

## **Guidelines for PhD-thesis in ITEM**

In the research school ITEM there are PhD-candidates that work within or across the academic disciplines of life science, humanities and social science. ITEM's guidelines will enable each PhD-student to make a thesis that is suitable for the relevant academic traditions of their discipline(s).

### **1. Regulations**

PhD-candidates that are admitted to ITEM must follow the [forskrift \(regulations\)](#) for the degree of philosophiae doctor (ph.d.) at the University of Stavanger, as well as the [studieplan study plan](#) for the PhD-programme in Social Science at the University of Stavanger.

### **2. The content of the thesis**

According to the PhD regulations, a thesis can be constructed in different ways:

- In the form of a longer, continuous work, known as a monograph.
- In the form of several smaller works and a «kappe» (an introductory chapter) that join the different works together, known as an article-based thesis.

Smaller work encompasses scientific journal articles or book chapters, that have been submitted for peer review. Journals and publishing houses must be listed by the National Publication Board as accepted publication channels.

### **3. The scope of the thesis**

Monograph and article-based thesis should not exceed 100.000 words including summary and notes but excluding bibliography and appendix. If the thesis exceeds the allowed word count, an application of dispensation can be sent to the chair of the research school, in which the exemption is validated. A lower word count limit has not been established.

In material-based monographs there might be a need for larger appendices with catalogues, illustrations, maps, overviews of data, tables, interview printouts, etc.

According to the regulations given by the study plan for article-based theses, this should consist of at least 3 articles and a continuous text ("kappe") in the form of an introductory chapter, and sometimes a concluding chapter. At least 3 articles should have the PhD-candidate as the first author, and at least 2 articles should be submitted for publication and under review when the thesis is submitted for examination. It is recommended that at least 1 article is accepted for publication.

### **4. Co-authorship**

An article-based thesis can contain 1 or more articles that the PhD-candidate has co-authored. The PhD-candidate must be first author of at least 3 articles and have the main responsibility for the academic work. The introductory chapter («kappe») must be single-authored by the candidate. The candidate and co-author(s) should familiarise themselves with the Vancouver rules for co-authorship.