all provisions that violate current *Doctoral Studies Regulations*, the *Code of Good Practices* and the University of Vic's *Regulations on Intellectual and Industrial Property* shall be repealed.

To this effect, the parties hereby sign this document in quadruplicate or, when applicable, in quintuplicate^[1] in the place and on the date indicated below, with the approval of the director of the Doctoral School.

When there are two thesis supervisors or a supervisor and a tutor.

[1] When there are two thesis supervisors or a supervisor and a tutor.

Commitment agreement

The time commitment of the doctoral student is in accordance with Doctoral Studies Regulations. *(part-time / full-time)*

Mr./Mrs./Ms.
(Name and surname[s] of the doctoral student)

[signature]

Dr.
(Name and surname[s] of the thesis supervisor)

Dr.
(Name and surname[s] of the thesis supervisor)

[Signature] (If the thesis is co-supervised, all of the assigned supervisors must sign.)

Dr.
(Name and surname[s] of the tutor)

[signature] (If the thesis supervisor is also the tutor, he/she will only sign in the supervisor section.)

Dr.
(Name and surname[s] of the coordinator of the doctoral programme)

[signature]

Dr.
(Name and surname[s] of the director of the Doctoral School)

Approved by
[signature]

Vic, on 20.....