

## Instructions for the expert review group at the mid-way review and final review seminars

- In conjunction with the mid-way review and final review seminars, a specially appointed expert review group provides constructive views on the doctoral student's thesis, including an assessment of current strengths and weaknesses and guidance on how to proceed. After the seminar, the expert review group meets for an hour to jointly summarise their views. The doctoral student and doctoral student reviewers do not participate in this subsequent meeting. A written summary of the expert review group's views must be submitted to the research coordinator together with the seminar minutes within five working days. The most senior internal reviewer writes the summary and takes the minutes.
- Regardless of the type of thesis, monograph or compilation, the expert review group must consider the thesis as a whole. In the case of a compilation thesis, the mid-way review focuses on the articles and the final review on the summarising chapter.
- At the start of the seminar, the doctoral student is invited to briefly comment on the text. This is followed by a critical review of the text in dialogue with the doctoral student. To save time, the discussant should refrain from making a long summary of the text. The other members of the expert review group contribute their views. A benchmark for the seminar time is two hours, where space must also be given to the other seminar participants. As a suggestion, 45 minutes are reserved for the discussant and 10 minutes for reviewers 1 and 2 respectively, and the remaining time is distributed between the doctoral student reviewers and the rest of the seminar participants.
- It is the doctoral student's text that is the focus of the discussion.
- One obvious point of discussion is the scholarly quality of the thesis, but it is also important to examine its communicative aspects.
- It is essential that all parts of the thesis should be critically reviewed in relation to the whole (introduction, purpose, background, theory, method/analysis, results and discussion) and that suggestions should be made on how best to complete the work.