

**Thematic Doctoral Programme
„Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Economic Development“
Founding Declaration**

Decision

According to this founding declaration and in accordance with **§ 19 paragraph 4c, part B** of the statutes of Alpen-Adria-Universität¹ the Thematic Doctoral Programme „Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Economic Development“ will be established as from the 2016/17 academic year.

Core faculty members (potential supervisors)

- Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Dieter Bögenhold** (Department of Sociology, AAU)
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Robert Breitenecker** (Department of Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship, AAU)
- a.o. Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Werner Drobesh** (Department of History)
- Assoc. Prof.ⁱⁿ Dr.ⁱⁿ **Rita Faullant** (Department of Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship, AAU)
- o.Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Reinhard Neck** (Department of Economics, AAU)
- Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Erich Schwarz** (Department of Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship, AAU)

Additional faculty members (potential supervisors)

- Univ. Prof.ⁱⁿ Dr.ⁱⁿ **Nina Hampl** (Department of Operations, Energy, and Environmental Management, AAU)
- Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Gerald Reiner** (Department of Operations, Energy, and Environmental Management, AAU)
- Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Paul Schweinzer** (Department of Economics, AAU)

Speaker

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Robert Breitenecker**

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Academic degree

Dr. rer.soc.oec

Duration of studies

3 years

Language of instruction

English

Profile

The doctoral programme builds upon the already successfully established AAU research initiative „Entrepreneurship“ and explicitly extends its focus to areas of „Innovation“ and „Economic Development“. Through the participation of scholars from the fields of business administration, economics, sociology and humanities, it is possible to discuss entrepreneurship, innovation and economic development from different perspectives.

¹ See the relevant statutory provision in Mitteilungsblatt, 6. Stück, issued on 16.12.2015 (Beilage 3, <https://www.aau.at/universitaet/service-kontakt/mitteilungsblaetter/mitteilungsblaetter-2015-2016/>)

Aims

The overall aim is to qualify young researchers scientifically and methodically for:

- international academic careers (incl. presentations of research findings at academic conferences and first publications in high ranked scientific journals)
- leading positions in politics and in public sector or management of private organisations
- entrepreneurship (e.g. business start-ups, business succession, corporate entrepreneurship)

Research areas

Possible research areas in the fields of entrepreneurship, innovation and economic development are:

- Entrepreneurship
 - topics along the entrepreneurial process (from opportunity identification to opportunity exploration)
 - special topics like „female“, „ethnic“, „social“ and „technological“ entrepreneurship.
- Innovation
 - technological- and business model innovations at company level
 - macro-economic questions relevant to innovation (e.g. economic development, fragmented research systems and markets, insufficient support mechanisms).
- Economic Development
 - entrepreneurship and its impact on innovation and job creation
 - entrepreneurship and its impact on transition economies or developing countries.

Admission prerequisites

- admission to Doctoral Studies of Economics and Social Sciences at AAU
- confirmation of supervision by a member of the doctoral programme

Graduation requirements

- Basic module (minimum of 16 ECTS credits):
 - central courses (on compulsory literature as well as theories and methods in innovation and entrepreneurship) which have to be taken by all doctoral students
 - doctoral colloquium to enhance discussion and exchange among doctoral students and supervisors
- Methods module (minimum of 20 ECTS credits):
 - courses to expand methods competence
 - additional in-depth methods courses can be chosen from CESEENet programme, EDEN seminars or VHB courses
- Elective module (minimum of 12 ECTS credits):
 - individual choice of thematic courses
- Thesis:
 - preferably cumulative, written in English

Admission procedure

For the admission to the doctoral programme the current curriculum for doctoral studies of Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt has to be taken into account.

Applicants send:

- documents (certificates, one page letter of motivation and/or evidence of skills in one or more of the research fields of the doctoral programme)
- envisaged dissertation topic
- confirmation of supervision by one of the faculty members of the doctoral programme to the contact address below.

The decision about admission (after a hearing) will be taken jointly by the faculty members of the doctoral programme.

Deadlines

There are no formal deadlines. Applications can be filed any time. The first round of the programme will start on October 1, 2016. Joining later will be possible after consultation with members of the teaching staff.

Contact

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