

General syllabus for third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish

Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish

1. Decision

This general syllabus for third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish was established by the Faculty Board of Humanities at Stockholm University on 13 June 2018, last revised on 29 January 2025.

The general syllabus applies as of 29 January 2025.

2. Subject description

Third-cycle studies in Romance Languages are offered in five specialisations: General, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. The studies primarily comprise literary studies or linguistics within the respective specialisation.

3. Learning outcomes of courses and study programmes

Third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish can lead to a licentiate or doctoral degree. A doctoral student in Romance Languages with the above-mentioned specialisations can take a licentiate degree as a stage in their third-cycle studies. The licentiate stage is not mandatory for a degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

3.1 Doctoral degree

A doctoral degree is awarded after a doctoral student has completed a programme of 240 higher education credits in a third-cycle subject.

Knowledge and understanding

For a doctoral degree, the doctoral student must:

demonstrate wide expertise in, and systematic understanding of, the research field as well as deep and specialist knowledge in a delimited part of said field; and



demonstrate familiarity with scholarly methodology in general and with the specific research field's methods in particular.

Competence and skills

For a doctoral degree, the doctoral student must:

demonstrate an aptitude for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as for independent, critical examination and assessment of new and complex phenomena, issues and situations;

demonstrate an ability to critically, independently, creatively and with scholarly precision identify and formulate issues as well as plan and use appropriate methods to conduct research and other advanced assignments within given time frames and examine and evaluate such work;

via a thesis, demonstrate an ability to significantly contribute, through own research, to knowledge development;

demonstrate an ability, in both national and international contexts, to authoritatively present and discuss, orally and in writing, research and research results in dialogues with the academic community and society in general;

demonstrate an ability to identify needs for further knowledge; and,

demonstrate the potential (within research, education and other, advanced, professional contexts) to contribute to societal development and others' learning.

Evaluation skills and approach For a doctoral degree, the doctoral student must

demonstrate intellectual independence and scholarly probity as well as an ability to assess research ethical issues; and,

demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of the discipline, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used.

Academic thesis (doctoral thesis)

For a doctoral degree, the doctoral student must have received a pass grade in an academic thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 higher education credits.

Other information



In the subject of Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, a 180-credit doctoral thesis is required.

3.2 Licentiate degree

A licentiate degree is awarded either: after a doctoral student has completed a programme of at least 120 higher education credits in a third-cycle subject; or, after a doctoral student has amassed at least 120 credits on a study programme intended to conclude with the award of a doctoral degree (provided the university decides that this kind of licentiate degree may be awarded at the university).

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Licentiate, the doctoral student must:

demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the research field, this including current specialist knowledge in a delimited part of said field as well as specialised knowledge of scholarly methodology in general and the methods of the specific research field in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Licentiate, the doctoral student must:

demonstrate an ability to critically, independently, creatively and with scholarly precision identify and formulate issues as well as plan and use appropriate methods to conduct a limited research project and other advanced assignments within given time frames and, thereby, contribute to knowledge development and the evaluation of said project;

demonstrate an ability, in both national and international contexts, to clearly present and discuss, orally and in writing, research and research findings in dialogues with the academic community and society in general; and,

demonstrate the skills necessary to independently participate in research and development projects and to work independently in other advanced operations.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Licentiate, the doctoral student must:

demonstrate an ability to assess research ethical issues in their own research;

demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of the discipline, its role in society and people's responsibility for how it is used; and,



demonstrate an ability to identify their need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her own knowledge development.

Academic dissertation (thesis)

For a Degree of Licentiate, the doctoral student must have received a passing grade for an academic dissertation of at least 60 higher education credits.

Other information

In the subject of Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, a 90-credit licentiate thesis is required.

4. Entry and admission requirements

4.1 General entry requirements

General entry requirements for third-cycle courses and study programmes are

satisfied by any person who has earned a second-cycle qualification;

completed course obligations amassing at least 240 higher education credits, at least 60 of these being second-cycle; or

otherwise acquired essentially equivalent knowledge, inside or outside Sweden.

If there are special reasons, the university may grant individual applicants exemption from the general entry requirements. Decisions on exemption are to be taken by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities following a request by the Department Board.

4.2 Specific entry requirements

For admission to third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish these specific entry requirements apply:

- the applicant has successfully completed second-cycle level courses of at least 30 credits in French, Italian, Spanish or Portuguese, including a degree project of at least 15 credits.
- the applicant has received a passing grade in English 6 or an equivalent course.

Entry requirements can also be satisfied by any person who has acquired equivalent competence, inside or outside Sweden.



Any equivalent assessment of the qualification is to be prepared by the Director of Doctoral Studies and decided on by the Department Board.

5. Call for proposals and admission procedure

Decisions on the admission of applicants to third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish are made by the Department Board at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics. The Department Board cannot delegate admission decisions. The Department Board may only admit applicants for third-cycle courses and study programmes if they are appointed as doctoral students.

Decisions on admission to third-cycle studies with financed by means other than doctoral student employment or admission to third-cycle studies resulting in a licentiate degree are made by the Faculty Board of Humanities.

A doctoral student previously admitted to third-cycle courses and study programmes that had a licentiate degree as the final goal and who, after being awarded said degree, wish to continue their studies and qualify for a doctoral degree in the same subject must apply for a place in an ordinary call for proposals.

Where relevant, admission in such cases is for studies in the time remaining for a doctoral degree.

Vacancies on third-cycle courses and study programmes in Romance Languages: General Specification, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish may be announced twice yearly on Stockholm University's website, the final application dates being 15 April and 15 October.

5.1 Bases of assessment and selection criteria

The basis for selection among applicants who meet the entry requirements for third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish is the applicant's degree of ability to assimilate such education. The Department Board makes selections. Selection is based on the following criteria:

1. Previous education in general. Assessment is based on both depth and width of previous education.
2. Previous scholarly production. Each applicant's ability to take advantage of the programme is assessed on the basis of previous first- and second-cycle degree projects and, where relevant, other scholarly production. This is done using the following assessment criteria: critical thinking, analytical skills, creativity, independence and scholarly rigour. The time aspect must also be taken into account in the assessment (i.e. the extent to which the applicant has shown ability to carry out previous scholarly tasks within set time frames). In addition, based on a comparison of the applicant's scholarly works,

an assessment is made of the applicant's scholarly development. Said production is assessed with regard to independence, creativity and the abilities to criticise and analyse.

3. Research plan. When applying, each applicant must provide details of their intended research area. The details must include problematisation(s) and an overview of how the research project is to be carried out. The plan is to be assessed with regard to relevance, originality and feasibility within the set time frame (i.e. a period equivalent to four years' full-time study for a doctoral degree or two years' full-time study for a licentiate degree).
4. Available supervisor competence.
5. Ability to work with others. Each applicant's ability to work with others is assessed on the basis of, for example, references, certificates or interviews.
6. High demands are imposed on the applicant's ability to express themselves adequately in scholarly French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish. An assessment of this ability is made on the basis of their previous scholarly production.

When admitting and selecting applicants for third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, the Department Board must take into account what is prescribed in the rules of the Faculty of Humanities and in the document *Admission Regulations for Third-Cycle Studies at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics*.

6. Programme content and structure

For doctoral students who devote themselves full-time to their third-cycle studies, the programme is planned to require doctoral students to undertake four academic years for a doctoral degree and two academic years for a licentiate degree. Additionally, besides total devotion to their studies, doctoral students have to make efficient use of teaching and supervision. If a doctoral student so requests, their appointment may be part-time, but no less than 50 per cent of full time (i.e. eight years for a doctoral degree or four years for a licentiate degree). For part-time doctoral students, the period of study is thus extended in proportion to the reduced study activity.

Third-cycle studies in Romance Languages are offered with the following specialisations:

1. General Specialisation
2. French
3. Italian
4. Portuguese
5. Spanish

Third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish consist of a course component of 60 credits and a dissertation component of 180 credits, corresponding to two and six semesters of full-time study, respectively. For a licentiate degree, the programme consists of a course component of 30 credits and a thesis component of 90 credits, corresponding to one and three semesters of full-time studies, respectively.

All doctoral students admitted to third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish must follow this general syllabus. Any collaborations in the form of *cotutelle*, individual doctoral student's activities at graduate schools or externally funded research project may only affect individual variations in the programme structure documented in the individual study plan.

Details of the structure of studies are to be determined under point 6.3 and in the individual study plan.

6.1 Individual study plan (ISP)

Individual syllabi must be drawn up for all active doctoral students in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. The individual study plan contains the undertakings of the university and the doctoral student, a finance plan, and a schedule for the doctoral student's programme. For new admissions, the plan is ratified by the Board of the Department of Romance Languages and Classics, in consultation with the doctoral student and their supervisor.

The individual study plan is reviewed at least once a year after consultation with the doctoral student and their supervisor and amended as necessary by the higher education institution. The plan is to be adopted by the Department board after preparation by the Director of Doctoral Studies.

For details regarding the drafting, management and monitoring of individual study plans, refer to Chapter 6, Sections 29 and 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance and Stockholm University's Regulations for Third-Cycle Education and Summative Assessment.

6.2 Supervision and other resources

At the start of the programme, at least two supervisors must be appointed for each doctoral student. One of said supervisors must be appointed principal supervisor. At least one of the supervisors must be employed at Stockholm University. Both supervisors must hold a doctoral degree and at least one of them must be at least an associate professor. At least one of the doctoral student supervisors must have received such supervisory training or must have been assessed by the Board of Human Science) as having equivalent competence.



Supervisors are to be appointed by the Board of the Department of Romance Languages and Classics or, if the Board so decides, by the Head of Department or by a committee especially established for this purpose. If the Head of Department is given this task, then before taking a decision, they must have consulted the teachers who serve as supervisors for third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

The supervisor and doctoral student must annually review what has been achieved in relation to the individual study plan and draw up a detailed plan for the coming year's studies.

The principal supervisor must ensure that the thesis subject is delimited in such a way that the studies can be completed within the set, standard, study period.

The scope of supervision can vary depending on the doctoral student's stage in the programme. The Board of the Faculty of Humanities has determined that at least 80 working hours per year and doctoral student must be set aside for supervision. Of these, 30–40 hours should be contact time. For part-time doctoral students, supervision time must be adapted to the study activity. The division of both time and content between the supervisors must be stated in the individual study plan. This must also state the number of supervision meetings per semester.

The doctoral student must carry out their studies with the degree of activity set in the individual study plan and, in the event of any problems, contact their supervisors or director of third-cycle studies. Each doctoral student has access to their own workplace and computer and has individual funding for research expenses. Further details regarding supervision and other resources are to be determined in the individual study plan.

A doctoral student who so requests may change supervisors. The application for change of supervisor must be addressed to the Board of the Department of Romance Languages and Classics.

Unless the university president, supported by Chapter 6, Section 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance, decides otherwise, doctoral students are entitled to supervision throughout their programmes.

If a doctoral student materially neglects their undertakings as set out in the individual study plan, the president must decide that said student is no longer entitled to supervision and other resources for the programme. Before such a decision is taken, the doctoral student and their supervisor must be given opportunity to submit a statement. Review must then be on the basis of their statements and other available investigative findings. In the assessment, it must be considered whether the university has fulfilled its own undertakings as set out in the individual study plan. The decision must be in writing and reasoned.

If resources for the programme have been withdrawn in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance, then



following application to the President, the doctoral student may have their entitlement to supervision and other resources restored. The doctoral student must then: present an appropriate result of study that is of notable quality and scope; or, in some other way, show the likelihood that they can complete their remaining undertakings as set out in the individual study plan.

Decisions to withdraw resources, as well as decisions to reject requests to recover resources in accordance with Chapter 6, Sections 30 and 31, may be appealed to the Higher Education Appeals Board.

For further information, refer to the *Regulations for Third-Cycle Education and Summative Assessment*, the *Instructions and Comments regarding Individual Study Plans within the Humanities and Social Sciences Academic Area*, and the *Procedure for the Withdrawal of a Doctoral Student's Right to Supervision and Other Resources*.

6.3 Courses and examination

The course element for the doctoral degree comprises two semesters of full-time studies (i.e. 60 higher education credits) and must be structured to fulfil parts of the programme's learning outcomes in point 3.1 above. The course element for the licentiate degree comprises one semester of full-time studies (i.e. 30 higher education credits) and must be structured to fulfil parts of the programme's learning outcomes in point 3.2 above.

The supervisor must not serve as the examiner for the doctoral student's examination during the programme. The examiner for proficiency tests in third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish must be a teacher (who is not the student's supervisor) specially appointed by the Department Board. Educational tests are assessed with a grade of either pass or fail.

The courses and the forms of examination must be stated in the individual study plan.

Course evaluations are made, compiled, fed back and made available in accordance with SU's rules.

Compulsory courses for the doctoral degree, 30 credits;

1. Philosophy of the Cultural Sciences, 7.5 credits, or equivalent

or

Scientific Methods and Research Ethics, 7.5 credits, or equivalent

The Philosophy of the Cultural Sciences or an equivalent course in philosophy of science, is compulsory for doctoral students who have not passed the course in Scientific Methods and Research Ethics (7.5 credits) or an equivalent second-cycle course.



2. History of Romance Languages with Text Studies, 7.5 credits
3. Research Methodology and Academic Writing, 7.5 credits

The course Research Methodology and Academic Writing can be taken at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics or at a partner or equivalent institution. There may therefore be a certain degree of variation in the title and structure of the course. Research Methodology and Academic Writing should be taken as a teacher-led course, if possible. The course must be approved by the doctoral student's primary supervisor before they start to read it.

4. Theory Course, 7.5 credits

The course can be taken at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics or at a partner or equivalent institution. There may therefore be a certain degree of variation in the title and structure of the course. Unless there are special circumstances, the Theory Course must be taken as a teacher-led course. The course must be approved by the doctoral student's primary supervisor before they start to read it.

Compulsory courses for the licentiate degree, 22.5 credits:

1. History of Romance Languages with Text Studies, 7.5 credits
2. Research Methodology and Academic Writing, 7.5 credits

The course Research Methodology and Academic Writing can be taken at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics or at a partner or equivalent institution. There may therefore be a certain degree of variation in the title and structure of the course. Research Methodology and Academic Writing should be taken as a teacher-led course, if possible. The course must be approved by the doctoral student's primary supervisor before they start to read it.

3. Theory Course, 7.5 credits

The course can be taken at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics or at a partner or equivalent institution. There may therefore be a certain degree of variation in the title and structure of the course. Unless there are special circumstances, the Theory Course must be taken as a teacher-led course. The course must be approved by the doctoral student's primary supervisor before they start to read it.

Other courses for the doctoral degree, 30 credits:

Other courses should be chosen so that the doctoral student acquires both broad knowledge in their research area and systematic understanding of the same, as well as in-depth and relevant

specialised knowledge within the research contexts most relevant to the doctoral student's own thesis work. The other courses may include a course in higher education pedagogy of a maximum of 7.5 credits. All doctoral students should take part in a short introduction to higher education pedagogy for doctoral students, without this counting as a credit-bearing course. Compensation for this introduction is to be paid at a flat rate, with hours counted as departmental work, in accordance with the local guidelines.

Other courses must be approved by the principal supervisor before the doctoral student starts reading them. The names of the courses and the forms of examination must be stated in the individual study plan.

Other courses for the licentiate degree, 7.5 credits:

Other courses must be chosen so that the doctoral student acquires both broad knowledge in their research field and systematic understanding of the same, as well as in-depth and relevant specialist knowledge within the research contexts that are most relevant to the doctoral student's own thesis work. The other courses may include a course in higher education pedagogy of a maximum of 7.5 credits. All doctoral students should take part in a short introduction to higher education pedagogy for doctoral students, without this counting as a credit-bearing course. Compensation for this introduction is to be paid at a flat rate, with hours counted as departmental work, in accordance with the local guidelines.

Before they are embarked on, other courses must be approved by the principal supervisor. The names of the courses and the forms of examination must be stated in the individual study plan.

6.3.1 Credit transfer from previous education

Decisions on whether previous education can be credited are made by the Board of the Department of Romance Languages and Classics, following a request from the doctoral student. The credit transfer must occur at the beginning of the third-cycle programme.

The credit transfer affects the study time, so that the financed part of the programme (net study time) is correspondingly shortened in accordance with the principle of one week per 1.5 credited higher education credits.

6.3.2 Other compulsory components

During the programme, the doctoral student must regularly participate in the Romance Seminar (or equivalent) and regularly present the results of their ongoing research work, actively participate in the review of others' work, and take part in discussions on other current texts and themes. The seminars are a central arena for training the ability to independently critically review and assess, the ability to orally present and discuss research and research results, and the ability to make research ethical assessments.

The seminars also serve as a resource for broadening knowledge and acquiring a systematic understanding of the research context in which the doctoral student is working.

Four seminars are compulsory: 1) *The Introductory Seminar* must be completed no later than 6 months after admission; 2) *The Half-Term Seminar* must be completed when the doctoral student has completed 50 per cent of the programme, according to their individual study plan. The manuscript must be reviewed and discussed during the seminar with an external reviewer; 3) *The Three-Quarter Seminar* must be conducted when the doctoral student has completed three-quarters of the programme, according to their individual study plan. The manuscript must be reviewed and discussed during the seminar with an external reviewer; 4) *The Final Seminar*: must be conducted 3–6 months before the planned defence date. The manuscript must be reviewed and discussed during the seminar with an external reviewer and possibly an internal reviewer. After the seminar, the examiners, in consultation with the supervisors, decide what changes need to be made before the thesis can be submitted for defence.

6.4 Doctoral thesis and defence

To obtain a doctoral degree, an approved (passing grade) thesis is required. Early in the doctoral studies, the subject of each doctoral thesis is to be chosen in consultation with the supervisors. A starting point in such consultation is the research plan the doctoral student submitted when applying for third-cycle studies.

The thesis must demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to resolve the selected research task so that parts of the learning outcomes in point 3.1 above are fulfilled. Said resolution must be effected in a scholarly satisfactory way and independently (inside or outside the framework of a team project).

The thesis must be either a uniform, cohesive, scholarly work (monograph thesis) or a compilation (compilation thesis) comprising scholarly essays (authored solely or jointly by the doctoral student) and an “introducing and closing” framework text (the so-called introductory chapter of a compilation thesis).

If the investigation in the thesis was conducted within the framework of a team project, the doctoral student's contributions must be clearly distinguishable.

The investigation and its results must be presented in an exposition of such quality that the thesis (be it a monograph or a compilation thesis) is assessed as fulfilling reasonably imposed requirements for acceptance in a scholarly series of articles or journal of good reputation.

The recommended number of pages for a doctoral thesis is

200–250. Otherwise, the following is required:

- the thesis must be the result of independent research that significantly contributes to knowledge development;
- the aim, problematisation and scholarly method must be clearly set out and justified;
- the method must have been correctly applied;
- the current state of research must be clearly presented to that previous research is clearly distinguishable from the doctoral student's own research contribution (as set out in the thesis);
- the material must be presented and characterised and the way in which said material has been delimited must be set out and justified;
- the scholarly precision in respect of notes, lists of sources and literature, any tables and diagrams, etc. must be good;
- the layout of the thesis must be logical and consistent;
- the thesis must be linguistically adequate, and
- the results must be summarised.

Criteria for a compilation thesis

A compilation thesis must consist of at least three scientific articles (3–5 articles are normally included) and an introductory chapter.

At least two of the articles must be published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scholarly publications. Other articles must be submitted but need not yet have undergone peer review. The articles that have not yet been peer-reviewed must be assessed during the final seminar to be of such quality that they are considered publishable.

The doctoral student must be the principal or sole author of at least two of the articles that have been published or accepted for publication. The summarising chapter of the thesis must clearly set out the doctoral student's own contribution and, where relevant, the contributions of other authors.

Constituent published articles may not be altered in the compilation thesis (any errata excepted). All additions, problematisations and conclusions must be included in the summarising chapter.

In cases where the thesis consists of the entirety of a previously approved licentiate thesis, the doctoral thesis must contain at least two additional articles (of which at least one article must be

accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scholarly publication), as well as an introductory summary chapter that explains the place of the licentiate thesis in the whole.

Language

A monograph thesis in the third-cycle programme in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish must be written in the language of the respective specialisation. For the General Specialisation, the thesis must be written in one of the four Romance languages: French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish.

In the case of a compilation thesis, at least two of the articles must be written in the language of the specialisation (French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish). For the General Specialisation, at least two of the articles included must be written in one of the four Romance languages above. The remaining articles can be written in English, Swedish, Danish or Norwegian. However, exceptions to this language policy may occur. This decision is taken by the Department Board following a request from the doctoral student. The request must be endorsed by the main supervisor, with a clear justification.

The introductory chapter must be written in the language of the respective specialisation. For the General Specialisation, the introductory chapter must be written in one of the four Romance languages above.

The thesis must contain summaries in both Swedish and English. The summaries must be sufficiently detailed to give a reader who lacks skills in the thesis language a clear idea of the thesis' aim and principal content, the scholarly methods used, and the results obtained. References must be made to the various chapters of the thesis. The doctoral student's principal supervisor is responsible for the summary having the prescribed content. In the awarding of a grade, assessment of the summary must be included in the assessment of the thesis as a whole.

A brief abstract, in English, of no more than 2,000 characters (spaces included therein) must be appended to each doctoral thesis. The abstract must:

- state the title of the thesis, the language in which the thesis is written, the author(s), university and department;
- mirror thesis content on a layout basis – problem, methods and results;
- provide key words and other details useful for literature searches in automated information systems.

Defence of doctoral thesis



Doctoral theses in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish must be reviewed prior to their public defence (see the Local Guidelines for Third-Cycle Studies at the Department of Romance Languages and Classics) and defended orally at a public defence.

Review is to be led by a specially appointed external reviewer. The defence must take place in the language of the respective specialisation. In the case of General Specialisation, the thesis defence is conducted in the language of the thesis. The defence must follow the rules of the Faculty of Humanities.

The doctoral thesis is assessed with a grade of either Pass or Fail by an examining committee appointed specifically for each thesis. In awarding a grade, regard must be had to both the content of the thesis and its public defence. The issue of conflicts of interest must always be taken into account in the composition of the examining committee and the choice of opponent and chair. The opponent must be based outside Stockholm University and may not be from the same department as the doctoral student. At least one member of the examining committee must be active at another higher education institution, and the other members should not come from the doctoral student's department.

6.5 Licentiate thesis and licentiate seminar

For a licentiate degree, a passing grade for a 60-credit licentiate thesis is required. Early in the study programme, the subject of the thesis (dissertation) is to be selected in consultation with the supervisors. A starting point in such consultation is the research plan the doctoral student submitted when applying for third-cycle studies.

The thesis must demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to resolve the selected research task and thereby fulfil parts of the learning outcomes in point 3.2 above. Said resolution must be effected in a scholarly satisfactory way and independently (inside or outside the framework of a team project).

The thesis must be either a uniform, cohesive, scholarly work (monograph thesis) or a compilation (compilation thesis) comprising scholarly essays (authored solely or jointly by the doctoral student) and an "introducing and closing" framework text (the so-called introductory chapter).

If the investigation in the thesis was conducted within the framework of a team project, the doctoral student's contributions must be clearly distinguishable.

The investigation and its results must be presented in an exposition of such quality that the thesis (including the sections in the thesis) is assessed as fulfilling reasonably imposed requirements for acceptance in a scholarly series of articles or journal of good reputation.

The recommended number of pages for a licentiate thesis is 100–125.



Otherwise, the following is required:

- the thesis must be the result of independent research that significantly contributes to knowledge development;
- the aim, problematisation and scholarly method must be clearly set out and justified;
- the method must have been correctly applied;
- the current state of research must be clearly presented so that previous research is clearly distinguishable from the doctoral student's own research contribution (as set out in the thesis);
- the material must be presented and characterised and the way in which said material has been delimited must be set out and justified;
- the scholarly precision in respect of notes, lists of sources and literature, any tables and diagrams, etc. must be good;
- the layout of the thesis must be logical and consistent;
- the thesis must be adequate from a language point of view; and,
- the results must be summarised.

For doctoral students who have not clearly declared an intention to limit their third-cycle studies to the licentiate stage, the subject must be chosen so that the thesis can be expanded into a doctoral thesis.

Criteria for compilation theses

A compilation paper must consist of at least two scientific articles and an introductory chapter. At least one article must be published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scholarly publication. Other articles must be submitted to a journal but need not yet have undergone peer review. The articles that have not yet been peer-reviewed must be assessed during the final seminar to be of such quality that they are considered publishable.

The doctoral student must be the principal or sole author of at least one of the articles that have been published or accepted for publication. In the case of co-authored articles, it must be clearly stated in the introductory chapter what the licentiate degree candidate's independent contribution is.

Constituent published articles may not be altered in the compilation thesis (any errata excepted). All additions, problematisations and outline discussion of conclusions must be included in the introductory chapter.

Language

A monograph thesis in third-cycle studies in Romance Languages: General Specialisation, Specialisation in French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish must be written in the language of the respective specialisation. For the General Specialisation, the thesis must be written in one of the four Romance languages: French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish.

In the case of a compilation thesis, at least one of the included articles must be written in the language of the specialisation (French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish). For the General Specialisation, at least one of the articles must be written in one of the four Romance languages listed above. The remaining articles can be written in English, Swedish, Danish or Norwegian. However, exceptions to this language policy may occur. This decision is taken by the Department Board following a request from the doctoral student. The request must be endorsed by the main supervisor, with a clear justification.

The introductory chapter must be written in the language of the respective specialisation. For the General Specialisation, the introductory chapter must be written in one of the four Romance languages above.

The thesis must contain summaries in both Swedish and English. The summary must be sufficiently detailed to give a reader who lacks knowledge of the thesis language a clear idea of the thesis' aim and principal content, the scholarly methods used and the results obtained. References must be made to the various chapters of the thesis.

The doctoral student's principal supervisor is responsible for the summary having the prescribed content. In the awarding of a grade, assessment of the summary must be included in the assessment of the thesis as a whole.

Licentiate seminar

Licentiate theses must be reviewed and defended in a public licentiate seminar. Said seminar must be announced in good time and the thesis must be available at the department in good time before the seminar. An opponent and an examiner are to be appointed to the seminar, and possibly an assessment group chaired by the examiner. Supervisors may not participate in awarding a grade for the thesis. The licentiate seminar must be held in the language of the respective specialisation. For the General Specialisation, the licentiate seminar is held in the language of the thesis.

The licentiate thesis and the doctoral student's defence at the licentiate seminar are assessed with a grade of either "Pass" or "Fail".



7. Transition rules

Doctoral students admitted before this general syllabus came into force may, after consulting with the principal supervisor and director of studies, request to transfer to this syllabus. The request must be addressed to the Department Board. The individual study plan is then to be updated.