

Doctoral Charter

At the confluence of teaching and research, doctoral education is a central part of the University's mission. With its four faculties, many institutes, groups, laboratories and research centres, the University of Neuchâtel is a major research hub within the Swiss university landscape.

The doctorate — the most advanced internationally recognised diploma our University can award — combines theoretical knowledge with high-level professional research experience.

With a view to offering a high-quality programme culminating in the award of a doctoral degree,

THE UNINE UNDERTAKES TO:

- Provide conditions conducive to doctoral education in terms of infrastructure, equipment, funding and supervision options, publications, and providing responsive advice on matters of learning.
- Facilitate the smooth progress of the doctorate with academic, technical and administrative support.
- Promote doctoral education within the institution, the academic community and, where possible, among future employers.

DOCTORAL CANDIDATES UNDERTAKE TO:

- Take full responsibility for their theses in terms of the objectives and deadlines established for the various stages of the project, the final deadline to be met, and the quality of the project.
- Ensure that they have the means (resourcefulness, critical thinking, creativity, motivation and language skills) to submit a high-quality thesis within the timeframe set out.
- Keep abreast of academic publications.
- Communicate the results of their work.
- Respect the UniNE's codes of conduct, especially with regard to academic integrity.
- Participate in internal and external educational and research activities, particularly those offered and/or required by doctoral programmes.

THESIS DIRECTORS UNDERTAKE TO:

- Provide doctoral students with an environment conducive to the completion of theses.
- When theses are co-supervised, define the respective roles of each member of the supervision team.
- Provide doctoral students with personalized academic supervision which is both qualitatively and quantitatively appropriate.
- Uphold the academic integrity of the work carried out under their supervision.
- Confirm the results of the work as it progresses and take stock of the skills acquired.
- Ensure that doctoral students are meeting their commitments and developing their skills throughout the project.
- Work within the established timeframes, updating them if necessary, and accomplish the objectives and work plan agreed with the doctoral student.
- Encourage the doctoral student to participate in doctoral programmes, if the courses offered are relevant to the research in question.

TOGETHER, THE DOCTORAL CANDIDATE AND THE SUPERVISOR:

- Agree on the subject and form of the thesis and the specific pathway of doctoral education. According to the practices of different faculties, doctoral students and supervisors agree, at the appropriate moment, on the composition of the thesis panel and the advisability of any potential co-supervision or co-tuition.
- Discuss their respective expectations.
- Agree whether additional courses should be taken.
- Agree how they will work together, in terms of schedule, work plan, means of communication, working conditions and tuition to be provided.
- Decide how to promote the thesis, with regard to communication strategy, academic publications and the filing of patents, in compliance with the research promotion provisions that the University has put in place.
- Where required, inform one another of any unilateral referral to a faculty doctoral commission or of any recourse to mediation.
- Respect the regulatory provisions regarding the doctorate, according to the relevant faculty.

Name of doctoral candidate:

Signature

**Name of thesis supervisor:
or thesis co-supervisors:**

Signature(s)

By signing this charter, each party is confirming that s/he has taken careful note of its content.

