

Doctoral Degree Regulations of School III: School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies of the University of Oldenburg for the Institutes for English and American Studies, for German Studies, for Dutch Studies and for Slavic Studies

of 08 December 2006, incorporating the amendments of 14 December 2010 (Official Notices 1/2011), of 03 September 2013 (ON 4/2013), of 01 March 2018 (ON 3/2018) and of 28 January 2022 (ON 2/2022).

1

Purpose of the doctorate and the doctoral work

(1) School III: School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies (hereinafter referred to as the School) awards the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil.) for advanced, independent scholarly accomplishments in the field of linguistics and literature.

(2) Joint doctoral procedures (bi-national doctorate) can be carried out in the framework of international doctoral programmes or on the basis of a co-operation agreement with a foreign university or non-academic research institution (Section 7 (7) below). The same applies to cooperation with German universities and non-academic research institutions. Before the procedure is initiated, the stakeholders should consult regarding the peculiarities of a bi-national doctorate programme. If permissible, the title of doctor is jointly awarded by the School and the competent institution of the co-operation partner (otherwise by way of a double doctorate) if the co-operation partner is authorised to award doctoral degrees; if this is not the case, the title is awarded by the School with reference to the cooperation. For joint procedures with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, the special regulations described in Annex 6, "Bi-national doctoral programmes with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)" apply.

(3) The doctorate serves as proof of the ability to carry out in-depth, independent scientific work.

(4) The doctorate requires the following attainments:

- a) A written component (thesis) with a subject that belongs to the field of linguistics and literature and corresponds with the desired degree. For details, see Section 8 below.
- b) An oral component (thesis defence). For details, see Section 11 below.

2

Competences

(1) The following committees are involved in the doctoral process:

- a) the Doctorate Committee (Section 3),
- b) the Examination Committee (Section 4),
- c) the first assessor (Section 6), who is also the supervisor of the thesis in accordance with Section 5, and
- d) one or more persons as co-assessors (Section 6),
- e) as well as, if applicable, a mentor in accordance with Section 4 (2) (h) and Section 5 (3).

(2) The Doctorate Committee decides on procedural matters, unless the Doctoral Degree Regulations provide otherwise.

(3) The first assessor and the co-assessors will assess the thesis.

(4) The Examination Committee conducts the thesis defence and assesses it.

3

Doctorate Committee

(1) By decision of the Faculty Council, the School will establish a Doctorate Committee from among its members. The Doctorate Committee will consist of five members of the professors' group with full voting rights. Furthermore, the Doctorate Committee should include as an advisor a member of the School with a doctorate, whose responsibilities include promoting young scholarly talent. In addition, two more members from the professors' group and one member of the School with a doctorate (as referred to in Sentence 3) are to be appointed as deputies. The Doctorate Committee will elect from among its members a chair who must be a member of the group of professors.

(2) The Doctorate Committee will take decisions by a majority of votes. In the case of a tie, the chair's vote will decide the matter; the chair may not abstain.

4

Examination Committee

(1) Once the thesis has been accepted, the Doctorate Committee will establish an Examination Committee for each doctoral degree procedure. When carrying out doctoral degree procedures with international or German partner universities, professors

of the partner university must be adequately considered in the composition of the Examination Committee.

- (2) The Examination Committee will consist of:
- a) a professor or a habilitated member of the Doctorate Committee as the chair,
 - b) the first assessor of the thesis,
 - c) a co-assessor of the thesis,
 - d) a professor as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2 from a subject area that is close to the thesis topic, as well as
 - e) another professor as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentences 2 and 3, representing the field of study from which the thesis was chosen. The doctoral candidate has a right to propose the members of the Examination Committee referred to in (d) and (e); the Doctorate Committee will decide on these proposals. At least one of the members listed under (b) to (e) must be one of those proposed by the doctoral candidate.
 - f) If the thesis deals to a significant degree with matters that do not commonly belong to the fields of linguistics and literature, a member is to be added who comes from the group of professors of another institute in the School or another school that deals with the field of study concerned. This member of the Examination Committee may come from a foreign or German partner university if the doctoral degree procedure is part of such a cooperative venture. If the field of study referred to in Sentence 1 above is not represented in any school of the University of Oldenburg, then an external co-assessor, as defined in Section 6 (2), must be appointed.
 - g) At the request of the doctoral candidate, a representative of the teaching staff in possession of a doctorate can take part in an advisory capacity, provided that this person can be considered an early-career researcher on the basis of the duties associated with their position.
 - h) As appropriate, the mentor may also be involved in an advisory capacity, provided that this function is not also performed by one of the members named under (a) to (e).

If the Chair resigns from the Doctorate Committee after the Examination Committee has been established, they continue to chair the Examination Committee until the end of the doctoral degree procedure.

- (3) The majority of the voting members must be members of the School.

5

Supervision and mentoring, acceptance as a doctoral candidate

(1) The subject of the thesis should be agreed on with a professor (as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2) of the field of study concerned. The professor will supervise the thesis in terms of content and will serve as the first assessor according to Section 6 (1). By concluding a written supervision agreement as in Annex 5, which needs to be countersigned by the chair of the Doctorate Committee, the doctoral candidate will receive the status of 'accepted doctoral candidate' even before the formal approval of the doctorate concerned, pursuant to Section 7. Section 5 (2) applies accordingly. The candidate may ask the Doctorate Committee to help find a supervisor. If the candidate has not yet been admitted in accordance with Section 7, an application for extension, which has to be countersigned by the supervisor of the doctoral studies, must be submitted every three years to the Doctorate Committee in order to maintain the status as 'accepted doctoral candidate'.

(2) In exceptional cases, if reasons are provided, a professor from a department or school with comparable duties at a different university may be appointed as supervisor. This requires the approval of the Doctorate Committee at the stage of admission to the doctorate. In this case, the supervisor will also enjoy, in the context of the doctoral degree procedure, the rights of a member of the School's group of professors. In general, the external supervisor will also assume the function of the first assessor or the function of co-assessor.

(3) At the request and suggestion of the doctoral candidate, the Doctorate Committee must designate a mentor who is willing to accompany the doctoral degree procedure, unless the supervisor of the thesis undertakes these tasks. Normally, the role of mentor will coincide with that of a supervisor. The mentor will supervise the doctorate in procedural terms and will participate in an advisory capacity in all meetings of the Doctorate Committee and the Examination Committee that deal with the doctorate in question. If the mentor is on other grounds authorized to vote in these two committees, such rights will in all cases remain unaffected. To assume the role of mentor, a person must be a professor, as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2, and a member of the School. The mentor should be closely familiar with the field of studies of the thesis.

(4) If the mentor is unable to continue performing their duties, the Doctorate Committee must, at the request and suggestion of the doctoral candidate, appoint a new mentor.

Assessors

(1) The Doctorate Committee will appoint the first assessor, who must be a member of the specified institutes of the School, and up to two co-assessors for the assessment of the thesis. In the case of a doctoral degree procedure that is carried out in the framework of an international or national cooperation, the first assessor or one of the co-assessors should belong to the cooperation partner.

(2) The assessors must be professors. They include members of the group of professors, private lecturers not on leave, junior professors, honorary professors, as well as professors who are retired or who have dispensation. The Doctorate Committee may appoint international scholars as co-assessors if they have the right to participate in doctoral procedures in the university system in which they are currently located. Independent leaders of junior research groups which are part of externally assessed projects funded by recognized institutions for research or research funding may also be appointed as assessors, provided they hold a doctorate. At least one of the assessors must be a member of the specified institutes of the School.

(3) The doctoral candidate may suggest the first assessor and a co-assessor. Pursuant to Section 4 (2) (e) Sentence 3, the Doctorate Committee is not bound by this proposal.

7

Admission to the doctorate

(1) The application for admission to the doctorate must be submitted in writing to the chair of the Doctorate Committee.

(2) As a requirement for admission, the application must be accompanied by:

- a) the applicant's curriculum vitae, including a description of their educational development and, if applicable, a complete list of scholarly publications,
- b) proof of higher education entrance qualification,
- c) the certificate of the first state examination for teaching at Gymnasium schools (secondary level II), an MA degree from a German university, an equivalent university or college, or an academic Diplom or Magister certificate in a field of study related to linguistics or literature, or evidence of an equivalent degree at a foreign university, the examinations taken and the degrees obtained there,
- d) a statement regarding any previous attempts to obtain a doctorate and admissions to doctoral

studies at the University of Oldenburg or elsewhere,

- e) a declaration of consent from the supervisor,
- f) a description of the thesis of up to eight pages setting out the problem and question and the theoretical, methodical and empirical basics, as well as an abstract of about half a page; a summary of half a page; in addition, if appropriate, a reference to already published parts of the underlying research that are to be included in the thesis, according to Section 8 (3) Sentence 3,
- g) comments on the merit of the application by a member of the School's professors' group (these comments are typically provided by the supervisor),
- h) a declaration that the candidate is aware of, and following, the regulations on good academic practice of the University of Oldenburg,
- i) if applicable, a request for the appointment of a supervisor pursuant to Section 5 (2),
- j) if applicable, a request for permission to write the thesis in a foreign language,
- k) if applicable, a request for permission to pursue the doctorate in an international or national cooperative venture, naming the partner university,
- l) if the supervisor is not intended to also serve as the mentor, a written request for the appointment of a special mentor, or a declaration of consent regarding the person who has agreed to act as mentor. If necessary, the Doctorate Committee will provide a mentor.

All submitted documents, except for originals and diplomas/certificates, which must be submitted as certified photocopies, become the property of the University.

(3) Applicants who do not hold a degree in accordance with (2) (c) may be admitted to the doctorate by means of the following aptitude assessment procedure. As a requirement for admission, they must enclose with their application:

- a) a certificate of a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field of studies from a German university, an equivalent college or university of applied science, or a Diplom degree from a university of applied sciences, each with a high mark, as well as
- b) proof of their ability to engage in advanced scholarly work. This proof is to be obtained by the following:

- aa) a description of the scientific project as contemplated in (2) (f),
- bb) written course work of an adequate level carried out in a comprehensive Master's degree programme of two semesters and usually 60 ECTS in the subjects required for the scholarly field of study of the thesis and taught in the School (including at least two Master's modules from the core area of the scholarly project), and
- cc) a successful final examination

The Doctorate Committee will determine the content of the two-semester degree programme after consulting the applicant and the supervisor, or another habilitated representative of the subject concerned. The final examination will be conducted by two professors, as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2, who are authorized examiners in the School's degree programmes and are appointed by the Doctorate Committee. Based on the content of the two-semester course, the examination serves as proof of sufficient aptitude for doctoral studies in terms of methodical skills, theoretical knowledge and technical competence. The exam must be taken no later than in the fourth semester after the candidate has been conditionally admitted to the doctorate. It is oral and has a duration of one hour. It can be repeated once. Upon special request, the Doctorate Committee may reduce the requirements, except for the oral examination.

- (4) Applicants who have completed a degree as under (2) (c) but more than 12 years ago are advised to demonstrate their existing ability to engage in advanced scholarly work in the manner described in (3) (b).
- (5) If, according to (2) (c), evidence of foreign degrees has been submitted, the Doctorate Committee will examine whether they are equivalent to the German degrees. In doing so, legally binding intergovernmental agreements and the recognition recommendations of the KMK (the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder and its Central Office for Foreign Education, ZAB) and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) must be taken as a basis. Recognition may be subject to certain requirements and conditions, such as the completion of a missing Diplom thesis, the passing of knowledge tests or the application of (3) (b).
- (6) Foreign applicants who do not have a German school or university degree must provide evidence of German language skills as required for admission to a university degree programme. The Doctorate Committee will decide on exceptions and any conditions.

(7) Doctorates can be pursued in international or national cooperation ventures if a corresponding cooperation agreement exists with the desired university.

(8) The Doctorate Committee will decide on admission to the doctorate. When the applicant is admitted, they are granted the status of doctoral candidate. This status is lost upon the successful completion of the doctorate or its definitive failure according to Section 15. It is likewise lost if the requirements established under subsection 3(b) and subsection 5 are not met.

(9) After a finally failed doctorate according to Sections 14 and 15, no more than one re-admission to the doctorate can be obtained. The requirement for renewed admission is a completely different topic for the new thesis compared with the previous one.

(10) After being admitted to the doctoral programme, doctoral candidates must register as doctoral students as soon as possible.

8

Doctoral thesis

(1) The thesis must demonstrate the author's capacity for advanced and independent scholarly work and contribute to the advancement of scholarship in a specific field of linguistics and literature. The thesis should be planned thematically in such a way that it can be expected to be completed within two to three years, provided that the candidate can work primarily on the thesis during this time.

(2) The thesis should be written in German. Writing in another language requires the approval of the Doctorate Committee, which must be applied for at admission to the doctorate. The thesis must always contain an abstract and a curriculum vitae in German.

(3) The thesis must present the research work and its results in a well-rounded and consistent manner. However, it is permissible for the thesis research to be disseminated in several publications. These should primarily be published after the approval of the thesis. A collection of essays that are unconnected or have topics that are only loosely related will not be accepted as a thesis.

(4) If it has an appropriate research question, a scholarly work written by several persons - usually no more than two - may be recognized as a doctoral thesis. In such a case, the individual contributions to be considered for the doctoral degree procedure must be attributable without any doubt to one of the applicants and must fulfil the requirements of (1). The contributions of the individual participants must be specified and described comprehensively in the

declaration referred to in Section 9 (2) (b). The Doctorate Committee will formally decide, upon request and after hearing the applicants, whether a topic is appropriate for group work. This must be done before work on the thesis begins. If several doctoral degree procedures are to be carried out on the basis of joint work, a joint Examination Committee and joint assessors are to be appointed. Each individual contribution will be assessed separately.

9

Initiating the doctoral degree procedure

(1) The doctoral candidate must apply to the Doctorate Committee requesting the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure. Applications generally must be submitted within five years after admission to the doctorate, but not earlier than one year after admission. Upon request, and after hearing the doctoral candidate, the supervisor and, if applicable, the mentor, the Doctorate Committee may extend the periods specified in Sentence 2 by a reasonable period if justified. If the application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure is not submitted on time or within the period of grace, the admission to the doctoral programme will be deemed to have expired. The chair of the Doctorate Committee will inform the doctoral candidate and the thesis supervisor accordingly.

(2) The application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure will be approved if the requirements of Section 7 of these Regulations have been met and the following documents are enclosed:

- a) at least six copies of the thesis according to Section 8(2) as well as a version in PDF format with identical layout and text, if necessary with offprints of previously published parts according to Section 8(3),
- b) a statement saying that the applicant wrote the thesis independently and that all tools used are specified,
- c) further proof in accordance with Section 7 (3) (b), if applicable,
- d) proof in accordance with Section 7 (4), if applicable,
- e) proof in accordance with Section 7 (5), if applicable,
- f) a current list of publications, if applicable,
- g) an application for the thesis defence to be conducted in a language other than German, in accordance with Section 11 (3), if applicable,
- h) in the case of a renewed doctoral degree procedure after an initial failed attempt, a statement

on the failed doctoral attempt as defined in Section 15,

- i) proof of enrolment as a doctoral candidate in accordance with Section 7 (10), if applicable.

(3) The Doctorate Committee initiates the doctoral degree procedure by appointing assessors according to Section 6 to assess the thesis.

10

Assessing the doctoral thesis

(1) The assessors will compile written assessment reports within three months. They will recommend either acceptance of the thesis and continuation of the procedure, or, if the prerequisites for acceptance have not been met, revision or rejection of the thesis. In case of acceptance, they also propose a grade. Possible grades are:

ausgezeichnet	=	0	=	summa cum laude
(high distinction)				
sehr gut				(magna cum laude, with distinction)
gut	=	2	=	cum laude (credit)
genügend	=	3	=	rite (pass)

(2) If at least one assessor has made reasoned proposals for amendments which, in their opinion, are required for the thesis to be accepted, the Doctorate Committee will decide by a simple majority of its members whether the thesis will be returned for revision or the procedure will continue. The chair of the Doctorate Committee will notify the doctoral candidate in writing of the requirements, stating the reasons. A reasonable deadline will be set for the revision. After revision of the thesis, the assessors will again submit their written comments within one month of submission of the revised version. The thesis can only be returned for revision once. Modifications related to the publication of the thesis in accordance with Section 13 (3) will remain unaffected.

(3) If the requirements for the continuation of the doctoral degree procedure have been met, the thesis, the assessment reports and comments will be made available for inspection for two weeks in the office of the Dean of the School pursuant to Section 6 (2). The documents may be confidentially viewed by the School's professors according to Section 6 (2), and by the members of the Doctorate Committee and the assessors, who may also submit expert opinions. The availability of the documents for inspection referred to in (1) and (2) shall be communicated to the named group of persons by the chair of the Doctorate Committee. During the semester break, the period of inspection is extended to four weeks.

(4) After the expiry of the inspection period, the Doctorate Committee will accept the thesis if all assessors have recommended its acceptance, and

three working days after expiry of the period of inspection, the chair of the Doctorate Committee has received no expert opinions according to (3). If the thesis has not been recommended for acceptance by all assessors, at least one additional assessor will be appointed. Subsequently, the Doctorate Committee will decide on the continuation of the procedure.

(5) If all of the assessors have proposed the acceptance of the thesis, the grade for the thesis will result from the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments as follows:

from 0 to less than 0.5	= Ausgezeichnet =	summa cum laude
from 0.5 to less than 1.5	= very good =	magna cum laude
from 1.5 to less than 2.5	= good =	cum laude
From 2.5 to 3.0	= genügend =	rite (pass)

If the thesis was rejected by an assessor, this rejection will enter into the calculation of the final grade as 4.0. If expert opinions have been submitted in accordance with (3), the Doctorate Committee will decide whether and to what extent these will be considered in the grading process.

(6) The chair of the Doctorate Committee will inform the doctoral candidate whether the thesis has been accepted or rejected and at the same time make the documents available to them, especially the expert opinions that form the basis for the assessment.

(7) If the thesis has been rejected by the Doctorate Committee, the candidate will have failed the doctorate and the procedure will be terminated. A copy of the rejected work must be filed along with all the documents on which the decision was based.

11 Thesis defence

(1) Once the submitted thesis has been accepted, the Doctorate Committee will appoint the Examination Committee, considering the doctoral candidate's suggestions, in accordance with Section 4. The chair of the Doctorate Committee will inform the doctoral candidate of the composition of the Examination Committee. The chair of the Examination Committee shall schedule the thesis defence without delay. The thesis defence should take place at least two weeks but not later than four months after the acceptance of the thesis, unless there are significant personal reasons (e.g. illness, pregnancy, childcare, caring for relatives) that prevent this. With the consent of the doctoral candidate and the agreement of all members of the Doctorate Committee, the Examination Committee may, in justified exceptional cases, unanimously decide to conduct the components of the defence mentioned in (4) electronically using an image

and sound procedure approved by the Presidential Board. This procedure must ensure a comprehensive perception of the examination. A stable connection must be ensured for the entire duration of the examination. Connecting only one assessor or only the doctoral candidate may also be permitted under the conditions specified in pp. 5-7. There is no legal claim to a thesis defence during the semester break.

(2) The chair of the Examination Committee will invite the doctoral candidate and the members of the Examination Committee to the thesis defence and publicly announce the event within the School.

(3) The thesis defence will take place in German. The use of a different language requires the approval of the Doctorate Committee, which must be requested, at the latest, with the application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure, in accordance with Section 9.

(4) The thesis defence is open to the University community and consists of a lecture lasting a maximum of 30 minutes and a subsequent discussion. In the thesis defence and in the entire defence procedure, the doctoral candidate should demonstrate the ability to justify their research results theoretically, to defend them against objections and to deal with contrary views in a theoretically sound manner. The written expert opinions of the assessors should also be included in the thesis defence. The thesis defence will extend to the entire subject area in connection with the topic of the thesis. The duration of the entire defence should not exceed two hours. After a discussion of at least 60 minutes between the doctoral candidate and the members of the Examination Committee, the chair has the right to allow questions from the audience, provided there are no questions from the Examination Committee at this time. However, even at this stage of the discussion, questions from the Examination Committee are to be given priority.

(5) Immediately following the oral examination, the Examination Committee will decide in closed session whether the candidate has passed the oral examination. If the candidate has passed, the Examination Committee will determine the grade of the oral examination in the same way as the grading of the thesis, according to Section 10 (1) and (5). The chair of the Examination Committee will immediately inform the doctoral candidate of the result of the thesis defence. At the request of the doctoral candidate, the reasons for the grade will be given in writing after a maximum of 10 working days by the chair of the Doctorate Committee, on the basis of the record, in accordance with (8).

(6) If the doctoral candidate has not passed the thesis defence, they will be given the opportunity to repeat it once if they submit a written request to the chair of the Doctorate Committee within one week

after the grade has been explained. The oral examination can be repeated, at the earliest, after four weeks and, at the latest, before the end of one year.

(7) The examination is considered failed if the doctoral candidate does not attend the thesis defence and fails to provide an excuse. In the case of an excused absence, a new appointment shall be set in accordance with (1). The Examination Committee will decide whether to accept the excuse.

(8) The chair of the Examination Committee shall arrange for a record to be compiled by the members of the Examination Committee on the course of the oral examination, in which the essential items of the thesis defence will be noted. The record must contain a justification of the grade.

12

Completion of doctoral degree procedure

(1) The doctorate is completed when the Examination Committee determines that the candidate has passed the thesis defence. At the latest after 10 working days, the chair of the Doctorate Committee will determine the completion of the doctorate. The chair will also arrange to issue a certificate in which the grade of the thesis, the grade of the thesis defence and the overall grade are entered. The overall grade results from the arithmetic mean of the grade of the thesis defence, which counts once, and the arithmetic mean of the grades of the thesis, which counts twice. Section 10 (5) applies accordingly. Furthermore, this certificate will state that the doctoral candidate is awarded the degree Doctor of Philosophy (Dr Phil.) if they publish the thesis in accordance with Section 13 of these Regulations.

(2) The doctoral candidate will collect this certificate at the School's office. On request, it can be sent to them by post.

13

Publication of the thesis

(1) The doctoral candidate shall make the thesis available to the scientific community in an appropriate manner by means of reproduction and distribution within one year of the successful thesis defence. The doctoral candidate shall ensure this by providing the University of Oldenburg's library and information system with the following, free of charge, by:

- a) delivering 60 copies of the thesis in book or photo print, **or**
- b) providing proof of publication of the thesis or its main parts in one or more scientific journals and

3 printed and durably bound copies of the thesis, **or**

- c) providing three copies as well as evidence of distribution by a commercial publisher of at least 150 copies or distribution by a scientific publishing house in the form of an e-book or as print-on-demand; on the back of the title page, the publication must always be identified as a thesis, indicating the place of publication of the thesis, **or**
- d) delivering an electronic version, the data format and data carrier of which are to be agreed with the University Library, as well as the transfer, free of charge, of five printed and durable copies of the thesis to the University Library of the University of Oldenburg, **and**
- e) delivering two short summaries in German and English, each with a maximum of 1000 characters, approved by the first assessor, as well as an affidavit stating that the printed and electronic versions are identical in content and form.

In the cases mentioned in Sentence 2 (a), (d) and (e), the doctoral candidate will transfer to the University of Oldenburg the right to produce and disseminate additional copies of the thesis in print or in electronic networks in order to fulfil the legal obligations of university libraries. The author's copyright will remain unaffected.

(2) The delivered items according to subsection 1 (a), (b), or (d) will have a title page, the front and back of which will follow the model in Annex 2. At the end of the thesis, a short curriculum vitae should be added, describing the scholarly development of the doctoral candidate. It must also include information on the candidate's date and place of birth, nationality and, in chronological order, the candidate's studies at various universities, indicating their duration.

(3) The final draft for publication must be submitted to the chair of the Doctorate Committee. It may include changes and deletions either required by the Doctorate Committee on the recommendation of the Examination Committee, in particular the assessor, or requested by the doctoral candidate. If the changes are made at the request of the doctoral candidate, the Doctorate Committee must decide on the approval of the amendments, paying particular attention to the votes of the assessors. The chair will select one of the assessors from the Examination Committee for the concerned doctoral degree procedure to examine the changes. If this member confirms that the changes have been made in accordance with the approved alterations, and the conditions set out in (2) have been met, the chair will approve publication of the thesis.

(4) The chair of the Doctorate Committee may, in special cases, extend the deadline for the delivery of printed copies. The doctoral candidate must submit a reasoned request for such an extension in good time.

14

Completion of the doctorate; unsuccessful termination of the doctoral degree procedure

(1) After completion of the doctorate, as well as publication of the thesis in accordance with Section 13, the School will award the degree "Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil.)". The doctorate is completed when the Dean of the School issues the doctoral certificate. Before that, the doctoral candidate does not have the right to use the title associated with the doctoral degree.

(2) The doctoral certificate will be issued according to the model of Annex 2. In the case of a bi-national doctoral degree, a certificate in accordance with Annex 3 and a translation in the language of the respective partner university will be issued. The doctoral certificate will bear the date of the oral examination, but will be issued only after the obligation to publish, in accordance with Section 13, has been fulfilled.

(3) In the case of a successfully completed doctorate that was not preceded by a university degree programme (Section 7 (3)), the doctoral degree is regarded as an official professional qualification, but does not entitle the student to the Diplom, Magister, Bachelor's or Master's title of the School.

(4) The doctoral degree procedure is terminated unsuccessfully if either the submitted thesis or the thesis defence was not considered adequate. The Chair of the Doctorate Committee will inform the doctoral candidate of the result in writing.

15

Renewed pursuit of a doctorate

If a doctoral degree procedure is terminated unsuccessfully, a renewed application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure in the framework of an admission is possible only once, only after at least one year and within a maximum of two years. This also applies if the first unsuccessful doctoral attempt took place at another university. A rejected thesis may not be presented again in the same or a slightly modified form for the purpose of obtaining a doctorate. In the case of a renewed application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure, the earlier unsuccessful doctoral attempt must always be reported. The date of the first unsuccessful doctoral attempt, the university and the department (school) to which the thesis was submitted, as well as the topic of the thesis and the reason for failure (rejection of

the thesis or failure of an oral examination part such as the defence or viva voce) must be stated.

16

Withdrawal of the doctoral application

An application for the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure can be withdrawn as long as no assessment rejecting the thesis has been received. After that, a withdrawal is only possible for important personal reasons that may not be related to the doctoral degree procedure. The Doctorate Committee will decide on this matter in response to a written request. Re-initiation can subsequently be requested in a similar way.

17

Invalidity of doctoral work

(1) If, prior to the award of the doctoral degree certificate, the doctoral candidate is found to have used fraud in their doctoral work or with regard to the requirements for admission to the doctorate or the initiation of the doctoral procedure, the Doctorate Committee may, accordingly, correct the grades for the doctoral work that involved deception and declare the doctorate invalid.

(2) If the circumstances mentioned in (1) become known only after the doctoral certificate has been awarded, (1) will apply accordingly and the Faculty Council will decide, on the recommendation of the Doctorate Committee and bearing in mind the legal provisions, whether the award of the doctoral degree is to be revoked or withdrawn. The same applies if the award of the degree was obtained by threat or bribery or in the circumstances described by Section 22 (7) of the Lower Saxony University Act (NHG) in the version of 24/3/1998.

(3) If the prerequisites for admission to the doctorate (Section 7) or the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure (Section 9) have not been fulfilled, but without any deception on the part of the doctoral candidate, and this fact becomes known only after the doctoral certificate has been issued, then this defect will be deemed to have been remedied by the successful completion of the doctorate.

(4) The person concerned shall be given the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Doctorate Committee before a decision on invalidity is taken.

(5) The incorrect doctoral certificate must be retrieved and, if appropriate, replaced by a corrected certificate.

18

Access to the doctoral records

Upon completion of the doctoral degree procedure, the doctoral candidate will be granted access to the doctoral dossier upon their request. This request must be submitted no later than three months after completion of the doctoral degree procedure. Section 32 of the Administrative Procedures Act (VwVfG) applies accordingly.

19 Appeal

(1) Negative decisions taken in accordance with these Doctoral Degree Regulations must be substantiated in writing, must provide information on legal remedies and must be announced in accordance with Section 1 of the Administrative Procedures Act (VwVfG). Appeals against decisions regarding the assessment of an examination can be lodged in writing or orally for the written record within one month of the receipt of the decision in accordance with Section 68 ff. of the Administrative Court Regulations (VwGO), or to the chair of the Doctorate Committee. Regarding other decisions, legal action can be taken following the legal remedies indicated.

(2) The chair of the Doctorate Committee will forward the objection to the Examination Committee for review. If the Examination Committee changes its decision as requested, the Doctorate Committee will have definitively dealt with the objection. Otherwise, the Doctorate Committee will forward the objection to the Faculty Council for a final decision. The Faculty Council will examine the decision, paying particular attention to the following aspects:

- a) whether the examination procedure was carried out properly,
- b) whether the grading was based on incorrect information,
- c) whether common principles of assessment were not observed,
- d) whether a reasonable and well-reasoned answer was judged incorrect,
- e) and whether the examiner was guided by extraneous considerations.

(3) If the objection concerns a decision of an assessor, the chair of the Doctorate Committee shall forward the objection to the assessor in question. In all other respects, (2) shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(4) In the event of a violation as in (2) Sentence 4 letters (a) to (e), if the Examination Committee does not already deal definitively with the objection at this stage of the procedure, or if there are concrete and substantiated objections to examination assess-

ments and professional comments, without the examiner changing their opinion as requested, the performance of the candidate in the examination will be re-assessed by other examiners who were not previously involved in the examination, or the thesis defence will be repeated.

(5) The appeal shall be dealt with definitively within three months. If the appeal is not upheld, the negative decision must be substantiated and opportunities for legal remedy must be specified.

(6) The appeal may not lead to a worsening of the examination grade.

20 Honorary doctorate

(1) In recognition of outstanding scholarly achievements in one of its fields of study, the School may award the degree of Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil. h. c.) in the appropriate form as a rare distinction.

(2) The nomination for an honorary doctorate shall be submitted by at least three members of the School's group of professors. This nomination shall be treated confidentially pending a positive decision on the application in accordance with the other paragraphs of this section. If the honorary doctorate is to be awarded in an international or national cooperation with a partner university, one of the members must come from this partner university. The nomination must set out the scholarly achievements and include the curriculum vitae and a list of the publications of the person to be honoured.

(3) It will be discussed by an Honours Committee which is appointed by the Faculty Council of the School. The Committee will be chaired by the Dean. At least three other members of the Committee must be professors, as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2. If the honorary doctorate is to be awarded in an international or national cooperation with a partner university, one of the members must come from this partner university. The Committee will draw up a written report on the personality and the scholarly achievements of the nominee. At least two scholarly opinions must be obtained from representatives of other universities who are not directly involved in the procedure.

(4) In the Faculty Council meeting preceding the one at which the resolution will be tabled, the Dean will announce that a decision on a nomination for an honorary doctorate will be required. At this time, the Dean will point out that the application, the expert opinions and the report of the Honours Committee are available in the Dean's office for confidential inspection by the members of the Faculty Council and

the School's professors, as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2.

(5) The Faculty Council will conduct the process of awarding an honorary doctorate in at least two readings. All the School's professors, as defined in Section 6 (2) Sentence 2, will be invited as consultants to the first of these two readings. Following the second reading, the Faculty Council will decide on the nomination in a secret ballot. An 80% majority of the attending voting members with a doctorate of the Faculty Council is required for acceptance of the application for the award of an honorary doctorate.

(6) In the case of rejection, only the nominators are to be informed. The refusal of an honorary doctorate is to be treated confidentially.

(7) After the nomination has been accepted, the Dean of the School will award the honorary doctorate by issuing a certificate as in Annex 4. The Dean will send invitations to a celebratory ceremony and select the speaker of the laudatory speech.

(8) The award of the honorary doctorate is to be communicated to the German universities as well as to the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture.

(9) The award of the title Dr phil. h. c. can be withdrawn. Section 17 applies accordingly.

**21
Effective date**

These examination regulations will take effect after approval by the Presidential Board on the date of their publication in the official notices of the University of Oldenburg. At the same time, the previously valid doctoral regulations of the Department 11 of Literature and Linguistics of April 22, 2002 (Official Notices, vol. 21, p. 97) shall cease to be in force.

**22
Transitional provisions**

Doctoral candidates who apply for initiation of the doctoral degree procedure pursuant to Section 9 within three years of the entry into force of these Regulations may request that the previous Doctoral Degree Regulations of the School in the version of 22/4/2002 (Official Notices, vol. 21, p. 97) be used.

**Annex 1
Re: Section 13 (2)**

Model for the title page of the thesis

Front:

.....
(Title of the thesis)

Thesis approved by the School of* of the University of Oldenburg in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil.)

approved thesis

by Ms/Mr *)
(First name and last name)

born on* in

Overleaf:

Assessor *)

Co-assessor(s):

.....
.
.....
.

Date of thesis defence:
.....

*) Please insert what is needed and delete what does not apply

Annex 2

Re: Section 14 (2)

School III:
School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies
of the University of Oldenburg
hereby confers on:

Ms/Mr *)

born on: in

the degree

Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil.)

after she/he* has successfully and duly completed a doctoral degree procedure with a thesis that was assigned **the grade**** on the following topic:*
.....*)
as well as a thesis defence, assigned the grade**, in which he/she* proved his/her* scholarly ability, and for the doctorate as a whole was assigned the overall grade**.

Oldenburg

The Dean*) The *) Chairperson
of the School of the Doctorate Com-
mittee of the School

*) Please insert what is needed and delete what does not apply
**) Grades: ausgezeichnet (summa cum laude, high distinction), sehr gut (magna cum laude, with distinction), gut (cum laude, credit), genügend (rite, pass)

Annex 3

Re: Section 14 (2)

School III:
School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies
of the University of Oldenburg
hereby confers on:

Ms/Mr *)
born on: in

the degree

Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil.)

after she/he* has successfully and duly completed a doctoral degree procedure with a thesis that was assigned the grade** on the following topic:*
.....*)
as well as a thesis defence assigned the grade ** in which he/she* proved his/her * scholarly ability, and for the doctorate as a whole was assigned the grade**.

The doctorate was carried out in the framework of a joint doctoral degree procedure of the Schools* of the University of Oldenburg and the School/Department* of*. The doctorate is therefore also recognized by the partner institution.

Oldenburg

The Dean *) The
*) Chairperson of the Doctorate
of School*) Committee
of the University of Oldenburg of School
of the University of
Oldenburg*)

.....
(Place, date)

The Dean *)
of the Department/School*)
of

*) Please insert what is needed and delete what does not apply

**) Grades: ausgezeichnet (summa cum laude, high distinction), sehr gut (magna cum laude, with distinction), gut (cum laude, credit), genügend (rite, pass)

Appendix 4
Re: Section 20 (7)

School III:
School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies
of the University of Oldenburg
hereby confers on:

Ms/Mr *)
born on* in
.....

in recognition of personal outstanding scholarly achievements, characterized by research contributions fundamental to the development of the field of studies.....*) of the School*)

the degree

Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Dr phil. h. c.)

Oldenburg

Dean of the School *)

*) Please insert what is needed and delete what does not apply

Annex 5

Re: Section 5 (1)

Supervision agreement

The scholarly supervision of the thesis includes the doctoral candidate's right to guidance and support of the research work by the supervisor and, if necessary, other persons whose counselling may be conducive to the quality of the work. This supervision is conducted especially in regular individual conversations and regular participation in doctoral programme events and/or doctoral colloquia of the department or school. The first supervisor will monitor the quality of the doctoral thesis and support the independent scientific development of the doctoral candidate in word and deed.

At the beginning, the doctoral candidate will draw up a timeline for the project, which is to be regularly updated and discussed with the supervisor. The doctoral candidate will regularly present preparatory work or drafts in the above-mentioned colloquia or comparable events.

Ms/Mr _____ (doctoral candidate)

and

Ms/Mr _____ (first supervisor)

and, if applicable,

Ms/Mr _____ (second supervisor)

and, if applicable,

Ms/Mr _____ (third supervisor)

If acceptance (pursuant to Section 5) and admission (pursuant to Section 7) coincide, the following will apply:

With their signature under the Application for Admission, the doctoral candidate agrees and commits to this supervision agreement. By their declaration of agreement pursuant to Section 7 (e) of the Doctoral Degree Regulations, the supervisor confirms their commitment.

Annex 6

Re: Section 1 (2)

"Bi-national doctoral programmes with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)"

1 Precedence, binding character, advice

(1) Joint bi-national doctoral degree procedures carried out in the form of cotutelle procedures between the University of Oldenburg (UOL) and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG) will primarily follow the special regulations outlined below. The general provisions of the doctoral regulations shall additionally apply, unless they contradict these special regulations.

(2) Before a bi-national procedure with the RUG is initiated, the doctoral candidate must be informed and advised on the special regulations below. Provided they agree with the special regulations, a "Cotutelle Agreement for the Joint Supervision leading to a Double Doctorate" (attached as template A to this Groningen Annex) is concluded with the doctoral candidate regarding the bi-national doctorate project. This agreement may also include different or additional provisions. This agreement must be entered into before a bi-national doctoral degree procedure can be carried out with RUG.

(3) If the candidate does not consent to the special regulations outlined below, the doctoral project cannot be carried out as a bi-national procedure with RUG but only as a national doctoral degree procedure based on the general provisions of the applicable UOL doctoral degree regulations.

2 Thesis

(1) The thesis must be written in English. The proposal should be written in English, Dutch and German.

(2) Based on the scientific requirements and the supervision needs, the thesis will be worked on alternately at both partner universities.

(3) The doctoral candidate must meet the requirements of both partner universities regarding admission, progress and performance.

3 Enrollment, fees, insurance

(1) The doctoral candidate should be enrolled in both partner universities according to the regulations at the respective university.

(2) UOL charges semester fees in accordance with the regulations of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG). As far as legally possible, the doctoral candidate will be exempted from paying tuition and semester fees to RUG.

(3) The doctoral candidate must provide proof of health insurance and private liability insurance for the duration of the stay in Groningen and in Germany.

4 Responsibilities, procedures

(1) The doctoral procedure is carried out in accordance with the legal regulations of both partner universities.

(2) Any costs incurred (travel expenses, etc.) by the supervisors or by members of the Examination Committee will be borne by their respective nominating partner university.

(3) The results of the individual procedural steps mentioned below are recorded in the PhD Project Monitoring System of RUG ("Hora Finita") and are also accessible there for anyone involved at UOL. If information required by UOL should not be accessible on Hora Finita, the responsible graduate school at RUG will inform UOL using other channels.

5 Publication

The thesis shall be published according to the regulations of both partner universities. The doctoral candidate's copyrights with regard to their thesis shall remain unaffected. The partner universities shall inform the doctoral candidate about the rules of the respective partner university regarding the publication of the thesis.

6 Intellectual property

(1) All rights concerning the thesis belong to the doctoral candidate.

(2) New knowledge and intellectual property rights (immaterial property rights, in particular inventions) arising from a joint project (foreground intellectual property rights) shall be jointly owned by both partner universities. They will enter into a separate written agreement to decide whether intellectual property protection should be applied for, how the application and any patents granted should be maintained or defended, how costs arising in the process should be handled, and how commercial use could be made of these rights.

7 Supervision

(1) The doctoral candidate shall be jointly supervised by a RUG supervisor and a UOL supervisor during the preparation of their thesis.

(2) The supervisors regularly consult with the doctoral candidate with regard to the progress of their academic work. Supervision is provided in equal proportions by both partner universities. The assigned supervisors will each bear an equal share of the supervision work. Day-to-day supervision and academic mentoring are provided by the supervisor at the site where the thesis is currently being worked on.

(3) A positive evaluation of the thesis by the supervisors is a prerequisite for submitting it to the Assessment Committee.

8 Assessment Committee

(1) Following a positive evaluation of the thesis by the supervisors, it is submitted to the Assessment Committee.

(2) The Assessment Committee has four members, of which at least one professor from each RUG and UOL. Members of the Assessment Committee must be professors who did not participate as co-authors of the thesis.

(3) The Assessment Committee shall be appointed by the partner universities by mutual agreement and in accordance with the applicable regulations of the respective partner university. At UOL, this is the responsibility of the Doctorate Committee.

(4) In accordance with the requirements of the UOL doctoral regulations, two members of the Assessment Committee are appointed as assessors of the thesis. The two assessors are appointed by the UOL, and the remaining two members of the Assessment Committee are appointed by the RUG. The assessors each prepare an individual expert opinion in which they suggest a grade for the thesis in accordance with the relevant regulations of the UOL.

(5) All members of the Assessment Committee provide a reasoned assessment on the thesis via Hora Finita. Provided that both assessors and the Assessment Committee as a whole approve the admission of the thesis, the Assessment Committee decides by formal resolution that the doctoral candidate will be admitted to the defence and the assessors assign a grade based on their reviews. The decision must be communicated immediately to the appropriate Doctorate Committee of the UOL.

(6) The grades mentioned in the above paragraphs 4 and 5 and in Section 10(3) refer exclusively to the award of the doctoral degree of the UOL, whose legal remedies shall be applied in accordance with the relevant doctoral regulations in the case of dissent over the award of grades. No grade is awarded in the conferral of the RUG doctoral degree unless the supervisors or Assessment Committee members propose that the award be "cum laude" (in the Dutch legal sense), in which case the Dutch procedure for conferring the "cum laude" award is followed.

(7) After a positive evaluation, the Assessment Committee forwards the thesis to the Joint Examination Committee (Section 9).

9 Examination Committee

(1) The partner universities shall, by mutual agreement and in accordance with the provisions of their respective doctoral regulations, establish a joint Examination Committee, which shall be composed of equal numbers of members from both partner universities. The relevant Doctorate Committee is responsible for the nomination on the part of UOL.

(2) The Examination Committee shall consist of at least five, but no more than nine persons:

- a) Professors from both partner universities;
- b) a maximum of two university members not holding a doctorate;
- c) the members of the Assessment Committee;
- d) the chairperson.

10 Thesis defence

(1) The disputation is usually held at the RUG and should comply with RUG doctoral regulations and, as far as possible, with the relevant UOL doctoral regulations.

(2) The doctoral disputation shall be conducted in English in the form of a public ceremony at the RUG, which shall be transmitted virtually to UOL in order to allow the UOL members to attend, and which shall be recognised by the UOL as a proper disputation.

(3) Immediately following the oral examination, the Examination Committee will decide in closed session whether the candidate has passed the oral examination. Following the disputation, the Examination Committee will determine the grade for the disputation as well as the overall grade for the UOL doctoral degree in accordance with relevant UOL doctoral regulations.

11 Completion of the doctorate

(1) Upon successful completion of the doctoral degree procedure, the partner universities shall confer their respective doctoral degrees in accordance with the rules and regulations in force at their respective universities. UOL awards the title "Dr. phil" in accordance with the relevant doctoral regulations. RUG awards the title "Doctor of Philosophy" (PhD). The doctoral degree may be used either as awarded by UOL or as awarded by RUG. According to the relevant UOL doctoral regulations, the German doctoral degree is awarded only after publication of the thesis.

(2) Both universities confer their doctoral degrees by means of a separate certificate in each case (cf. attached samples B to this Groningen Annex). Each university signs and seals its certificate, referring to the binational nature of the doctoral process, which leads to two doctoral degrees. The certificates clearly state that the doctoral candidate is only entitled to use either the Dutch or the German title. If one of the two universities does not confer its doctoral degree, this shall not prevent the other university from conferring its doctoral degree as a purely national degree.

12 Scientific misconduct (deception, plagiarism)

(1) If, during or after the completion of the binational doctoral procedure, circumstances become known that give rise to scientific misconduct (deception, plagiarism) or the suspicion of scientific misconduct, each university shall decide independently whether to initiate an appropriate investigation procedure in accordance with the regulations in force at its university.

(2) The partner universities shall inform each other about any procedures they initiate according to paragraph 1 and their results.

(3) Both universities may withdraw their doctoral degree without regard to whether the partner university does likewise.

13 Early termination of the binational doctoral degree procedure

(1) The progress of the binational doctoral degree procedure shall be reviewed annually; it can be terminated by the participating universities with a 3-month period of notice by terminating the contract on joint supervision mentioned in Section 1(2) (cf. Model A), if there is an objective reason. As long as the bi-national doctoral degree procedure based on the above agreement exists, the universities involved will support the candidate in successfully completing the Cotutelle procedure.

(2) An objective reason within the meaning of (1) above may also consist in a failure of the examination performance (thesis, disputation) or a dispute about the execution of the binational doctoral procedure including the decisions of the Examination Committee, the Assessment Committee or the supervisors/assessors.

(3) The bi-national doctoral degree procedure shall also end if the candidate terminates the agreement referenced in Section 1(2) with a notice period of 1 (one) month.

(4) In case of discontinuation of the binational doctoral procedure, the candidate is entitled to apply for continuation of their doctoral project at the UOL and to submit their thesis for re-evaluation according to the relevant doctoral regulations.

Annex A: „Cotutelle Agreement for the Joint Supervision leading to a Double Doctorate“

between

the University of Oldenburg represented by its President Prof. Dr. Ralph Bruder, Ammerländer Heerstr. 114-118, 26129 Oldenburg (Germany),

implementing entity: School of..... , represented by the Dean, Prof. Dr.

- hereinafter referred to as the "UOL" -

and

the University of Groningen, Broerstraat 5, 9712 CPSL Groningen (the Netherlands), represented by President Prof. Dr. Jouke de Vries,

- hereinafter referred to as the "UG" -

hereinafter collectively referred to as "Universities"

In due observance of the following

- the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek);
- the PhD Regulations of the University of Groningen (Promotiereglement);
- the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (Niedersächsisches Hochschulgesetz)
- the PhD regulations of the School ... (Promotionsordnung der Fakultät ...)

agree as follows:

Section 1 – Doctorates

(1) This agreement regulates the cooperation and the respective responsibilities of the Universities involved in the double doctorate of _____, born on and residing at _____.

(2) The topic of the thesis is _____.

The thesis will be written in English. The abstract shall be written in English, Dutch and German.

(3) The doctorate is expected to take ___ years to complete, commencing from ___. If necessary, such term can be prolonged in accordance with the rules in force at both of the institutions. The thesis will be completed in alternating periods at the two Universities, based on scientific and supervision needs.

(4) The doctoral candidate must meet the relevant requirements of both Universities regarding admission to the doctoral programme, progress and examination.

Section 2 – Enrolment, Fees, Insurance

(1) The doctoral candidate shall enroll at both Universities in accordance with each of the University's regulations. The enrolment is effective from ____.

(2) UOL will charge the fees and contributions stipulated in the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (Niedersächsisches Hochschulgesetz). To the extent legally admissible the doctoral candidate will be exempt from paying fees and contributions to the UG.

(3) The doctoral candidate must prove sufficient health insurance coverage for the full period of their stay in the Netherlands and in Germany as well as a personal liability insurance.

Section 3 – Responsibilities

(1) The doctorate will be realized in accordance with the legal provisions of both universities.

(2) Any costs incurred (travel expenses, etc.) by the supervisor or the members of the Examination Committee shall be borne by their respective university.

(3) The results of the following procedural steps shall be documented in the PhD Project Monitoring System of the RUG ("Hora Finita") and be accessible to the members of University of Oldenburg being duly involved in the joint supervision of this doctorate. If the information needed by UOL is not registered in Hora Finita, the Graduate School will inform UOL in a different way.

Section 4 – Publication

The thesis will be published according to the doctoral regulations of both implementing Universities. The intellectual property rights of the doctoral candidate regarding their thesis shall remain unaffected by its publication. Both Universities will instruct the doctoral candidate to follow the rules of both institutions concerning the registering, the description and the reproduction of the thesis.

Section 5 - IP

(1) Any rights related to the thesis will be held by the doctoral candidate.

(2) Foreground intellectual property rights shall be the property of both Universities. The Universities shall jointly apply to obtain and/or maintain the relevant intellectual property rights and shall strive to set up appropriate agreements in order to do so.

Section 6 – Supervision (Betreuer)

(1) The doctoral candidate shall research and write the thesis under the joint supervision of the thesis supervisor at UG, _____, and the thesis supervisor at UOL,_____.

(2) The supervisors will consult regularly on the research progress of the doctoral candidate. The supervision is equally divided between both Universities. Each University will invest 50% of the allotted time for supervision. The daily supervision and scientific mentoring resides with the supervisor located where the research work is being undertaken at that particular moment.

(3) The positive assessment of the supervisors shall be a necessary prerequisite for admission to the final examination.

Section 7 – Assessment Committee

(1) After the positive assessment of the supervisors, the thesis can be submitted to the Assessment Committee.

(2) The Assessment Committee consists of four persons of which at least one professor from the UG and one professor from the UOL. Only full professors employed by a university who have not co-authored with the doctoral candidate may be members of the Assessment Committee.

(3) The Assessment Committee shall be composed by mutual consent between the Universities, in accordance with the regulations in force at the Universities.

(4) In order to meet the criteria of the doctoral regulations in force at UOL, two members of the Assessment Committee are appointed as reviewers for the thesis. These two members of the Assessment Committee will be appointed by UOL, the other two by UG. The reviewers each draw a report and propose a grade for the thesis according to the regulations of the UOL.

(5) All members of the Assessment Committee will provide a substantiated opinion of the PhD thesis in writing via Hora Finita. If both reviewers and the full Assessment Committee support the admission of the thesis, the Assessment Committee formally decides on the admission of the doctoral candidate to the defense and the reviewers decide on the grade for the thesis, based on the reports of the reviewers. The report and the decision will be communicated promptly to the Doctorate Committee of the School of Linguistics and Cultural Studies/Philological Subjects of UOL.

(6) The grades mentioned under subsections 4 and 5 above and in Section 9 subsection 3 only apply to the awarding of the degree by UOL whose appeal procedures solely apply in case of any disputes on grades. At UG no grade will be given, unless the supervisors or members of the Assessment Committee propose to award the “cum laude” distinction; then the procedure for the awarding of the “cum laude” distinction for UG degree will be followed.

Section 8 - Examination Committee

(1) Both Universities mutually consult each other to compose a joint Examination Committee that equally represents members of both Universities, in accordance with their respective PhD regulations.

(2) After the positive assessment of the Assessment Committee, the thesis can be submitted to the joint Examination Committee.

(3) In accordance with the PhD regulations of the UG, the Examination Committee at UG shall consist of at least five persons;

- full professors, both from the UG and from UOL, and;
- a maximum of 2 University Readers/Associate Professors or Lecturers/Assistant Professors with PhDs;
- the members of the Assessment Committee;
- the chair.

Section 9 – Disputation

(1) The defense of the thesis will take place at RUG in a form compatible with both PhD regulations.

(2) The thesis will be defended in English during a public ceremony at the UG to be digitally transmitted to the UOL in order to allow participation of interested university members, and which is duly recognized by the UOL.

(3) After the Examination Committee has given a favourable recommendation it will have to agree on a grade for the defence as well for an overall grade according to the regulations in force at UOL.

Section 10 – Dual Award

(1) Upon successful completion of the examination procedure, both universities will confer their doctoral degrees according to the rules and regulations in force at their institutions. UOL will award the degree of “Dr. phil.”. RUG will award the degree "Doctor" (translated into English as: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)). The title may be used either in the form conferred by UG or in the form conferred by UOL. According to the regulations in force at UOL, the degree can only be awarded after the successful publication of the thesis.

(2) Both universities will award their respective degrees in two separate certificates according to Enclosures B. Each University signs and seals its respective certificate and makes reference to the joint nature of the supervision by the Universities, leading to the two doctoral degrees. The certificates shall make clear that the doctoral candidate is entitled to use either the Dutch or the German title. A decision by one University not to award the degree does not preclude the other partner from awarding the degree as a solely national degree.

Section 11- Fraud and Plagiarism

(1) In the event that (a suspicion of) fraud or plagiarism is discovered during or after completion of the PhD trajectory, both universities can decide for themselves whether to take action and both will follow their own procedure regarding scientific integrity.

(2) The Universities will keep each other informed about the procedure on scientific integrity and its outcome.

(3) A decision by one institution to strip the doctoral candidate of the degree does not hinder the other partner from upholding its doctoral degree as a solely national degree.

Section 12 – Entry into Force, Term and Termination, Failure, Final Provisions

(1) The present agreement holds as long as necessary for the completion of the doctoral degree. The agreement may be reviewed on an annual basis by each University and may be terminated with a three months notice if good reason is found to do so. As long as the agreement is in force the Universities commit themselves to supporting the doctoral candidate in continuing the project.

(2) As a ‘good reason’ in the meaning of Subsection 1 may be seen e.g. a non-approval of the thesis or any other dispute arising in connection with the implementation of the provisions or the appendices of this agreement concerning a decision by the Examination Committee, the Assessment Committee or the supervisors,

(3) In addition, the agreement may be terminated by the initiative of the doctoral candidate or following collegial advice from the doctoral supervisors with a one month notice.

(4) After premature discontinuation of the double doctorate the doctoral candidate may request to proceed the doctoral research at one of the Universities and have their thesis re-evaluated in accordance with the doctoral regulations at that university.

(5) There are no oral side agreements. Any amendments or supplements to this agreement, including the annulment of this written form clause, shall require written form.

(6) The ineffectiveness or unenforceability of one or more provisions hereunder shall not affect the effectiveness of the remainder of the Agreement. The Universities undertake to replace the ineffective or unenforceable provision with an effective and enforceable provision, which comes as close as possible to the purpose of the ineffective or unenforceable provision. The same shall apply to any gaps herein.

Unofficial version

University of Oldenburg

Name of President

Signature of President

Place, date

Name of Dean

Signature of Dean

Place, date

Name of Chair of Doctorate Committee

Signature of Chair of Doctorate Committee

Place, date

Name of Supervisor and Advisor or Co-
Advisor

University of Groningen

Name of President

Signature of President

Place, date

Name of Dean

Signature of Dean

Place, date

Name of Director of Graduate School

Signature of Director of Graduate School

Place, date

Name of Supervisor and Advisor or Co-
Advisor

For Annex 6

Annexes B1 and B2: Degree certificate and English translation
School III – Linguistics and Cultural Studies

Promotionsurkunde¹

Fakultät -X-
Bezeichnung der
Fakultät

PROMOTIONSURKUNDE

Die Fakultät für [...] der Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg verleiht mit dieser Urkunde

Frau/Herr¹ Vorname Nachname

geboren am ... in ... (Ort, Land),

nachdem sie/er* in einem ordnungsgemäßen binationalen Promotionsverfahren durch ihre/seine*
Dissertation mit dem Thema

„Titel“

und durch Bestehen der Disputation ihre/seine* wissenschaftliche Befähigung erwiesen hat,
den Grad einer/eines

Doktorin/Doktors der ... (Fachbezeichnung)

Prädikat Dissertationsschrift²⁾: ...

Note Disputation²⁾: ...

Gesamturteil³⁾: ...

Die Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg und die Rijksuniversiteit Groningen haben die
Dissertation gemeinsam betreut und verleihen im Rahmen dieser Doppelpromotion zwei Doktorgrade.
Von der Rijksuniversiteit Groningen wird der Grad verliehen: „Doctor“ oder „.....“. Es darf sowohl der
niederländische als auch der deutsche Grad geführt werden, aber jeweils nur alternativ einer von
beiden⁴.

Oldenburg, Datum

[Name]
Dekan/in der Fakultät für ...

[Name]
Vorsitzende/r des Promotionsausschusses der
Fakultät für ...

¹ Die Struktur und Formatierung der Urkundenvorlagen in Anlage 7 weicht aufgrund der speziellen Anforderungen und der gemeinsamen Erarbeitung der Anlage 7 mit der Rijksuniversiteit Groningen von den übrigen Urkundenvorlagen dieser Ordnung ab.

Englischsprachige Übersetzung der Promotionsurkunde¹

School -X-

Designation of the
School

CERTIFICATE (Official Translation)¹

The School of ... of the Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg (Germany) hereby confers on

Name

Born on ... in ... (place, country)

having presented her/his doctoral thesis entitled

„Title“

and having passed the oral examination

the Degree of

Doctor of ... (discipline....)

Doctoral thesis grade²: ...

Oral examination grade²: ...

Overall grade³: ...

The Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg and the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen have jointly supervised the dissertation and awarded the double doctorate. The degree awarded by the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen is: "Doctor" or "....". Both the Dutch and German degree may be used, but only one at a time.

Oldenburg, date

Name

Dean of the School of ...

¹ Die Struktur und Formatierung der Urkundenvorlagen bzw. deren Übersetzung in Anlage 7 weicht aufgrund der speziellen Anforderungen und der gemeinsamen Erarbeitung der Anlage 7 mit der Rijksuniversiteit Groningen von den übrigen Urkundenvorlagen dieser Ordnung ab.

Please note: This is an unofficial translation provided for your convenience only and does not have any legal binding effects! Only the German version is legally binding!