

Comments on the Award of a Doctoral Degree

- (1) Please note that you may only use your title (Ph.D. or Dr. rer. nat.) after the publication of the PhD thesis and receipt of the official doctoral diploma.
- (2) The dissertation has to be published at the latest one year after the thesis defense. In exceptional cases and upon written application, this deadline may be extended by max. 12 months (§21 (6)). If you miss the deadline for publication you lose all rights to the conferral of the doctoral degree and to receive the diploma.
- (3) You are obliged to discuss the need for any further modifications to the dissertation with the members of your doctoral thesis advisory committee prior to publication.
- (4) Please note that it usually takes 3-5 weeks to issue the diploma.
- (5) According to §21 it is possible to apply for a restricted online publication (application before the date of the oral examination). In case of well-founded reasons only an abstract, and not the entire thesis, will be published online for one year after the date of your thesis defense. With this option the thesis is published and you can get your diploma right away. One year after your thesis defense, the SUB will automatically publish your complete dissertation online, unless you apply for an extension for an additional year in time.

For further information on prerequisites for a restricted online publication please see the RerNat-O doctoral degree regulations § 21 (8). Important: Application for a restricted online publication is not possible after your thesis defense.

Important note: If you are considering **pursuing an academic career**, please make sure that you familiarize yourself with the eligibility criteria of various funding agencies concerning the cut-off dates for applying for fellowships. Especially the highly attractive longer term or junior group funding schemes (e.g. Emmy Noether, Sofja Kovalevskaja, Helmholtz, Fritz Thyssen) are varying in this regard. For some the cut-off date is the date of your PhD certificate, for some it is that of your thesis defense, which makes a noteworthy difference when, for example, you can only apply up to four years after your PhD. In this regard, please make yourself familiar with these regulations early on and, if possible for you, consider a restricted online publication to avoid missing the chance to apply for these funding schemes.

Please check the cut-off dates of a selection of fellowships [HERE](#) (please note the list is not exhaustive).

Instructions Regarding the Publication of the Dissertation

- a. The dissertation may be published after the revision certificate (see next page) is signed by the supervisor on behalf of the members of your doctoral thesis advisory committee. Please check directly with the [SUB](#) (or any other publishing house for publication as a book) which documents and how many bound hardcopies of your dissertation they require for publication. More information on our [webpage](#).
- b. According to RerNat-O §21 (5), you have to provide confirmation of the publication of your thesis to the GAUSS Office in one of the following formats:
 - a) in case of online publication: the proof of publication on the SUB Göttingen document server (issued by the SUB),
 - b) in case you publish the thesis as a book: three copies of the retail edition if a commercial publishing house manages distribution to booksellers and a minimum edition of 100 copies is confirmed; one bound copy of the complete approved version must also be submitted.
- c. **Submit the signed revision certificate and the publication certificate (preferably as a scanned version via email) to the GAUSS Office** after having completed the publication procedure. We then prepare your doctoral degree certificate. Please contact the GAUSS Office, in case you need a provisional certificate.

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