# Template for research plans - to be submitted on application to doctoral studies at the School of Health Sciences and the School of Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Health, Örebro University[[1]](#footnote-1)

# Introduction

There are two types of doctoral study programmes – one concluding with the doctoral degree (240 credits, corresponding to four years of full-time study) and one concluding with the licentiate degree (120 credits, corresponding to two years of full-time study). If the programme is completed at a 50 per cent pace, the total programme length will be eight and four years respectively. Doctoral studies are to be based on progression from previous studies and aim to develop the knowledge and skills needed to conduct autonomous research.

The research plan is to be completed jointly by the doctoral student and supervisor and be attached to the application for admission to doctoral studies. The research plan is to be followed up half-way into the programme. If substantial changes are made to the original research plan, these are to be entered into the individual study plan (ISP).

**Links to the university’s webpages on doctoral studies:**

[Doctoral studies at Örebro University (oru.se)](https://www.oru.se/english/study/doctoral-education/doctoral-student/public-defence-of-doctoral-thesis-and-diploma/)

[Regulations handbook for doctoral education](https://www.oru.se/globalassets/oru-en/education/research-education/regelhandbok-for-utbildning-pa-forskarniva_en.pdf) (PDF)

# 1. Basic information

**Subject and specialisation:**

*Select subject area (and any specialisation) from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Preliminary thesis title:**

# 2. Applicant

**Name:**

**Professional title (e.g. physician, nurse, audiologist):**

**Current employer/place of work:**

*Select current employer/place of work from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Specify any other employer/place of work:**

**Highest academic degree:**

*Select your highest academic degree from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Specify any other degree:**

# 3. Principal and assistant supervisors

For more information about supervisorship, see Örebro University’s [Guidelines for supervising doctoral studies](https://www.oru.se/globalassets/oru-sv/utbildning/utbildning-pa-forskarniva/ovriga-dokument/riktlinjer-for-handledning-inom-utbildning-pa-forskarniva_en_final.pdf) (PDF).

## Principal supervisor

**Name:**

**Year of birth:**

**Professional title:**

**Current employer/place of work:**

*Select current employer/place of work from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Specify any other employer/place of work:**

**Highest academic title/rank:**

*Select your highest academic title/rank from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Email address:**

**Phone number:**

**Grounds for nomination in terms of expertise and role in the thesis work (3‑4 lines):***Provide details of the subject and method expertise that support the appointment as supervisor. Also detail the nominee’s specific role within supervision, in relation to the other supervisors.*

**Number of other doctoral students of which the nominee is supervisor (specify below):**

Principal supervisor of other doctoral students (number of):

 Assistant supervisor of other doctoral students (number of):

**Has completed course on doctoral supervision:** [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**

**Has completed the online course “Research Ethics for Postdocs and Researchers in Medicine” (can be accessed via this** [**link**](https://www.oru.se/english/research/research-integrity-and-ethics/national-web-training-in-research-ethics-for-postdocs-and-researchers-in-medicine/)**):** [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**

## Assistant supervisor

*(The information below must be provided for all assistant supervisors.)*

**Name:**

**Year of birth:**

**Professional title:**

**Current employer/place of work:**

*Select current employer/place of work from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Specify any other employer/place of work:**

**Highest academic title/rank:**

*Select your highest academic title/rank from the list below by clicking “Select an object”.*

**Select an object**

**Email address:**

**Phone number:**

**Grounds for nomination in terms of expertise and role in the thesis work (3‑4 lines):**
*Provide details of the subject and method expertise that support the appointment as supervisor. Also detail the nominee’s specific role within supervision, in relation to the other supervisors.*

**Number of other doctoral students of which the nominee is supervisor (specify below):**

Principal supervisor of other doctoral students (number of):

 Assistant supervisor of other doctoral students (number of):

**Has completed course on doctoral supervision:** [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**

**Has completed the online course “Research Ethics for Postdocs and Researchers in Medicine” (can be accessed via this** [**link**](https://www.oru.se/english/research/research-integrity-and-ethics/national-web-training-in-research-ethics-for-postdocs-and-researchers-in-medicine/)**):** [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**

# 4. Brief summary of the project, including background and plan for execution

(maximum of 1,000 characters):

# 5. News value, originality and degree of significance of the project

(maximum of 1,000 characters):

# 6. Research plan

*The research plan should in brief describe the background, overall purpose of the project as well as specific problems, material and methods for the planned sub-studies in accordance with the headings below. The research plan can either be entered directly into this template or attached separately as a PDF (maximum of 5 pages including references – comp. Times New Roman, 11 points).*

**Background incl. references:**

*This section should discuss theories, concepts, previous research and the research front internationally/nationally within the field to be studied, backed up by references. It is to lead to a thesis statement which identifies a knowledge gap. It should also offer an explanation as to why the proposed research is important. References are to be written in compliance with an established reference management system of the applicant’s choice.*

**Overall purpose and thesis statement(s) and/or hypothesis:**

**Material and method for the planned sub-studies (alt. monograph)**:

*Introduce material and methods for the planned sub-studies (study population, data sources, variables, laboratory analyses). The method description should provide details of study design, as well as of the statistical methods that are considered to address the specific problems.*

**Considerations regarding sample size:**

*Describe and give reasons for the planned sample size using statistical power calculations. If such calculations are not deemed relevant for the study design in question, you need to provide reasons for this.*

**Preliminary schedule for planned sub-studies (alt. monograph):**

**Describe in brief how the different sub-studies contribute to progression of your doctoral studies and to the development of autonomy in conducting research:**

# 7. Research ethics

**Research-ethical considerations and reflections:**

*In this section, a reflection should be provided, discussing any ethical problems that may be associated with the thesis project, how these will be handled, and the research-ethical considerations that have been made.*

**Application for and decision on ethical review in Sweden or abroad (EPM/Ethical Review Agency)**

*Click the relevant boxes (X) below, answer the subsequent questions alternatively provide the reasons for your answers.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Application submitted | If approval has been awarded, provide date of decision, registration number and entity responsible for the research | Application planned | Application not considered relevant (give reasons below) |
| **Monograph** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]
| **Sub-study I** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]
| **Sub-study II** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]
| **Sub-study III** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]
| **Sub-study IV** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]
| **Sub-study V** |[ ]   |[ ] [ ]

**Reasons why application is not deemed relevant:**

**Application of access to sample collection and personal data under the Swedish Biobank in Medical Care Act has been submitted or is planned:**[ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** [ ]  **Not relevant**

**Other applications for ethical approval have been submitted or are planned:**
[ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** [ ]  **Not relevant**

1. The template for research plans has been approved by the Faculty Board of Medicine and Health on 2022-04-07 (ORU 03167/2020). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)