

# Admission requirements/additional provisions for the PhD programme in Bildung and Pedagogical Practices at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

**Adopted 29/10/2024**

The programme is regulated by the Norwegian Regulations for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree (PhD) at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences.

## **Responsibilities:**

See the description under the general provisions for the PhD programme.

## ***Admission***

Admission to the PhD Programme in Bildung and Pedagogical Practices occurs continuously throughout the year. The programme committee is responsible for considering applications for admission.

In order to be admitted to the PhD programme in Bildung and Pedagogical Practices, the applicant must have completed a master's degree, major subject or equivalent, and be able to demonstrate high grades obtained. The following grades will normally be prerequisites for admission:

- master's thesis or equivalent: grade B or higher
- average for the study part of the master's degree: grade B or higher

The educational course of study qualifying for admission to the programme may include basic vocational training. The basic admission requirement is a degree in teacher education or education in (pedagogical or) education(al) science(s)/didactics/education studies at master's level (including, e.g.,: pre-school teacher training/nursery education with master's supplement, primary and lower secondary teacher training with a master's supplement or integrated master's degree, subject teacher training with a master's supplement or integrated master's degree, integrated lecturer education, master's education with a one-year undergraduate teacher training programme, or subject-specific bachelor degree with a pedagogical or didactic master's degree) or another relevant master's degree.

All master's programmes directed by the Faculty of Education, Arts and Sports at HVL and graded as per the stipulations above qualify for admission to the PhD programme.

Applicants from within other relevant course areas are also eligible for admission and are evaluated by the programme committee based on the extent to which their master's education/degree course(s) are relevant for the PhD programme in Bildung and Pedagogical Practices.

Applicants holding a master's degree without pedagogical or didactic component must be able to document at least 5 study points in education, pedagogy or didactics, or one year of full-time practice in educational/pedagogical/didactic work.

### ***Programme components***

The programme committee is responsible for ensuring that the various courses of the programme are on offer for PhD candidates. At the beginning of their studies, PhD candidates must make a plan indicating which optional courses they choose from a number of such courses available in the next two years.

The programme committee may approve other activities as part of the training component with up to 5 ECTS. This includes activities such as popular science research dissemination, presentations at scientific conferences, or longer stays at other research institutions.

The following guidelines for awarding credits apply:

- Research stay of 3 months or longer - 3 ECTS
- Research stay of 2 months - 2 ECTS
- Shorter research stay of minimum 2 weeks - 1 ECTS
- Overall assessment of other dissemination activities (conferences, presentations, editorials, popular science publications, shorter Erasmus stays, etc.) - up to 2 ECTS
- Participation in research school seminars, 25-30 hours of school activity is equivalent to 1 ECTS

A research stay is defined as a stay at another research environment different from the one the candidate belongs to and can also apply to stays at another institution in Norway.

The programme committee approves the credit-earning activities and the number of ECTS assigned to each activity. Applications for approval are processed by the programme committee after the completion of the activities. Similar to the requirements for courses, training elements should also be no older than two years at the time of application for admission. Applications must include attachments documenting the activities and are processed after the overall completion of the activities for which credit is requested.

All courses of the programme require a grade B or higher in order to be passed. That is, for PhD candidates to obtain a pass for any of these courses, they must obtain a grade B.

## ***Reporting***

The PhD candidate and supervisor must submit individual progress reports annually to the programme committee. The head of section must have annual follow-up conversations with the PhD fellow and their supervisor. The individual reports and conversations together form the basis for reporting to the programme committee.

## ***The PhD thesis***

The programme committee may approve the use of languages other than Norwegian or English in the thesis. In this case, it must be stated in the application for admission that the PhD fellow wishes to use another language. If the PhD fellow wishes to use another language than Norwegian or English during the programme, and this was not applied for upon admission, the PhD fellow must send an application to the programme committee with a recommendation from supervisors.