

**Execution Regulations of Faculty V regarding the cumulative dissertation (acc. to Doctoral Regulations of the TU Berlin [as of 05.04.2014], § 2, sub-paragraph 3)**

These execution regulations will come into effect on 17 April 2019 according to the resolution of the faculty council of 17 April 2019. Simultaneously, the execution regulations of 18 June 2014 will step out of force. The transitional arrangements need to be observed.

**General Guidelines:**

The cumulative respectively publication-based dissertation consists of an introduction, subsequently following publications, a final discussion, and a register of the literature cited in the introduction and the discussion. This dissertation format can only be submitted in agreement with the doctorate supervisor (usually the first evaluator of the dissertation). The supervisor shall advise the doctoral candidate concerning the choice of the format and in regard to the subject relevant journals and organs of publication, in which the publications served as the basis for the dissertation have been or will be published.

**Specific Guidelines:**

The introduction relates to the entirety of all publications. It shall summarily describe the state-of-the-art and the current theory formation in the area one's own research work is related to, and thus demonstrate the thematic integration of one's own work within the particular research area. In particular the introduction must outline, which superordinated research question connects the individual publications and which segments are respectively covered by the specific publications. The introduction should run to 4500–6000 words (excluding images/figures, tables and bibliography).

The basis of a cumulative dissertation contains at least three publications, which have been or will be published under a scientific evaluation process in relevant journals related to the particular research area. Two of these publications must already have been accepted by the respective publication organ (status: "accepted"), another publication must at least have been submitted (status "submitted"). Only original papers or meta-analyses are taken into consideration. Mere reviews are not possible. They can at the utmost be submitted as additional publications. Publications are solely admissible in German or English publication organs.

The evaluators shall give feedback in their expert reports to what extent the respective publication organs fulfil the criteria of "relevance" concerning the particular research field of the dissertation. The publications may result from co-authorship. According to Doctoral Regulations, § 2, sub-paragraph 4, in this case the doctoral candidate has to submit a

declaration regarding his/hers substantial contribution to concept, content, and methodology of the piece. This declaration has to be signed by each co-author of the respective publication.

The discussion must pool and comprehensively discuss the individual results of the respective publications regarding the previous state-of-the-art. Herewith, it must be conclusively demonstrated, which contribution the respective publications make concerning the solution of the issues described in the introduction and in respect to the general research question of the dissertation, and which new scientific knowledge is available through one's own part of the work. Besides, the applied methodology needs to be discussed in general. The discussion should run to 4500–6000 words (excluding images/figures, tables and bibliography).

Basically the same guidelines apply to submitting a cumulative dissertation as to monographs (Doctoral Regulations, § 5, sub-paragraph 1). The cumulative dissertation must be submitted in both a bound copy and an electronic format (DIN-A4 page format, irrespectively of the printing format of the original publications). The pages must have a consecutive numbering. The numbering of published manuscripts must also be printed. Also the current processing stage must be stated for all manuscripts. For the subsequent release by the University Library, the guidelines of § 9 of the Doctoral Regulations as well as possible supplementary guidelines for cumulative dissertations of the University Library are decisive. The right of secondary publishing of the manuscripts within a cumulative dissertation has to be arranged between the doctoral candidate and the publisher.

### **Transitional Arrangements**

Doctoral procedures that have been commenced prior to the enactment of these regulations will be concluded in accordance with the execution regulations that have been in effect so far. Within a period of two years after the enactment, all other applicants may conclude their doctorate in accordance with the execution regulations that were valid so far. The choice should be made irrevocably with the application when commencing the doctoral procedure.