

Graduate School of
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University of Mannheim

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CDSS rules concerning Dissertation Proposal and (Co-)Supervisors

First year PhD students must write a dissertation proposal (of 8.000 words or about 20-25 pages) that delineates their thesis project, including the research questions, the survey of relevant theoretical and empirical contributions, the development of the theoretical framework, the specification of the methodology and planned empirical analysis (the paper can also be an application to a research grant).

The dissertation proposal is due by June 1. Send a PDF file of the dissertation proposal to:

- Your mentor / potential supervisor.
- CDSS (cdss@uni-mannheim.de).
- Christel Selzer, Thomas Gschwend's secretary (methods@uni-mannheim.de)

Your mentor will read, evaluate and grade your dissertation proposal in a written report to the CDSS admission & examination committee (APK). The admission and examination committee consents to the continuation of the doctoral program by accepting the dissertation proposal and recognizing the coursework of the first year of study.

Doctoral candidates will be informed accordingly and can then proceed to the following step.

Dissertation committee (second year onwards)

Once your dissertation proposal has been formally accepted by the APK you must complete [form 1.1 \(Agreement on the supervision of a doctoral dissertation\)](#) and hand it to the Center Manager.

Please refer to sections 8 (Supervision of the Dissertation Project), 11 (Appointment of Evaluators) and 12 (Examination Committee) of the [Dr. rer. soc. degree regulations](#) for details.