

Guidelines for publication-based PhD dissertations at the Institute of Chemistry

Based on the German version from 1.10.2022, modified on 20.12.2024 (see page 1)

English version from 1.2.2025

For a publication-based dissertation, the following rules apply:

1. A publication-based dissertation can only be prepared if all supervisors of the thesis agree.
2. The minimum requirements for a publication-based dissertation are three publications in peer-reviewed journals (only peer-reviewed original articles; no reviews, patents, highlights, book sections, perspectives, ArXiv, Abstracts and comparable formats).
3. The publications must have one overarching theme and a scientific connection.
4. Besides the chapters presenting the publication, the dissertation must contain an introduction, a discussion, and a complete methods section along with all references relevant to the entire thesis.
5. The experimental and methodological details must be presented such that a third party is able to properly and safely reproduce all experiments and data analysis.
6. Open Access articles may only be used for the dissertation if the journal has been listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ, <https://doaj.org/>) at the time of publication of the article.
7. All articles have to be at least accepted.
8. The doctoral candidate must be the first author. Shared first authorships with one other person is possible.
9. The contributions of the candidate to every chapter must be clearly specified. This is either done via a front page to every results chapter or via an extended footnote clearly detailing the contributions of all authors to the chapter.
10. Additional publications or unpublished work may be added to the dissertation provided that at least three published/accepted manuscripts make up the core part of the thesis (see pt 2. above).
11. The entire dissertation has to be written in one language.
12. The PromO of the Faculty also holds for publication-based dissertations.