

Subject-specific regulations for cumulative doctoral examinations – Department of Chemistry

The decision to submit a cumulative doctoral thesis should be an exception and ideally must be coordinated with the academic supervisor. A cumulative doctoral thesis may consist of published individual works in peer-review journals. Review articles are excluded from this. The doctoral thesis must include a complete account of research works and their results.

The cumulative doctoral thesis may not be purely additive. It must, in addition to the information specified in § 7, include a list with the titles of individual works, an introduction, and a text which establishes a connection between separate parts and which comprehensively interprets, evaluates, and discusses the individual works. The work must have a collective title.

In the case of individual works which were developed in collaboration with other academics, the share of the work completed by the doctoral candidate for each individual work must be clearly definable and appraisable. The contributions which refer to the processes of conception, implementation, and writing must be clearly set out.

The assessment of the quality of a cumulative doctoral thesis must not be dependent on the impact factors of individual journals or other bibliometric parameters. No qualitative characteristics may be inferred from the cumulative character of a doctoral thesis alone. The expert opinions regarding a cumulative doctoral thesis must contain a statement regarding the individual publications and their integration into the work.