

General information about PhD double degrees for SDC PhD students from UCAS

According to the Partnership Agreement on the establishment of SDC (2010), SDC PhD students may be awarded a PhD double degree in accordance with national rules and procedures of the partner institution.

General conditions

From the Danish PhD Order it follows that PhD students with primary enrolment abroad may be awarded a PhD double degree if they spend time at the Danish institution and if they obtain qualifications comparable to a Danish PhD programme. A mutually obliging agreement between the two institutions must set out the conditions for the collaboration, including the assessment, defense, awarding of degrees, etc.

The PhD student must:

- Have a Chinese main supervisor and a Danish co-supervisor.
- Be able to document adequate English language skills.
- Have a Master's degree at the time of enrolment, or, if enrolled based on a Bachelor's degree, obtain Master's degree qualifications before the defense.
- Carry out independent research work under supervision.
- Complete PhD courses or similar training activities corresponding to min. 28 ECTS.
- Participate in the course 'Responsible Conduct of Research' (3.1 ECTS) at Health.
- Spend a minimum of 6 months at Health in the Danish co-supervisor's lab or research team
- Gain experience in teaching or other forms of knowledge dissemination.
- Complete a PhD thesis in English on the basis of the PhD project.
- Successfully complete a defense of a PhD thesis at the home university according to applicable rules and regulations at the home university.
- Successfully complete a public defense in English of an English PhD thesis at HEALTH according to the rules and regulations at HEALTH.

Application

PhD students apply to the Graduate School of Health for status as an SDC PhD double degree student using the form "Agreement on a double PhD degree – for SDC PhD students with primary enrolment in China". No other forms are accepted. Applicants will be asked for degree diplomas and documentation for English language skills, as well as information about completed and planned PhD courses, teaching/knowledge dissemination activities, etc.

The application form is also the agreement form and serves as the mutually obliging agreement between Health and the home university. If any discord, the agreement text always takes precedence.

Process

1. The PhD student sends in the filled out and properly signed application form as well as all required documentation. No other forms are accepted.
2. The application is evaluated by the Graduate School for compliance with the regulations at Health. The PhD student will be contacted if something is lacking or amiss.
3. Be aware that it is not always possible to unite the regulations of the two institutions. In this case, the agreement will not go forward.
4. Upon approval and signature by the Head of the Graduate School the PhD student and his/her home university will receive a copy of the signed agreement.

5. The PhD student will be enrolled as a PhD double degree student at Health and receives a login for AU e-mail, course catalogue, etc.
6. The PhD student hands in his/her thesis to the home university following the format and language requirements at the home university. The assessment of the PhD dissertation and defence takes place according to rules and regulations at the home university.
7. No more than 12 months after conferral of the PhD degree from the home university the PhD student submits a PhD thesis in English to HEALTH according to the guidelines and requirements of HEALTH. If applicable, documentation of Master's degree qualifications, courses etc. is also submitted.
8. Before handing in the thesis the co-supervisor at HEALTH submits a suggestion for an assessment committee to the Graduate School of Health and is approved by the PhD Committee at HEALTH.
9. After a successful defence the Academic Council can grant the PhD degree to the PhD student, if the assessment committee recommends the PhD degree is awarded.
10. The PhD student receives a diploma with the title 'Double PhD in Health Sciences' from Health. The diploma is only valid in conjunction with the diploma from the home university.

Please be aware of any extra course work etc. that will need to be completed during the time as a PhD double degree student. If the PhD student fails to complete the programme as agreed, the PhD double degree will not be awarded.

Questions can be directed to PhD Administrator Anne-Mette Øeby (aml@au.dk) at the Graduate School of Health, who will also be able to assist in filling out the agreement form.

Reference documents

- Partnership Agreement on the establishment of SDC (2010)
- Guidelines for PhD double degrees at the Faculty of Health (2012/2018)
- The Danish PhD Order (2013)
- Guidelines for the PhD degree programme at the Graduate School of Health (2015)
- Information to Chinese SDC PhD students (2017)
- Agreement on a double PhD degree – for SDC PhD students with primary enrolment in China (2018)