

PROGRESS REVIEW CRITERIA FOR NATURAL SCIENCES (CURRICULA STARTING FROM 2024/2025)

Research, Development, and Creative Work (RDC), including the component of the doctoral thesis		Total module volume: 210 ECTS				
		Monograph	Article-based Dissertation			
	TOTAL PER COMPONENT:	210	210	Submission requirements	Assessment Guidelines	Notes
1	Doctoral thesis research plan covering the entire doctoral study period, including the methodological plan for the thesis	10	10	The plan is submitted in writing with the supervisor's approval.	The research plan is evaluated at the end of the first year during the attestation. By the second or third year, the plan is revised and refined based on the results achieved. It is more detailed than the plan submitted during admission.	The research plan for the doctoral thesis is more detailed and thoroughly developed than the proposal (research plan draft) submitted during admission – it is presented at the progress review at the end of the first and/or second academic year
2	Articles required under the PhD regulations (three articles for an article-based dissertation, each worth 30 ECTS / one article for a monograph)	30	90	Submit a copy of the article or its manuscript, along with an email confirmation of its acceptance or a certificate of acceptance if it has not yet been published.	The manuscript, once reviewed by the supervisor, is credited as 20 ECTS; an article submitted to the journal for publication is credited as 25 ECTS. In total, the workload associated with publishing one article amounts to 30 ECTS.	The points awarded for a specific publication are assessed based on the specifics of the field and the supervisor's evaluation of the contribution. If the doctoral candidate has multiple supervisors and feedback from all of them has not yet been received, the candidate may exceptionally submit the article with feedback from only one supervisor. See the requirements for articles in the PhD study and thesis defense regulations of Tallinn University.
3	Chapter/division of a PhD thesis in the monograph format / Artikliväitekirja analüütläine ülevaade	90	30	Submit a self-assessment based on the individual plan regarding the completion of monograph chapters (preferably with a draft of the text); for completed chapters, also submit the chapter text. In the case of an analytical overview for an article-based dissertation, submit it in writing, along with the supervisor's approval and an estimate of the ECTS workload	For a monograph, submit a chapter or content section of the doctoral thesis, at least 20 pages in length, with feedback from the supervisor: this corresponds to up to 20 ECTS. A chapter or content section that has been presented at a public scientific event corresponds to up to 10 ECTS. In the case of an article-based dissertation's analytical overview, the workload can be granted in parts, considering the completion of different sections of the overview.	An unreviewed chapter of a monograph is comparable to an article in the 'submitted' status for an article-based dissertation.
4	Other activities supporting the completion of the doctoral thesis, according to the individual study and research plan, including:	70	70	It is submitted according to the instructions below, with the supervisor adding a reasoned assessment of the total calculated volume of other supporting activities.		The basis for the calculation is the standard EAP and workload ratio, meaning that 26 working hours correspond to 1 EAP of calculated volume.
	Participation in research seminars and making presentations (mandatory throughout the whole study period)			Submits an overview in the self-analysis.		Seminars that have already been credited in any course modules are not considered here; participation in seminars organized by the institute to support the completion of the doctoral thesis is mandatory as part of the RDC module. The number of presentations per year depends on the specific field and the length of the presentation (30–90 minutes)
	Elaboration and systematization of the literature concerning the theoretical basis of the doctoral thesis (mandatory, may take place over several accounting periods (1 year))			Submit a list of the books reviewed and the main journals followed in the progress review report, along with a literature review on the theoretical basis of the doctoral thesis, with the supervisor's approval and an estimate of the ECTS workload. The literature review must be presented and defended either in a seminar or during attestation.	The progress review committee evaluates and assigns points based on the supervisor's assessment.	The workload credited for articles or monograph chapters is not duplicated here. When creating the individual plan, the estimated workload for this activity is a maximum of 10 ECTS.
	Research instruments/methods and/or development of their implementation principles, software development, in foreign laboratories practicing (not mandatory, can take place over several accounting periods)			Submit in the progress review report, along with the supervisor's approval and an estimate of the workload.	The progress review committee evaluates and assigns points based on the supervisor's assessment.	This includes other research activities necessary for the doctoral thesis (e.g., developing software required for conducting research, practicing in external laboratories, acquiring novel experimental or theoretical methods). The maximum workload that can be planned for this is up to 25 ECTS.
	Additional articles (in the case of an article thesis can be part of a doctoral thesis)			Submit a copy of the article or a web address where the article is accessible.	For lower-category articles, one published scientific publication corresponds to a workload of up to 5 ECTS, depending on the level of the publication.	The maximum accountable workload corresponds to 20 ECTS.
	Conference presentations (mandatory participation with a presentation at least at one international and one domestic conference, which may take place over several assessment periods).			Submit a copy of the conference program and presentation abstracts, or a copy of the poster presentation.	Oral presentation at an international conference: depending on the level of the conference and presentation, the workload corresponds to 3-5 ECTS. Poster presentation at an international conference: 2-3 ECTS. Presentation or poster presentation at an Estonian conference: corresponds to 2 ECTS.	A conference presentation includes the publication of abstracts (submission of abstracts is generally a prerequisite for the acceptance of the presentation). The publication of the full text of the presentation as an article is counted separately under the category of scientific publications. Experience in delivering an oral presentation at a conference is mandatory within the TAL module. A maximum of 20 ECTS can be earned.
	Activities related to science communication (recommended, may take place over several years)			Submits an overview in the self-analysis.		
	Involvement of students in research (recommended, can take place over several years)			Submits an overview in the self-analysis.		For junior researcher fellows, supervision of student work is also taken into account, provided it is conducted in addition to the workload designated for teaching.
	Transferable skills supporting research design, etc. (obligatory to participate at least at an event of a doctoral school within Estonia, maybe take place over several accounting periods)			Submit an overview of attended courses, writing retreats, doctoral school events, etc.		Courses, trainings, and workshops that have already been counted in any of the study modules are not included here.
5	Preliminary defence	5	5	In accordance with the TLU regulations for doctoral studies and the defense of the doctoral thesis.		
6	Defence	5	5	In accordance with the TLU regulations for doctoral studies and the defense of the doctoral thesis.		