

Policy on Changing the Topic of a Ph.D. dissertation

Adopted on 12 September 2000

1. Doctoral candidates can change the topic and/or title of their dissertation with the written approval of their Doctoral Supervisory Committee. If any one member of the Committee considers this necessary, the Doctoral Candidate will be required to write and publicly defend a new dissertation prospectus in front of the Committee. The Committee may also propose that a partially or entirely new Doctoral Supervisory Committee be set up before the proposed change is considered for approval. Changes in the composition of the Doctoral Supervisory Committee will be implemented according to the general rules followed at the department while setting up a Doctoral Supervisory Committee anew.
2. If the Doctoral Supervisory Committee does not accept the proposed change of topic, the Doctoral Candidate will be required either to rewrite the prospectus or continue working on the previously defined dissertation topic. The Supervisory Committee's approval of a new dissertation topic and/or title signals that every member of the committee is willing to continue supervising the candidate's dissertation work.
3. The Doctoral Supervisory Committee must inform the coordinator of the Ph.D. program about all the decisions and recommendations mentioned under (1) and (2) without delay.