

UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED
DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

TRAINING PLAN

Valid: from the first semester of the academic year 2024-2025

At the SZTE Doctoral School of Economics, students participating in the structured training programme must acquire 240 credits during 8 active semesters. Credits can be earned for theoretical courses, independent research and publication activities, and teaching. Minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 45 credits must be completed in each semester.

In the Doctoral School, a smaller number of credits are related to the theoretical courses completed, while a larger number are related to research and publication activities. During their training, students specialise first in training programmes and then in research workshops.

Training programmes of the Doctoral School of Economics:

- Programme in Economic Policy and Globalization (in Hungarian and English)
- Programme in Business Administration (in Hungarian and English)
- Programme in Ecological Economics (in English)

The training programmes aim to achieve learning outcomes corresponding to level 8 of the Hungarian Qualifications Framework:

- Knowledge

Possesses a research-level knowledge of the scope, general and specific features, main directions and well-defined boundaries, agreed and contested contexts of the discipline.

Have a constructive understanding of the contexts, theories and the conceptual systems and terminology that underpin the discipline or field of study.

Possesses the research methodological skills necessary for independent research in a given discipline/subject area.

- Competences

Ability to analyse creatively the field of study, to formulate synthetically and in a new way broad and specific contexts and to evaluate and critically assess them.

Ability to apply and develop methods of knowledge acquisition and problem solving specific to the field.

The ability to develop creatively new and hitherto unknown practical aspects of theoretical issues.

Ability to design and implement new projects, to carry out research in a given discipline, to develop new techniques and approaches.

The ability to identify unforeseen technical problems and to explore the detailed theoretical and practical background to the level of research needed to solve them.

The ability to construct and communicate new relationships relevant to the field, and to build and communicate broad contexts relevant to personal and community existence.

- Attitudes

Represents and develops, in relation to its own subject, the relations that contribute to the process of human self-creation by virtue of the specificity of the field.

He/she has the interest and learning capacity to identify and solve unforeseen research problems in the field which are currently not transparent.

A strong professional commitment, a persistent dedication to the search for new paths, and an acceptance of the need for perseverance.

- Autonomy and responsibility

A creative, creative autonomy to develop and initiate new areas of knowledge and to initiate new practices.

Ability to take a leading role and to participate in the formulation of theoretical and practical issues with a high level of cooperation.

Ability to play an equal role as a discussion partner with experts in the field.

Can take responsibility for raising and responding to new ethical questions in relation to the theory and practice of his/her profession.

Fields of activity and their credit value

		Credits to be completed
Theoretical subjects	Common compulsory subjects	54
	Programme-specific compulsory subjects	30
	Optional subjects	6-18
Independent research activity	Research Forum (72 credits)	72
	Research Workshop (40 credits)	40
Publication activity	Publication (10-60 credits)	10-60
Education	Educational activities (0-32 credits)	0-32
Total:		240

1. Theoretical subjects

Regulations of the University of Szeged Governing Doctoral Training Programmes and the Awarding of Doctoral Degrees (UDR) Annex 4. 6-7.

6. *The credit point value of the theoretical course with two lessons per week (14 weeks/semester) shall be 3–6 points. The credit point value shall change in proportion to the change in the total number of lessons i.e. taking an intensive course with an external lecturer.*

7. *For the pre-degree certificate that states that all courses have been covered, at least 15 credits points shall be earned from the theoretical courses.*

UDR V. 2.

Requirements to be eligible to take the comprehensive examination include earning at least 90 credits within the training and research phase of the doctoral programme (first four semesters) and earning all the 'training credits' prescribed by the training scheme of the doctoral school (except for candidates who are working toward the doctoral degree on their own, whose student status is established by passing the comprehensive examination).

The range of theoretical subjects is divided into three parts:

- *compulsory subjects common to all three programmes (6 credits/subject, 9 subjects, 54 credits).*
- *programme-specific compulsory subjects (6 credits/subject, 5 subjects, 30 credits),*
- *optional subjects (at least 2 subjects to be completed, 3 credits/subject, 6-18 credits).*

Students may also take programme-specific compulsory courses from other programmes as electives for 3 credits.

Courses available in Hungarian

		Subject
Theoretical subjects (90-102 credits)	Common compulsory subjects (54 credits)	Mikroökonómia
		Kutatómódszertan alapjai
		A közgazdaságtudomány filozófiája
		Bevezetés a kvantitatív kutatásba
		Tudománykommunikáció
		Makroökonómia
		Többváltozós statisztika
		Bevezetés a kvalitatív kutatásba
		Publikációs szeminárium
	Programme-specific compulsory subjects (24 credits)	Economic policy and globalisation programme
		Globalizáció
		Ökonometria
		Monetáris és fiskális politika
		Iparpolitika és innováció
		Gazdaságpolitikai paradigmák
		Business administration programme
		Viselkedés-gazdaságtan
		Fogyasztáselmélet
		Szolgáltatásmenedzsment
		Kvantitatív döntési modellek
		Menedzsment
	Optional subjects (6-18 credits)	Mathematical Practicality
		Common Policies
		Tudománymenedzsment I.
		Competitiveness in the EU
		Gazdaságszociológia
		Science with Societal Impact

		Marketingkutatás
		Regionális és városgazdaságtan
		Térségek gazdaság- és vállalkozásfejlesztése
		Új intézményi közgazdaságtan
		Modern Monetary Theory and Praxis
		Advanced Qualitative Research

Courses available in English language training:

		Course
Theoretical courses (90-102 credit points)	Common compulsory, general courses (54 credit points)	Microeconomics
		Basics of Research Methodology
		Theories in Economics
		Introduction to Quantitative Research
		Communication of Science
		Macroeconomics
		Multivariate (Advanced) Statistics
		Introduction to Qualitative Research
		Publication Seminar
	Programme-specific compulsory courses (30 credit points)	Programme of Economic Policy and Globalization
		Economic policy
		Globalisation
		Monetary and Fiscal Policy
		Econometrics
		Industrial policy and Innovation
		Programme of Business Administration
		Behavioural Economics
		Consumption Theory
		Service management
		Quantitative Decision-making Methods
		Management
		Programme of Ecological Economics
		Ecological Economics I.
		Ecological Economics II.
		Ecology and Planetary Health
		Values of Nature in Decision Making
		Technology and Sustainability
	Elective courses (6-18 credit points)	Mathematical Practicality
		Modern Monetary Theory and Practice
		Common policies
		Advanced Writing in Social Research
		Science with Societal Impact
		Advanced Qualitative Research
		Competitiveness in the EU

2. Independent research activity

UDR Annex 4. 9.

Should the school set it as a requirement that, at certain intervals, during departmental or research group seminars, the PhD/DLA student shall give an account of his research activities then one such report may worth 3–5 credit points. It is recommended that at least one such report be required (in the sixth examination period, for example). The Doctoral School Council shall determine the number of reports to be recognised with credit points.

112 credits of independent research activity must be obtained. This activity block is divided into three parts:

- *Research and processing under the guidance of a supervisor:* students prepare a report on their progress in their chosen research topic in each semester, which is assessed by their supervisor. The evaluation is done on the "End of semester report" form. Their completion is a criterion requirement, worth 0 credits.

- *Research Forum*: students participate in a Research Forum organised by the Doctoral School at the end of each semester. The research forum sections are organized according to the subject areas of the institutes at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Szeged. Credit value to be achieved: 24 credits before the complex examination (4-4-8-8 credits per semester), 48 credits after the complex examination (12 credits per semester). The expectations of the research forums are described in Annex 1.
- *Research Workshop*: after passing the complex exam (from semester 5), students specialise in research workshops. In the research workshops, students will actively participate in the completion of the research assignment during semester 5-8. Credit value to be achieved: 40 (10 credits per semester).

Depending on the students' research topic and the needs, 2-4 research workshops will be launched each year:

Research workshops in Hungarian:

- Economic Policy Research Workshop
- Research workshop in Business Administration
- Ecological Economics Research Workshop

Research workshops in English:

- Research Workshop in Economic Policy
- Research Workshop in Business Administration
- Research Workshop in Ecological Economics

3. Publication activity

UDR. annex 4. 5., 10.

5. With research work such as bibliography, library and archives research, follow-up on journal articles, conference participation – where the student presents a poster or holds a lecture – and publishing articles in journals a total of at least 130 credit points shall be earned.

10. PhD/DLA students may be granted credit points for journal articles and active conference participation with lectures and posters if they are published in the conference publications. The credit point value of the above-mentioned activities shall depend on the students' level of contribution to the achieved outcomes. With the consent of the relevant Disciplinary Doctoral Council and Doctoral Council of the relevant Branch of Science, such credits shall be determined by the relevant Doctoral School Council.

A minimum of 60 credits in publication activity.

- *Publication*: publications recognised under the Doctoral School's rules for the award of degrees. The credit value of a publication is the same as the credit value applied to the publication requirements for the degree.

The student submits the list of publications on the "End of semester report" form. On this basis, the Secretary of the Doctoral School will approve the credits to be awarded. Credit for participation in a conference may be awarded if the paper has been published in a conference proceedings.

For the award of a doctorate, the Doctoral School Council (DSC) imposes three conditions on the candidate in relation to publications recorded in the Hungarian Archives of Scientific Works:

1. At least 3 scientific publications published in peer-reviewed journals (A, B and C category), Scimago Q1-Q4 publications in a subject area accepted by the Doctoral School, or in a scientific journal published by a peer-reviewed journal, at least one of which must be a first author. One of these may be replaced by two articles in a category D journal.
2. The overall score for scientific publications is at least 60 points.
3. At least 4 conference presentations. At least 2 of the presentations must be given by the candidate as a single author and at least 2 at international conferences.

Academic achievement in economics as a social science cannot be objectively measured in a clear-cut way, so the minimum publication criteria are only a guideline for doctoral degrees. The DSC will consider the fulfilment of these requirements in each case. In each case, the Doctoral School has the right to consider whether the publication actually meets the requirements of the relevant category. If the language of the foreign language publication is not English, the publication will be taken into account and the points awarded will be assessed on an individual basis.

In the case of multiple authors, the scores are split between the authors. In the case of co-authored publications, the authors receive a fraction of the given scores. A two-author unit is 0.6; a three-author unit is 0.4; more than three authors is 0.3. The Doctoral School will only send a thesis submitted for a workplace discussion to the referees if the student has at least 50% of the required publication score and at least 1 of his/her publications is a scientific publication in a peer-reviewed professional journal (category A, B and C) or in a scientific book published by a professional publisher. This can be replaced by two articles in a category D journal. In addition, the student submits to the Doctoral School a plan for fulfilling the missing points and publication requirements. This plan will be discussed by the Doctoral School Council and, if accepted, the thesis will be sent out for evaluation.

Points for publications

Title and category of publication			Score	Addendum
Foreign language book (with ISBN number)	A	Foreign-language book published by A and B category foreign publishers	10	1 author's sheet*
		Foreign language book published by other foreign publishers	7	1 author's sheet
		Foreign language book published in Hungary	5	1 author's sheet
Hungarian language book (with ISBN number)	B	Book published by a specialist publisher	5	1 author's sheet
		Book published by the own higher education institution or published by a non-specialist publisher	3	1 author's sheet
Foreign language book chapter (with ISBN number)	C	Foreign language book chapters published by A and B category foreign publishers	15	1 author's sheet
		Foreign language book chapter for other foreign publishers	10	1 author's sheet
		Foreign-language book chapter published in Hungary	7	1 author's sheet
		Foreign language book chapter published by the own higher education institution	5	1 author's sheet
Book chapter in Hungarian (with ISBN number)	D	Book chapter published by a specialist publisher	10	1 author's sheet
		Book chapter published in a book published by own higher education institution or by a non-specialist publisher	5	1 author's sheet
International journal article	E	International journal article (categories 1 and 2)	60	per piece
		International journal article (category 3)	30	per piece

		Other foreign language journal article	15	per piece
Domestic journal article	F	Category A and B journal article in Hungarian	20	per piece
		Category C journal article in Hungarian	10	per piece
		Category D journal article or other peer-reviewed journal article in Hungarian	5	per piece
		Category A and B journal article published in a foreign language in a mainly Hungarian-language journal**	30	per piece
		Category C and D journal article published in a foreign language in a mainly Hungarian-language journal**	15	per piece
Conference publication (ISBN, with ISSN number)	G	Foreign language paper published abroad in an international conference publication	5	per piece
		Foreign-language paper published in a foreign-language domestic conference publication	4	per piece
		Paper published in a national conference publication in Hungarian	2	per piece
Editing (with ISBN number)	H	Editing a foreign language book published by a foreign publisher	20	per piece
		Editing a foreign language book published in Hungary	15	per piece
		Editing of a book published in Hungarian by a national, specialist, Hungarian-language publisher	10	per piece
		Editing of a book published by the own higher education institution or other publisher	5	per piece

* 1 author's sheet is 40,000 characters (with spaces).

**Does not include domestic journal articles that are version of a journal article submitted and published in Hungarian by a publisher in a foreign language.

4. Education

EDA No 4, Annex 8.

1 hour per week of practice, seminar (14 weeks) worth 1-2 credits. A maximum of 48 credits can be earned in total, but no more than 8 credits per semester.

A maximum of 4 credits per semester, up to a maximum of 32 credits in total, may be earned and recognised for teaching activities. There is no minimum number of credits to be completed within this activity block. Credits may be awarded for verifiable courses taught at the University of Szeged and other higher education institutions, or may be awarded for weekly consultations organised by the course supervisor and verified by the course supervisor. Courses taught at other higher education institutions may be recognised at the discretion of the Doctoral School Council.

The average number of credits per semester for a one-hour (45-minute) course per week is 1 (2 for a foreign language course). If more than one student teaches a course, only the student's share of the weekly number of hours is taken into account.

The student reports on his/her educational activities during the semester on the "End of Year Report" form. On this basis, the Secretary of the Doctoral School will approve the number of credits to be awarded.

UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED, DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS RESEARCH FORUM

The Doctoral School of Economics organizes a research forum every semester, according to the subject areas of the institutes of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Szeged, in accordance with the training plan. The aim of the research forum is to present and evaluate the students' progress in their research work in detail.

The proposed pace of progress per semester

- By the end of the 1st semester, the doctoral student should be clear about the discipline(s) within which he/she wishes to pursue his/her research. To do this, he/she should define the most important concepts and connections related to his/her topic on the basis of the literature research he/she has carried out.
- By the end of the 2nd semester, the doctoral student should be familiar with the chosen discipline and its relevant trends. To do this, he/she should review the national and international scientific journals and other literature in the narrowed field, pointing out the similarities and differences between the positions taken in these journals.
- By the end of the 3rd semester, the doctoral student is expected to have the theoretical basis for the specific research topic and to have identified the exact research topic and problem.
- By the end of the 4th semester, the doctoral student should have defined the research objectives, formulated a precise research question and have a theoretical and methodological background of the research topic, its national and international implications.
- By the end of the 5th semester, the doctoral student must have a detailed research plan. With knowledge of the research topic, the student is able to formulate hypotheses, knows the main variables of the research topic, the subjects of the study and the methods of data collection.
- By the end of the 6th semester, the doctoral student will have conducted empirical research and will have research results.
- By the end of the 7th semester, the doctoral student will have a doctoral dissertation suitable for a workplace debate.
- By the end of the 8th semester, the doctoral student will have a doctoral dissertation suitable for public examination.

DETAILED RULES FOR THE COMPLEX EXAMINATION

To be admitted to the examination, the candidate must have acquired at least 90 "training" credits in the "training and research phase" (first four semesters) of the doctoral programme (based on a study plan in Neptun, checked by the Secretary 14 days before the examination)
Scheduled date of the complex exam: at the end of the academic year

For PhD students enrolled in the autumn semester 2017 or later, the pass mark for the complex examination is a minimum of 2 publication points (corresponding to at least one conference publication in Hungarian recorded in MTMT). Deadline: 7 calendar days before the complex examination (to be checked by the secretary).

The complex examination consists of two parts: a theoretical oral exam part and a research part.

1. The theoretical oral exam:

Major subject (programme-specific) and minor subject (common, compulsory)

2. Research section

In a 15-minute presentation by the candidate:

- report on your knowledge of the literature,
- report on the results of their research,
- presents its research plan for the second phase of doctoral studies,
- the schedule of the dissertation preparation and
- the publication schedule for the results.

The supervisor will assess the candidate in writing beforehand.

The presentation is uploaded by the doctoral students to the Coospace platform by the 7th day before the complex exam, and then sent by the Secretary to the committee members for comment.

The supervisor also sends the evaluation of the students he/she supervises (their research results, their knowledge of the literature and the reality of their future scientific plans) to the Secretary 7 days before the complex examination. The evaluation shall be given on a scale of 0-5 points.

3. Committee evaluates the candidate's theoretical and research performance

Evaluation criteria

- The theoretical and dissertation parts of the exam are graded separately by the board members on a scale of 0-5.
- Success: if the majority of the members of the board consider both parts of the examination to be successful, they award at least 3 marks for each part and the average mark is at least 3.
- For the complex examination, the student will receive a pass/fail mark.

Rules for committee members (based on the UDR):

- at least one third of the members are not in employment with the institution running the doctoral school,
- is chaired by a professor or Professor Emeritus or Doctor of Science,
- all members have a scientific degree,
- may not include the candidate's doctoral supervisor.

INTERPRETATIVE PROVISIONS ON PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A DEGREE

As the quality requirements for books and book chapters can vary considerably depending on the publisher, books and book chapters are grouped into categories. The classification is decided by the DSC in the context of the doctoral scoring.

Classification of foreign-language books/volumes of studies published by foreign publishers:

- a. Category "A": published by an exceptionally prestigious international publisher (e.g. Cambridge University Press, MIT Press)
- b. Category "B": published by highly prestigious international journals, typically also appearing in Scopus (e.g. Blackwell, Edward Elgar, Kluwer, Palgrave, Routledge, Springer)
- c. Other foreign publishers: published by lower-ranking publishers than the previous ones, where the international distribution of works can be demonstrated.

Volume of studies: a volume containing selected, peer-reviewed papers by invited or selected authors. Conference publications that include papers from all conference participants who have contributed to the volume are not considered to be a volume of studies.

International journal articles

1. The classification of journal articles is based on the following criteria:

	Scimago		MTA ¹ Division IX GMB list
International journal article (category 1)	At least Q1 and at least H44	or	GMB International "A"
International journal article (category 2)	At least Q2 and at least H23		GMB International "B"
International journal article (category 3)	At least Q4 and at least H1		GMB International C/D
Other foreign language journal article			not on the GMB's domestic list

¹ MTA Hungarian Academy of Sciences

2. The rating is based on the year of release (if no Scimago rating is available for the year of release, the latest available rating is used).

3. The list of Scimago topics considered is as follows:

Business, Management and Accounting	Economics, Econometrics and Finance	Social sciences	Decision sciences
Accounting	Economics and Econometrics	Anthropology	Decision Sciences (miscellaneous)
Business and International Management	Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous)	Communication	Information Systems and Management
Business, Management and Accounting (miscellaneous)	Finance	Cultural Studies	Management Science and Operations Research
Industrial Relations		Demography	Statistics, Probability and Uncertainty
Management Information Systems		Development	
Management of Technology and Innovation		Education	
Marketing		E-learning	
Organisational Behaviour and Human Resource Management		Gender studies	
Strategy and Management		Geography, Planning and Development	
Tourism, Leisure and Hospitality Management		Health (Social Science)	
		Law	
		Life-Span and Life Course	
		Political Science and International Relations	
		Public administration	
		Safety Research	
		Social Science (miscellaneous)	
		Social work	
		Sociology and Political Science	
		Transportation	
		Urban studies	

5. The classification of journal articles outside the subject areas detailed herein will be decided by the DSC on a case-by-case basis.

6. Journals not included in the GMB list but ranked as international in another list of Class IX are automatically classified as GMB "D", unless the DSC, taking into account the author's field of scientific work, decides otherwise. In the case of frontier research, the DSC may consider journals accepted by other scientific divisions of the MTA (e.g. MTA Committee on Psychology, MTA Committee on Pedagogy, MTA Committee on Mathematics, etc.).

7. In cases where the publication process took place in Hungarian, but the publisher later publishes the publication in a foreign language (e.g. Development and Financing, Financial Review), the publication is considered to be in Hungarian. In this case, the publication in a foreign language is considered as a secondary publication and therefore no points can be awarded.

8. It is important that there is no incentive to publish in "journals of objectionable practice":

- a. A publication in a journal where an automatic "article processing charge" or publication fee is payable on submission of the manuscript - i.e. the article cannot be published without payment of these charges - is not considered a category 1 or 2 international journal article.
- b. Article processing/publication fees do not include the "open access" fee for journals (without payment of which the article can be published but will only be accessible to subscribers).
- c. No points can be awarded for a publication in a so-called "predatory journal".
- d. As these journals do not have a fixed and permanent list, the DSC may be asked for a prior opinion before submitting an article.

Domestic journal articles

1. For Hungarian journal articles, the classification according to the Class IX GMB list will continue to be used.

2. Journals not included in the GMB list but ranked in other national lists of Class IX are automatically classified as GMB "D", unless the DSC, taking into account the author's field of scientific work, decides otherwise. For frontier research, the DSC may consider journals accepted by other scientific divisions of the MTA (e.g. MTA Committee on Psychology, MTA Committee on Pedagogy, MTA Committee on Mathematics, etc.).

Additional provisions

1. A paper published in full in the proceedings of national and international conferences will be considered as a scientific publication if it meets the criteria for journals: it has an editorial board, it is anonymously peer-reviewed, it is widely distributed, it has an ISBN or ISSN number. Proof of compliance with the publication to be submitted can be provided by an official certificate, either prior or subsequent, from the responsible publisher.

2. The DSC may request the scientific publications or photocopies thereof in order to assess whether the above conditions are met. Republishing the same scientific results with minor modifications in another place will not be considered as a separate scientific communication.

Szeged, 15 December 2023.