

Guidelines for PhD students at Eurac Research

Eurac Research (hereinafter Eurac) is an internationally recognised research centre committed to guiding and supervising PhD students. PhD students who come to Eurac benefit from its excellent infrastructure and also expand their horizons through interdisciplinary encounters and skill development via on-the-job training, in-house education courses and our international networks.

Eurac has well-established contacts with numerous universities in Italy and abroad where PhD students are enrolled and where their main supervisors are usually based.

Internally, Eurac applies the following rules:

1. PhD students at Eurac are recognised as valuable researchers and given the best possible opportunities to pursue their PhD project.
2. Each PhD project must contribute to and comply with Eurac research topics.
3. PhD students are offered financial support. It is expected that PhD students complete their PhD theses within the nominal time foreseen by the university. Any additional scientific achievements of the PhD students depend on their research discipline and prior agreements with their university. In general, all PhD students are expected to engage in peer-reviewed publishing activities and attend international conferences during their PhD stay at Eurac.
4. PhD students will be integrated into one of the Eurac Institutes or Centers and become involved in the scientific and organisational activities (team meetings, events etc.) relevant to their own PhD project within that department. Sharing their expertise with other team members (for instance through seminars, posters, presentations etc.) is actively encouraged.
5. In addition to their university supervisors, each PhD student will have a tutor within Eurac who shall supervise them during their time at Eurac. Tutors must be senior researchers or above.
6. The tutor will enhance the quality of the PhD research by giving advice, feedback and regularly meeting with the PhD student (at least every two weeks).
7. In order to integrate the PhD student properly within their Institute or Center, the tutor, together with the Head of Institute or Center, can assign to the PhD student with additional activities related to the PhD project and which are relevant to their career development. Those additional tasks shall neither delay the completion of the PhD nor interfere with the obligations set by their university.
8. PhD topics must be determined in consultation with the university supervisor, the Institute or Center Head and the designated tutor. In accordance with university rules and if possible, within 6 to 12 months from the initiation of their research at Eurac, each student shall present their PhD research outline. It should contain the following information: a) the general topic; b) state of the art; c) objectives; d) methods; e) timeline.

9. The progress of the PhD thesis, any changes or new directions must be discussed with the university supervisor and the tutor.
10. At least once a year, and in accordance with university rules, the PhD student shall present an up-to-date PhD research outline to their tutor. The outline should cover the following items: a) original plan; b) work progress; c) if necessary, reasons for discrepancies between the previous plan and the current work status as well as the so far unsolved problems; d) further steps (including publication activities and participation in conferences).
11. PhD students should spend most of their time at Eurac. They should however also be encouraged to pursue a stay at another institution either in Italy or abroad. Time spent outside Eurac should be in line with university rules and agreed upon with the tutor; this could include extended stays at the university. All obligations regarding PhD student's place of work shall be agreed upon by the tutor, the university supervisor and the PhD student.
12. The Eurac Department of Education and Training offers courses of special interest to PhD students, who are welcome to enroll and participate in these courses as part of their career development. Eurac courses might be eligible for ECTS credits at the universities, provided that universities recognise them.
13. All PhD students are expected to participate in the PhD Roundtables organised by the PhD Office. The PhD Roundtable is a recurring forum for each PhD student at Eurac to discuss their work in an interdisciplinary environment, exchange tips and strategies for managing PhD research and writing and to discuss the challenges that every PhD student encounters on their way to completion.
14. The PhD Office coordinates all PhD Programme related issues at Eurac. PhD students, tutors and young graduates interested in undertaking their PhD at Eurac can contact us with all PhD related issues at phd-programme@eurac.edu.

None of the rules established by Eurac shall interfere with the regulations for PhD students at their universities.

Bozen/Bolzano, 3.3.2021



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