

1 Detailed Research Plan

Between 3 and 6 months of starting work on their doctoral project, GSGS students write a detailed research plan of about 1500-2000 words. This document forms the basis for discussions during a meeting (either joint or separate) with all doctoral committee members. Therefore, it needs to be submitted to them at least 14 days before the meeting. Please check your supervision agreement to see when your report is due at the GSGS Office. Submit it to your doctoral committee at least a month before this date.

The Detailed Research Plan should contain:

- An introduction into the current state of knowledge in the field, including all relevant literature;
- The aim of the research project / doctoral thesis, pointing out open questions that will be addressed during the project and their relevance to the field;
- Planned research steps (e.g. data collection, fieldwork, experimental programme, modelling steps) explaining which methods and techniques will be used to tackle the problem and why;
- Approximate time plan and milestones.
- Overview of activities carried out so far that count toward GSGS points, using the GSGS activities report form.

2 Progress reports

About 9 months after the detailed research plan, GSGS students deliver a progress report of no more than 3000 words. Further progress reports are due every 9 months thereafter.

Check the feedback form of your previous meeting to see when your report is due at the GSGS Office. Submit your progress report to your doctoral committee at least a month before this due date. Progress reports form the basis for discussions in your meeting with your doctoral committee members, who must get at least two weeks for reading and commenting your report. After the meeting, you have another two weeks to submit your report and the other required documents to the GSGS office.

Progress reports should describe:

- Research questions and/or hypotheses (including recent modifications);
- Progress made;
- Problems encountered, including a discussion of their grounds and any solutions found so far;
- Future goals and a research plan for the coming period (including time schedule);
- Publication strategy.
- Overview of activities carried out so far that count toward GSGS points, using the GSGS activities report form.

On recommendation of the direct supervisor, a report can alternatively be written in the form of a (draft) publication (unrestricted length). In this case, an extended discussion and outlook part should be added.