



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

FACULTEIT INGENIEURSWETENSCHAPPEN

Criteria for evaluating a PhD

1. The research performed should be of high quality and the amount should be sufficiently large,
2. The candidate should have an in depth understanding of the topic and, hence, answer well the questions asked by the members of the jury,
3. The candidate should have a critical attitude w.r.t. her/his own research results and those described in the literature,
4. The contribution of the PhD research should be clearly situated w.r.t. to the existing literature,
5. Good presentation at both the private (technical) and public (accessible for a broad audience) defence,
6. Well written PhD text,
7. Well written short summary in layman terms.
8. If applicable, the PhD text has been adequately revised according to the comments of the members of the jury, and a written and motivated reply to the comments and questions has been submitted, along with a detailed list of the changes made.

Publications in renowned international journals with peer review point towards the highest grade.

Additional criteria for evaluating a PhD in Engineering Sciences – Architecture

Criteria

1. New perspectives/insights.
2. Positioning w.r.t. other schools.
3. Development of a continuous thread.
4. Logic of the descriptions.
5. Completeness of the sources (references).

Difficulty

1. Risks taken in the problem statement (classical research question or questions/problems that nobody dared to tackle)
2. Penetrating into another world of thought or culture (e.g., study of a Japanese architect: did the researcher master the Japanese culture and the Japanese way of thinking?)
3. Retrieval of the relevant sources (e.g., finding sources in archives, musea ... can be an achievement on its own).

Additional criteria for evaluating a PhD in Engineering Technology

1. *The output of the PhD research*
It is likely that the research results of the PhD can be valorised economically or societally in a relative short period. The PhD has contributed, or has great potential to contribute to one or more of the following IOF-parameters of the university: patents, industrial contract research, spinoffs.
2. *Insight and vision on the valorisation procedure*
The PhD candidate has insight in the different steps necessary to valorise the results.
3. *Practical realisation*
The research results of the PhD have been realised in a proof-of-concept or a prototype.
4. *Strategic and economic importance of the research*
The research contribution has been situated w.r.t. industrial contract research, patents, and spinoff possibilities.