

Requirements to an article based PhD thesis in Business Economics

A PhD dissertation in Business Economics should comprise 1) at least 3 papers and 2) an introduction and conclusion (together, 30-50 pages or more), which can be combined in one chapter or consist of separate parts.

Ad 1) The quality of the individual papers is of course the primary criterion. Each paper should represent an independent and separate contribution to the relevant scientific field, have the length of a standard paper in that field, and be suitable for publication in recognized international peer-reviewed journals. It is emphasized that handing in three well-developed papers with solid quality is better than handing in more papers of lower quality. The aspiration should be to have at least one of the papers accepted for review when the dissertation is handed in. The PhD student should clearly show her competences to work in a self-determined manner. This can be done through single-authored papers or as major contributor to co-authored papers.

Ad 2) The introduction and conclusion should represent the dissertation's papers as a whole, explaining the overall research gap and research questions, the relationships between the papers, their combined contribution to the overall research question, the conclusions and possible wider perspectives.

Independently of the publication status of the papers it is the evaluation committee's responsibility to assess the quality of the dissertation. It is the quality of the dissertation as a whole that is the object of the evaluation.