

Agreement of Supervision¹

Research Training Group 2070 „Understanding Social Relationships“

Doctoral Student: _____

Thesis Title: _____

Beginning: _____

Supervisor: _____

Thesis Committee Members: _____

Department: _____

Work plan: see attachment

Basic Principles

The agreement of supervision aims at defining the responsibilities between doctoral student, supervisor and the members of the thesis committee. It is the core goal of the process that the doctoral student creates her/his own, autonomous and original research activity, which advances the respective field, with support from the supervisor and the thesis committee members. The PhD project should be manageable within three years.

All participating parties are obliged to observe the rules of good scientific practice as stated in the *Statue of Good Scientific Practice* by the German Research Foundation² and in the *Regulations for Ensuring Good Scientific Practice by the Georg-August-University Göttingen*³. The Georg-August-University established an ombudsman committee for issues concerning potential violations of the regulations⁴.

In conflict situations, an open dialogue between doctoral student and supervisor should be sought at first. It is in the responsibility of the thesis committee members and the scientific coordinator of the RTG to mediate in conflict cases if requested. They are obliged to remain neutral and all conflicts are to be treated as strictly confidential by all parties. If a fully independent contact person is desired, doctoral students could contact the person of trust of the GAUSS program⁵.

¹ Based on the *Rules of good practice for doctoral supervision* (GAUSS, Göttingen) and the *Empfehlung für das Erstellen von Betreuungsvereinbarungen* (DFG-Vordruck 1.90-10/2014)

² *Statue of Good Scientific Practice* of the German Research Foundation (DFG):
http://www.dfg.de/download/pdf/dfg_im_profil/reden_stellungnahmen/download/empfehlung_wiss_praxis_1310.pdf

³ *Regulations for Ensuring Good Scientific Practice by the Georg-August-University Göttingen*: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/421996.html>

⁴ *Contact details of the Ombudsman for Good Scientific Practice at the University of Göttingen*: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/223832.html>

⁵ *Person of Trust of the GAUSS program*: <http://www.gauss.uni-goettingen.de/?view=17>

Assignments of responsibilities:

It is in the duty of the Doctoral student

- to autonomously organize and plan the running of the research program on consultation with the supervisor and to prepare a feasible working plan
- to fulfill the assigned scientific task independently and autonomously
- to regularly update the supervisor about the work progress
- to inform the supervisor immediately about difficulties, problems and unexpected results
- to promote a collaborative working style, to be willing to discuss his/her work and to accept critical comments
- to keep himself/herself updated with the research field
- to integrate actively in the research department and in the Research Training Group
- to abide by the rules of the work group with respect to sharing equipment and other resources, and to treat all valuable with the greatest care
- to attend at least one workshop on good scientific practice
- to meet with the TC-Members regularly in order to discuss progress and results, with a first meeting after 6th months and then once a year
- to participate in the events and the qualification program of the RTG 2070 and to fulfill the credit requirements for the RTG 2070 (4 ECTS each in the Modules: Reflecting on Research, Methodological Basics, Scientific Teaching, Scientific Communication, Key Competencies)

It is in the duty of the Supervisor

- to supervise the doctoral student over the entire course of the PhD
- to make herself/himself available for regular scientific meetings with the doctoral student
- to be approachable and to offer support in emergency cases
- to respond to the doctoral student's requests within an appropriate time frame
- to provide honest but constructive feedback and to encourage the doctoral student
- to apply her/his scientific expertise to promote the independence of doctoral students in the scientific community
- to share with the doctoral student all the information that is important for the success of the PhD project
- to progressively transfer increased responsibilities for the scientific success of the project to the student
- to promote the integration of doctoral students into the research department
- to respect family responsibilities, different working patterns and career plans

- to support further education of the doctoral student, such as enabling and encouraging the doctoral student to participate in workshops
- to provide a working environment and equipment suitable for the research project

It is in the duty of the Thesis Committee members

- to critically and supportively follow the doctoral process and to share their scientific knowledge, skills and experience
- to enable a Thesis Committee Meeting at least once a year
- to provide honest but constructive feedback
- to be available for questions
- to act independently of each other
- to search for solutions in the case of conflict between supervisor and doctoral student and to remain neutral in this instances

I hereby declare that I read and accept the Agreement of Supervision and the attached work plan

Doctoral Student

Supervisor

Thesis Committee Member

Thesis Committee Member

Acknowledged

Speaker of the RTG 2070

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