

## Supervision agreement for the doctorate

## Preamble

The supervision agreement is concluded between the supervisor of the doctoral project and the doctoral candidate. The supervision agreement is not a contract under public law in the legal sense, nor does it establish a "contract-like relationship" with the supervisor or with the doctoral candidate's university. Rather, it summarises in writing the basic principles of good cooperation between the supervisor and the doctoral candidate, which are actually self-evident.

The supervision agreement does not affect the regulations of the doctoral regulations of the Faculty of Physics dated 10 January 2012, the general regulations of doctoral studies of Bielefeld University dated 15 June 2010 or the employment law agreements.

- 1. The aim of the supervision agreement is to make the relationship between doctoral candidates and supervisors transparent in terms of content and time. The planning and implementation of the doctoral project should be organised through structured cooperation between supervisors and doctoral candidates in such a way that an independent doctorate is made possible and the project can be completed to a high standard within a reasonable period of time.
- 2. The supervisor shall ensure, as far as possible, that a suitable workplace and an appropriate academic environment are available for the doctoral project.
- 3. The compatibility of family and academic work is particularly supported. Special support measures will be agreed as required.
- 4. The participants undertake to observe the principles of good scientific practice. The doctoral candidate follows the rules for scientific work in the working group laid down by the head of the working group, e.g. rules on laboratory safety and occupational health and safety.
- 5. The doctoral candidate takes part in the scientific events organised by the working group. The doctoral candidate and supervisor discuss the progress of the doctoral project in regular supervisory meetings. These meetings are the central instrument of quality assurance in the supervision of the doctoral project and take place correspondingly frequently. Here, the doctoral candidate reports on the results obtained.

results obtained, these results are scientifically evaluated and the further planning of the doctoral project is discussed.

- 6. In cases of conflict, those affected turn to the doctoral committee or the Dean's office. The doctoral committee or the Dean's office assigns a suitable person to mediate. Cases of conflict may arise, for example, due to unreasonably long doctoral periods (target duration of around three years), infrequent supervision meetings (target frequency of at least once a quarter) or inappropriate workplace equipment. In addition, those involved can contact the university's central ombudsperson and counsellor.
- 7. The supervision agreement is valid for the period of acceptance as a doctoral candidate in accordance with the doctoral regulations. The supervisory relationship ends upon successful completion of the doctorate. If the doctoral candidate decides not to pursue the doctoral project any further, he or she may terminate the supervisory relationship with the supervisor. The Chair of the Doctoral Committee must be informed of this. The supervisor may terminate the supervisory relationship prematurely for good cause, e.g. in the event of serious misconduct. The doctoral committee must be informed of this intention in advance. The parties may reach further agreements, e.g. in the case of external doctorates, structured doctorates, the involvement of a second supervisor or to regulate the balance between family and academic work:

Bielefeld, the	
Signature	Signature
(doctoral	(supervisor)
candidate)	
Original to doctoral candidate	
Duplicate to doctoral committee	