

Joint PhD Procedure Groningen – Oldenburg

The Universities of Groningen (RUG) and Oldenburg (UOL) offer doctoral candidates the possibility of obtaining a binational PhD degree (double doctorate). All essential aspects of the binational doctoral procedure are defined in the **Cotutelle Agreement for the Joint Supervision of the Doctorate and the respective doctoral regulations of RUG and UOL**. The following information offers a general overview.

Framework conditions

- The cotutelle agreement regulates the **joint doctoral project**, including the dissertation topic, supervision, and expected duration
- The **thesis** is written in **English**, with **summaries** in **English, Dutch and German**
- Research is carried out in **alternating periods at both universities**, depending on supervision and research needs
- The doctoral candidate must fulfill the **doctoral regulations of both universities**

Enrollment

- Doctoral candidates need to enroll **at both universities (at RUG: via Hora Finita, at UOL: via PhD Office School VI)**

Supervision

- The PhD project is **jointly supervised** by one professor from each university
- Both **supervisors share equal responsibility** and regularly review the progress

Assessment & Examination

- The **Assessment Committee** (4 members, 2 proposed from each university) reviews and grades the thesis
- The **Examining Committee** (5+ members, equal contribution from RUG and UOL, including the members of the Assessment Committee) jointly conducts the public defense consisting of a public lecture and the PhD ceremony
- The **defense** takes place at the **RUG**, is held in **English**, and is **recognized by both universities**

Publication

- The thesis will be published according to the doctoral regulations of both universities

Double Degree Award

- Upon successful completion, both universities confer their respective doctoral degrees:
 - **UOL:** “Dr. ...” (depending on the specialisation/field of study, see below)
 - **RUG:** “Doctor” (Doctor of Philosophy, PhD)
- Both degrees are issued in **separate certificates**, each referring to the double doctorate PhD with the other university

Further information:

PhD regulations

Dr. rer. nat. PhD regulations (UOL) with the annex “Bi-national doctoral programmes with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)”: <https://uol.de/en/school6/early-career/doctorates-3>

Dr. rer. medic PhD regulations (UOL) with the annex “Bi-national doctoral programmes with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)”: <https://uol.de/en/school6/early-career/doctorates-2>

Dr.med/MD-PhD regulations (UOL) with the annex “Bi-national doctoral programmes with Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)”: <https://uol.de/en/school6/early-career/doctoral-phase/drmed/md-phd-degrees>

PhD regulations (RUG): <https://www.rug.nl/about-ug/organization/rules-and-regulations/onderzoek/promotiereglement?lang=en>

Graduate Schools

Groningen: Graduate School of Medical Sciences (GSMS)

- Online registration in Hora Finita via <https://www.rug.nl/research/gradschool-medical-sciences/current-phd-candidates/register-and-myuniversity?lang=en>
- Further information: <https://www.rug.nl/research/gradschool-medical-sciences/?lang=en>

Oldenburg: OLTECH Graduate School

- Registration via application form: <https://uol.de/en/oltech/formal-steps-oltech-membership/oltech-membership-application>
- Further information: <https://uol.de/en/oltech>

→ **The courses are mutually recognized by the other graduate school. Please keep track of your credits in both systems in parallel.**

Contact:

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