

Requirements to an article-based PhD thesis in Law

Number of articles in cumulative dissertations

In general, a cumulative dissertation should be comprised of three to five articles – either individual or co-authored articles (see the PhD executive order § 12, stk. 4). If substantively justified, a cumulative dissertation may deviate from this rule. It would be essential that the articles provide new knowledge and insight. Thus, the articles must be of substantial length. The deviation must be motivated by an accompanying letter written by the main supervisor.

Expectations to the level of the articles

The articles should be on a level suitable for submission to scientific journals.

Requirement to context, introduction, and problem statement in cumulative dissertations

All dissertations must be submitted with a short Danish and English abstract. To secure that a cumulative dissertation contains the necessary context, it would be mandatory to include a summary containing an introduction, problem statement, methodological considerations, and conclusion. This part of the dissertation will not be published in traditional manner. In general, dissertations with fewer articles call for longer introductions.

Monographies

Traditionally, dissertations within law in Denmark and the other Nordic Countries have to a great extent been published as monographies. The length is normally 250 – 450 pages. The monography is traditionally published through one the respected Danish or foreign publisher.

June 2022