Information about the doctoral programme
(starting in Sept 2016 or later)

Vásárhelyi Pál Doctoral School of Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences

March 2020
4-year doctoral programme

Start

Y1 —

Education and Research Stage
2 years
(max. 2 passive semesters)

Y2 —

Comprehensive exam

Y3 —

Research and Dissertation Stage
max. 2 years
(max. 2 passive semesters)

Y4 —

Public defence
max. 1 year

Y5 —

Admission to comprehensive exam with
≥ 90 credits, from which
≥ 30 credits from subjects
2 submitted paper manuscripts,
at least 1 in English

Start Research and Dissertation Stage
only with successful comprehensive exam
→ automatically initiates the Degree
award procedure

Degree award procedure: max 3 y

≥ 240 credits → Absolutorium
Submitted dissertation
Semester plan

The student makes the plan, the advisor gives guidance.

Submit to the Dean’s Office

- **In Semester 1**: Until the end of Week 3 of the teaching period
- **Later semesters**: until the end of the registration period (=Week 0), along with the report of the past semester.
- Until the end of Week 5, latest
Semester report

Submit to Dean’s Office right after the end of the semester
– in a single document together with the next semester plan
– credits for research, publication: given by supervisor
– credits for teaching: given by head of department

Special cases:
– 4th semester: a preliminary report, to be joined to the application for the comprehensive exam
– Final semester: no plan for the next semester, obviously
### 8 semesters, 240 credits

#### Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Teaching</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum to meet</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum taken into account</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credits for subjects must be completed in the first 2 years.
## Recommended credits per semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Total credits</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
<th>Semester 5</th>
<th>Semester 6</th>
<th>Semester 7</th>
<th>Semester 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>30 9 9 9 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>24 3 3 3 5 5 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>138</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>44 5 5 5 5 6 6 6 6 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>94 10 10 10 10 12 12 15 15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication and conference</td>
<td>48 3 3 3 7 7 7 9 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>240 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30 30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. cumulative:</td>
<td>240 0 0 45 90 95 140 185 240</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limit:  \( \leq 45 \) credits in any semester

\( \geq 90 \) credits, from which

\( \geq 30 \) from subjects
Doctoral subjects

- Weekly classes, \( \geq 5 \) students must register
- Subjects not included in the Academic plan: the DIT (=Council) must preapprove at the beginning of the semester
  - MSc or PhD courses from other faculties or universities
  - summer and winter schools
- Three subject groups: basic, specialisation, elective. Different subjects for the three PhD programmes
  - Infrastructure Civil Engineering
  - Structural Civil Engineering
  - Surveying and Geoinformatics Engineering
- You state your PhD programme in the semester report.

- Hint: Join PhD students’ Facebook page
## Credits for accepted publications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of publication</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book in English /other language</td>
<td>15/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book part, chapter in English/other language</td>
<td>5/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal article* in English /other language</td>
<td>12/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference paper in proceedings* in English/other language</td>
<td>4/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article in a department publication* in English /other language</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpublished scientific presentation in English /other language</td>
<td>2/1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- divided by the number of authors (supervisor: not counted)
- submitted but not accepted: 50% (remaining 50% when accepted)

* Only peer-reviewed publications, accessible on paper or electronically. For publications in non peer-reviewed volumes half of the credits above are given. Conference papers and department publications are eligible only if at least 4 pages long. The credits in the table should be divided by the number of authors, excluding the supervisor (i.e., taking the full credits if a paper is written by the doctoral student and its supervisor).
Requirements for obtaining the PhD

2 foreign languages
- **English**: state-accredited oral and written language certificate at level **B2** or equivalent (TOEFL, IELTS, etc.).
- **A second language** (= any language that is not your mother tongue and in which your scientific discipline is published): Submit state-accredited oral and written language certificate at level **B1** or equivalent. Also: proof of professional or linguistic experience, incl. university course, teaching, oral presentation, two semesters of language course at BME.

≥ 4 publications (enter all into MTMT bibliography)
- min. 2 articles in a peer-reviewed journal in English or a second language
  - min. 1 journal in Web of Science or Scopus
  - min. 1 with at least 50% share by you
- min. 2 in English or a second language, with at least 50% share by you
- min. 12 points. The point table is different from the credits one in the previous slide!
Dissertation

Own scientific results that are new on the international scientific scene. Presented in a self-contained monograph. Not a collection of journal papers. New results are summarised in numbered theses, each supported by own scientific publications.

Formatted with 1.5 line spacing, 12 pt font size and 2.5 cm margins. There is no mandatory style template.

**Maximum 110 pages**, including the table of contents, the theses, the bibliography and possibly a list of figures and a list of symbols. Any appendices are not included in this page count (but they are optional to read).
How to obtain the absolutorium (leaving certificate)

You may complete your studies in any semester of the second stage, i.e. after the comprehensive exam. There are two alternative ways to do so:

1) Submit the dissertation to the HBDT at any time during the semester, regardless of your cumulative credits („HBDT” way)
   – If you fulfill all prerequisites to start the review process, the HBDT will award you all the missing credits to reach 240 credits in total. It will thus recognise that you obtained the required PhD competences.

2) Complete 240+ credits at the end of any semester and submit the final report („DIT” way)
   – You may submit the final report in the semester after the semester when you completed the 240 credits
   – Your absolutorium is issued by the DIT (Council of the Doctoral School)

This will be your last semester.
How to deal with the end of scholarship and visa?

*Absolutorium* terminates the following at the end of the semester:
- student legal status
- any scholarship
- any visa

How to bridge the time between the end of the semester till the doctoral defence?

Currently BME recommends two solutions, also approved by Tempus PF:

1) **Defend before the end of your last semester.** For this, submit your dissertation and obtain the Absolutorium at the beginning of the semester (“HBDT” way). You’ll get scholarship all along.

2) **Defend in the 6 months after your last semester.** You may stay legally in Hungary if you prove to the Hungarian immigration authorities that you are looking for a job. Inquire them for the precise duration and other details. You won’t get a scholarship for that extented stay.
The „HBDT“ way to obtain your PhD within the 8 semesters

Semester N-1

- Complete first version of the dissertation
- while waiting for acceptance of journal papers supporting the theses

Semester N

1. Home review of dissertation
2. Finalise dissertation
3. Wait for referees (2 mo), then the decision of the HBDT
4. Prepare reply to referees

- Submit dissertation to HBDT → Absolutorium
- Public defence announced
- Public defence
- End of scholarship and visa

Home defence (may even happen in the previous semester)
Administration of PhD students

Administration (subjects, certificates, finances...)
Dean’s Office, Faculty of Civil Engineering
Ms Ágnes KISMARTON: PhD programmes in English

Academic co-ordination (regulations, transfer...)
Dr. Róbert NÉMETH – secretary of the Doctoral School
Dr. Tamás KRÁMER – vice-dean for science
Prof. László KOLLÁR – head of the Doctoral School