



Supplementary rules to NMBU's Regulations for the degree philosophiae doctor (PhD) at the Faculty of Life Sciences (BIOVIT)

The rules are based on NMBU's Regulations for the degree philosophiae doctor (PhD) adopted 27.02.2024 (in force from 27.02.2024).

The paragraph numbering refers to NMBU's PhD regulations.

§ 3 Responsibility for the PhD education

(2) The faculty

The dean's daily responsibility for PhD education is handled by the Research Committee (BIOVIT-FU).

(3) Program Council

The Research Committee has the role of program council for the PhD program in Biosciences.

Subject group leaders are responsible for the academic content of study programs that belong to their own subject group, possibly in collaboration with other subject group leaders.

§ 5 Admission

§ 5-1 General provisions

(2) Criteria for ranking between qualified applicants

Applicants who satisfy the admission requirements in section 5-2 of the regulations shall be ranked according to discretion based on an overall assessment of

- a) the documented educational background; relevance and grades
- b) job interviews and references; research talent, academic maturity, motivation and ability to work.

(3) Residency obligation

PhD candidates with

- a) external employer outside NMBU Campus¹
- b) fieldwork outside the NMBU Campus or in other countries

must normally spend a total of at least one year of their PhD education in the main supervisor's academic environment or other relevant academic environment at NMBU. The FU may approve exceptions to the provisions on residency obligation.

¹ NIBIO and Nofima are considered to be part of NMBU Campus.



§ 5-2 Admission requirements - requirements for education and English language skills

(2) Strong academic background

The requirement for a strong academic background from previous studies must be met as follows:

- The grades from higher degree exams (120 credits) must normally be in the best half of the applicant's student population.
 - This must be documented in the form of grade distribution, ranking number among master's students or a statement from the degree-conferring institution.
- Applicants with a grade of A or B on a science master's thesis from a relevant master's degree at Norwegian universities or university colleges, or with a grade at an equivalent level from other countries, are normally eligible for admission to the PhD program at the faculty.
- Applicants must have one or more courses in statistics from their bachelor's and/or master's degree.

§ 7 Supervision

§ 7-2 Appointment of supervisors

(1) The principal supervisor and the PhD candidate are both responsible for ensuring that the competence of the supervision group is utilized in the best possible way.

(2) Principal supervisors must normally hold a main position at Biovit and will be appointed from among the Faculty's associate professors and professors. Permanent employees in research positions and employees in tenure track positions may also be principal supervisors.

Exceptions to section 7-2 (2) may be applied for and approved by the dean.

§ 7-3 Content and scope of supervision

(3) The PhD candidate is entitled to approximately 100 hours of supervision per year for three years, i.e. a total of approximately 300 hours, distributed among all members of the supervisory group.

§ 8 Coursework

§ 8-2 Scope and content of the coursework

(1) The requirement for coursework is 30 credits including courses in research ethics and theory of science of at least 5 credits. In consultation with the main supervisor, the candidate may choose to include more credits.



As a general rule, courses in statistics are required in the coursework, or documented strong skills in statistics upon admission, in relation to the PhD student's subject area.

(2) Within the framework of 30 credits, the training component may include up to 5 credits in general skills such as project management, research communication or pedagogy. Courses in academic writing will not be recognized as credits in the training component.

(3) In addition to what is stated in the PhD Regulations, the following may be included in the training component:

- Presentation at a scientific conference (> 30 participants).
 - o Presentation of posters where the PhD candidate is the main author may be awarded up to one (1) credit per presentation.
 - o For oral presentations, up to two (2) credits may be awarded per presentation.

The number of credits for presentations at scientific conferences may not exceed four (4) credits in total.

- Popular science articles or “kronikk”, where the PhD candidate is the first author. A maximum of two (2) credits may be awarded for a “kronikk” or popular science article.

§ 9 Quality assurance measures

§ 9-2 (2) Mid-term evaluation

BIOVIT has its own guidelines for conducting the mid-term evaluation

[For our PhD-students – BIOVIT | NMBU](#)

§ 10 The thesis

(3) BIOVIT has its own guidelines for the design of the introductory chapter (“kappe”) of the PhD thesis ([For our PhD-students – BIOVIT | NMBU](#)).

Supplementary rules to NMBU's PhD regulations - BIOVIT