DOCTORAL STUDIES

Doctoral studies centre on the **preparation of a doctoral thesis** in one of the programme's research areas, under the guidance of one or more thesis supervisors who are professors with extensive experience in the field. Exceptionally, one or more supervisors may be assigned from outside the programme.

Students must complete the **admission procedure** to be accepted on the programme. All candidates must hold a bachelor's degree and an official master's degree or equivalent.

Each academic year, students will complete **training activities**. These include regularly attending seminars, colloquiums and conferences, as well as taking courses at specialized postgraduate schools (summer schools, etc.) and official master's courses related to the programme. The training activities will be approved and accredited by the thesis supervisor in the annual monitoring report.

Once accepted on the doctoral programme, students must submit a **research plan** before the end of their first academic year after enrolment.

Full-time doctoral studies will be completed in three years from the date of admission to the programme to the date of the application to deposit the doctoral thesis. If an application to deposit the doctoral thesis is not submitted during this period, the Academic Committee for the doctoral programme may approve a one-year extension. Exceptionally, this may be increased by a further year.

Every academic year, students who have an approved thesis project must submit an **annual monitoring report** on their activity during the year. The report must be approved by the thesis supervisor or co-supervisors and must be considered satisfactory for the student to enrol for the following academic year.

The student will sign a **commitment agreement (in Spanish)** with the thesis supervisor or co-supervisors. The agreement establishes whether the student will study full- or part-time on the programme, and indicates the dedication of the supervisor or co-supervisors.

Students must **enrol** for thesis tutorials at the beginning of each academic year. This gives them the right to the academic tutorials described above, to the use of the resources required to carry out their project, and all other rights envisaged in the regulations for doctoral students, including the right to representation and the UB Card.