



Information on the doctoral examination from October 29, 2020

Due to the restrictions imposed by the corona virus, doctoral examinations must again be conducted completely digitally. Exams in attendance mode are not possible.

For examinations via video conference, all participants (doctoral students, examiners, observer) connect individually via video conference. Pure telephone conference calls are not permitted.

Video conference

Video conferencing services approved by the UZH for data protection reasons must be used (e.g. Microsoft Teams, see <https://www.zi.uzh.ch/de/teaching-and-research/event-support/videoconference/desktop-vc.html> . MS Teams now also makes it easy to invite external guests). If it is not possible to use these services, other services (Skype or similar) may be used.

Declaration of consent

If a video conference is held, all persons involved must sign a declaration of consent. This will be sent with the approval of the registration for the examination and can be signed electronically. The declaration of consent is sent back to the «Abschlusssteam» of the «Studiendekanat» by the main supervisor together with the other documents (grade sheet, minutes).

[Video conference consent form \(German only\)](#)

Technical assistance

The organisation of the video conference is left to the participants themselves; the «Abschlusssteam» of the «Studiendekanat» cannot provide technical support. The Graduate School will be happy to answer questions about the organisation, but can only provide limited technical support.

Please check in good time before the examination date whether all technical requirements are met.

During the examination

Before the examination, the main supervisor asks the doctoral candidate whether he or she feels able to take the examination. At the end of the examination, the supervisor obtains the agreement of all participants that the examination is relevant to the examination. Both are recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

In the event of technical difficulties (interruptions, sound or image problems, etc.) that are not resolved after 10 minutes or in the event of continuing minor interruptions that make it impossible to hold an examination interview, the examination must be cancelled and a new date must be arranged. In such a case, the main supervisor will inform the graduate school.

To discuss the grading, the doctoral candidate must «leave the room», i.e. leave the video conference. He or she is then rejoined for the announcement of the grade.

After the examination, the grade sheet is sent by the main supervisor by e-mail to all other examiners for signature (electronic signature is possible). Finally, the main supervisor sends all documents to the «Abschlusssteam» of the «Studiendekanat».