



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANNHEIM

GESS – Graduate School of  
Economic and Social Sciences

Graduate School of  
Economic and Social Sciences  
University of Mannheim

Center for Doctoral Studies  
in Social and Behavioral  
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### **CDSS rules concerning Dissertation Proposal and (Co-)Supervisors**

First year doctoral students must write a dissertation proposal (max 8.000 words excl. bibliography) that delineates their thesis project, including the research questions, the survey of relevant theoretical and empirical contributions, the development of the theoretical framework, the specification of the methodology and planned empirical analysis (the paper can also be an application to a research grant).

The dissertation proposal is due by June 1. Send a PDF file of the dissertation proposal to:

- Your mentor / potential supervisor.
- CDSS (cdss@uni-mannheim.de).
- Ursula Eckle, Thomas Gschwend's secretary (methods@uni-mannheim.de)

Your mentor will read, evaluate, and grade your dissertation proposal in a written report to the CDSS Admission & Assessment Committee (AAC). The AAC consents to the continuation of the doctoral program by accepting the dissertation proposal and recognizing the coursework of the first year of study.

**Doctoral candidates will be informed accordingly and can then proceed to the following step.**

#### **Dissertation committee (second year onwards)**

Once your dissertation proposal has been formally accepted by the AAC you must complete [form 1.1](#) (Agreement on the supervision of a doctoral dissertation) and hand it to the Center Manager.

Please refer to sections 8 (Supervision of the Dissertation Project), 11 (Appointment of Evaluators) and 12 (Examination Committee) of the [Dr. rer. soc. degree regulations](#) for details.