



Instructions
(updated 5.12.2019)

Competence of post graduate student supervisors, preliminary examiners, examiners, opponent and custos

Two or more persons are appointed on application as the supervisor for post graduate studies. Of these, all must hold a doctoral degree and at least one must be a professor, associate professor or assistant professor (Tenure Track) in the Faculty. If a person other than a professor, associate professor or assistant professor (Tenure Track) in the Faculty is proposed as the main supervisor for a doctoral dissertation, his or her up-to-date list of publications must accompany the application.

The University Regulations provide for the authority on appointing the examiners of doctoral dissertations, the examiners of licentiate theses, and the opponent and the custos for the public examination.

The preliminary examiner of a doctoral dissertation must be a professor, a docent or a person who should hold a corresponding qualification. They must all come from outside the University of Eastern Finland. If a person holding a docent's qualification is proposed as the preliminary examiner, their up-to-date list of publications must accompany the proposal. The examiner for a licentiate thesis must hold a doctoral degree.

In accordance with the [Study Regulations](#) of the University of Eastern Finland, the opponent must come from outside the University of Eastern Finland and be at least a docent or hold a corresponding scientific qualification. The Faculty recommends that the opponent be a person of professorial level. If a person holding a docent's qualification is proposed as the opponent for a doctoral dissertation, their up-to-date list of publications must accompany the proposal. The Dean shall appoint a custos to represent the university at the public examination. The Faculty recommends that the custos at the public examination be a professor or an associate professor



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at the University of Eastern Finland, but a main supervisor holding a docent's qualification can also act as a custos.

The preliminary examiners or the opponent of a doctoral dissertation may not have conflicting interests. In practice, disqualification from the doctoral dissertation process means that the supervisor, preliminary examiner, opponent or another person involved in the process has interests conflicting with the doctoral dissertation at hand or parties thereto, calling their impartiality into question. For example, having written research publications together or having worked in the same research group are grounds for disqualification from the doctoral dissertation process.

The preliminary examiners or the opponent of a doctoral dissertation may not have conflicting interests. In practice, disqualification from the doctoral dissertation process means that the supervisor, preliminary examiner, opponent or another person involved in the process has interests conflicting with the doctoral dissertation at hand or parties thereto, calling their impartiality into question. For example, having written research publications together or having worked in the same research group are grounds for disqualification from the doctoral dissertation process.

Corresponding principles of disqualification apply to the licentiate thesis process.

Unless there is an extremely important reason, the public examination of a dissertation is to be held in premises administered by the University of Eastern Finland.