



# Prisca Sapientia Institute

## Doctoral Thesis Regulations

### *Ph.D. in Dermatology and Venereology*

#### Prisca Sapientia Institute

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#### Article 1 – General Framework

The doctoral thesis constitutes the final and essential requirement of the Ph.D. in Dermatology and Venereology. It must demonstrate the candidate's ability to conduct original, high-quality research that contributes to the advancement of knowledge in the field of dermatology, venereology, or related medical sciences.

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#### Article 2 – Thesis Topic and Proposal

- Each student must submit a **thesis proposal** by the end of the **second academic year**.
  - The proposal must include:
    - Title and research question
    - Objectives and expected outcomes
    - Methodology
    - Ethical considerations
    - Timeline
  - The proposal must be approved by the **Academic Committee** and supervised by an officially assigned **Ph.D. advisor**.
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#### Article 3 – Structure and Language

- The thesis must be written in **English**.
- It must include the following sections:
  - Abstract
  - Introduction and literature review

- Research objectives
  - Materials and methods
  - Results
  - Discussion and conclusions
  - Bibliography
  - Appendices (if applicable)
- The minimum required length is **40,000 words**.
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#### Article 4 – Originality and Publication

- The dissertation must be an **original work**, free from plagiarism and previously unpublished.
  - All theses will be checked using plagiarism detection software.
  - At least **one scientific article** based on the doctoral research must be submitted to a **peer-reviewed journal** prior to the thesis defense.
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#### Article 5 – Supervision and Progress Reports

- Each candidate is assigned a **supervisor (advisor)** who provides academic guidance and approves progress.
  - Students must submit **annual research progress reports** to the doctoral office.
  - Failure to submit reports or maintain academic contact may lead to withdrawal from the program.
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#### Article 6 – Submission of Thesis

- The final thesis must be submitted in both **PDF** and **printed format** (if requested) to the Secretariat.
  - The submission deadline is **at least 60 days before the scheduled defense date**.
  - The thesis must be accompanied by:
    - Signed supervisor approval form
    - Abstract
    - Declaration of originality
    - Proof of submitted/published scientific article
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#### Article 7 – Thesis Defense

- The defense is public and conducted **online or in person**, before an **international evaluation committee** of at least three experts.
- The candidate must present and defend the thesis in English.

- The final decision is made by the committee based on the quality of the work and the candidate's oral presentation.
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#### **Article 8 – Final Evaluation and Title**

- The evaluation may result in:
  - Accepted with distinction
  - Accepted
  - Accepted with minor revisions
  - Major revisions required
  - Rejected
- Upon successful defense and approval, the candidate is awarded the title:

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Dermatology and Venereology – EQF Level 8**

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#### **Article 9 – Archiving and Dissemination**

- The thesis will be archived in the **official digital repository** of the Prisca Sapientia Institute.
  - With the author's permission, it may also be made publicly available through international academic networks (e.g., OpenAIRE, ResearchGate).
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#### **Article 10 – Final Provisions**

- These regulations may be updated by the Academic Board.
- For issues not covered herein, the general Ph.D. policy of the Prisca Sapientia Institute shall apply.



**Zurich**  
**16/04/2025**



**General Director**  
**Dr. Milo Dolci**