Directives for the PhD in Management

The present directives provide specific guidance on the PhD in Management programme at Università della Svizzera italiana, coordinated by the Institute of Management (IMA). Articles are numbered in the same sequence as in the corresponding Regulations for the degree of PhD of the Faculty, which these directives complement.

2. Degree title
The PhD programme in Management confers the title of PhD in Management; or, in Italian, Dr.sc.ec. con specializzazione in Management.

4. Graduate Studies Committee
In principle, the director of the PhD programme in Management is a member of the Graduate Studies Committee, acting as a representative for the programme.

7. Admission Requirements
A Master's Degree in a relevant area.

9. Doctoral programme
30 ECTS is the total of credits a candidate has to obtain to complete the PhD programme in Management, which consists of the following compulsory PhD-level courses:

- Research Methods I
- Research Methods II
- Econometrics
- Building Management Theories
- Social Networks and Organizations
- Micro-organization Theory
- Macro-organization Theory
- Strategy
- Advanced Topics in Management
- Management and Organization Seminar

In addition to the prescribed courses listed above, PhD candidates are encouraged to take field courses to broaden and improve their methodological and theoretical skills in areas related to their research. PhD-level courses may be chosen either from the range of USI doctoral programmes or at other higher education institutions, with the approval of the thesis director and after consulting the PhD programme director. As a rule, candidates are to complete their coursework within the first two years of registration.
13. Progress review
In addition to coursework performance, a PhD student’s progress is evaluated based on his presentation of a first-year and a second-year paper. The first-year paper must be submitted to the thesis director and PhD programme director, and presented at the Institute’s seminar series within 15 months of admission to the PhD programme. The second-year paper must be submitted to the thesis director and PhD programme director, and presented at the Institute’s seminar series no later than 27 months after admission as a PhD candidate. Students are encouraged to report on their work in progress regularly, in the framework of the seminar series of the Management Institute, also after their second-year.

Please note:
Graduate students of the doctoral Programme in Management shall be expected to take part in the seminars run by the Management Institute, as well as in any associated activities (for instance, in meetings held with guest speakers).