RESEARCH PERIOD

The research period is focused on undertaking a doctoral thesis on one of the program’s lines of research, under the guidance of one or more supervisors. Supervisors are selected from the lecturers who are associated with the line of research. As an exception, doctors who are not part of the program can act as thesis supervisors or co-supervisors.

Students shall apply for admission to the program’s research period. In all cases, students must have an undergraduate degree and an official master’s degree or equivalent. If necessary, students must take specific additional training in the form of bridging subjects during the first academic year of their doctoral studies.

During the research period, students must undertake at least one learning activity in each academic year. For example, students could regularly attend a seminar, study a course in a postgraduate school (e.g. a summer school), or take an official master’s course that is related to the program. These activities shall be approved and validated by the thesis supervisor in the annual monitoring report.

At the suggestion of program lecturers and students, the Doctoral Program Committee recognises and organises learning activities for the program.

Students who have been admitted to the research period must present their thesis project before the end of the first academic year for which they are registered. If the thesis project is accepted, students shall have four academic years, plus an exceptional extension of one academic year, to submit their theses (if the student is studying full time).

Every academic year, students in the research period whose thesis projects have been accepted must present an annual monitoring report on their activities. The report must be approved by the supervisor or co-supervisors of the thesis and must be given a positive evaluation for the student to be allowed to register for the next academic year.

Students must sign commitment documents with their thesis supervisors or co-supervisors, which will establish whether they will work full time or part time on the thesis and the amount of time that will be dedicated by the supervisor or co-supervisors.

Students shall register every academic year for thesis supervision. This registration gives them the right to the aforementioned academic supervision and to the use of the resources required to undertake their work. The rights established in the regulations for doctoral students will also apply, as will rights of representation and the right to an UB card.