

Requirements for article-based and monograph-based PhD dissertations in Political Science and Journalism

Article-based dissertations

Number of articles in cumulative dissertations

A cumulative dissertation must be comprised of three to five articles – either individual or co-authored (see the Ministerial Order on the PhD Programme section 12, 4/Danish version: § 12, stk. 4). If substantively justified, a cumulative dissertation may deviate from this rule. The deviation must be motivated by an accompanying letter written by the main supervisor. It is essential that the articles provide new knowledge and bring a contribution to their respective fields. It is strongly recommended that at least one of the articles is single authored.

Expectations regarding the level of the articles

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

If an article has been accepted, published or is under review at the time of thesis submission, it should be mentioned in the thesis.

Kappa: Requirement to contextualizing the articles

All dissertations must be submitted with a short abstract in both Danish and English.

In addition, the dissertation must include a *kappa*. The purpose of a *kappa* is to explain the overall research gap and research questions, the relationships between the articles, their combined contribution to the overall research question, the conclusions and possible wider perspectives. *Kappa* can also include methodological issues that could not be addressed at length in the articles. It is recommended that the length of the *kappa* should be between 40 and 60 pages. It is accepted that theses with higher number of articles have shorter *kappas* (ie. closer to 40 pages).

It is not expected that the *kappa* will be publishable in an academic journals.

Monograph-based dissertations

A more traditional format of PhD dissertations is a monograph. Although there are no fixed rules, traditionally, a monograph would be expected to have a minimum of 200-250 pages.

Upon defence, a monograph-based thesis can be published as a book or as several articles.