

Cumulative dissertation

It is possible to write a cumulative dissertation instead of a monograph.

The following rules apply:

1. Application

Applications for a cumulative dissertation must be submitted to the head of the programme. A three-member commission set up for this specific purpose decides whether an application is accepted. In this context the examination regulations of the doctoral programme apply.

2. Topic

The topic of all contributions to the dissertation must be related to psychotherapy science. The submitted elements must cover a coherent research topic: the dissertation should not consist of thematically unrelated publications that are merely strung together.

3. Content

The scientific contributions to the dissertation must mostly be compiled on one's own. The cumulative dissertation must include at least two scientific articles as first author and one scientific article in co-authorship. However, complex research topics can often only be tackled within larger research groups and in cooperation with others. Therefore co-authorships are generally possible. They are evaluated depending on the main authorship and other co-authorships. For joint publications, a declaration by all authors must be attached, explaining the contribution of all parties involved. The introduction must include a theoretical part, including methodology and a methodological presentation of the research topic. In addition, transitions and connections must be created between the various publications. The dissertation must conclude with a reflection, discussion and summary.

4. Academic quality of the publications

Articles in peer-reviewed journals (at least standard journals) are suitable publications. They must be major articles; research notes, reviews, conference abstracts or the like are not suitable. Such articles may already be published or must have been accepted for publication.

5. Language of the publications

We highly recommend publishing in an internationally recognised academic journals in English language. In some cases, publications in German could also be acceptable. Only if the supervisor(s), the reviewers and the committee members of the final doctorate exam are fully capable of understanding a language other than English can the Doctorate Team consider a paper published in that language. Nevertheless, it has to be announced in written form in advance to the Doctoral Team. The Doctorate

Team has to might ask for an official translation in order to consider it acceptable for becoming part of a cumulative dissertation

6. Length of the publications

Each article submitted as part of the cumulative dissertation should be min. 10 (ten) pages long written in Times New Roman, font size 12.

7. Task of the reviewers

The appointed reviewers evaluate the complete dissertation. In their review, they are in no way bound by an already published article or by a publication commitment for an article. Co-authors of submitted publications cannot be reviewers.

8. Excluded publications

It is not allowed to submit publications that have already been used for obtaining another academic degree. It is also not allowed to submit publications which have been published before the official start of the doctorate studies at Sigmund Freud University, even if they are related to the doctoral topic. Publications, for which the student already received ECTS points for a module “Active participation in the scientific discourse” are also not eligible for being part of a cumulative dissertation. A respective affidavit must be enclosed.