

NOTES ON THE ORAL EXAM FOR “Dr.sc.hum”

For **calculation of the final grade**, there is an equal amount of weight attributed to each, the dissertation and the oral exam:

The dissertation grade is determined by the evaluation marks given by your supervisor and the two additional reviewers; the oral grade is determined by the marks achieved in the three examination subjects. The average of these six marks defines the final grade*.

The oral examination is in the **major subject** (which is the subject area of the dissertation) with your supervisor as examiner, and in **two additional minor subjects** areas which have to be chosen from the clinical and the medical-theoretical subject areas present at the Medical Faculty (see list of subjects on our homepage); the suggested examiners must correspond to the chosen subject.

The oral examination tests the candidate’s **basic understanding and knowledge** of the subject areas, largely as covered in standard introductory textbooks.

The candidate is strongly advised to **get in contact with the examiners** as soon as possible. The examiners should suggest basic literature as preparation in the subject area and may also require the taking of introductory courses before the examination.

Once your dissertation has been accepted, the Doctorate Committee appoints the **Examination Board** (consisting of at least four members): the chairperson (member of the Doctorate Committee), the examiner of the major subject (usually your academic supervisor), the examiners of the two minor subjects (suggested by you), and the reviewers of the dissertation (optional attendance).

Time and place of examination is agreed on by the candidate with the members of the Board and conveyed to the Dean’s Office at least 14 days in advance of examination for administrative preparation (help: www.doodle.com).

The oral **examination time** is about one hour:

In the introductory 15 minutes the candidate presents the dissertation (the chairperson has to agree in advance to the use of technological support such as PowerPoint, the 15 min time limit is to be upheld); about 15 min are designated for the exams in each subject area.

The oral examination is **successfully passed** when each of the three subject areas is evaluated with “*rite*” at least. If any of the three subject areas is not passed, the oral examination has to be repeated in its entirety.

* In case the final calculation results in “*summa cum laude*”, two additional external dissertation assessments are required after completing the oral examination; both will have to approve to “*summa cum laude*”.