Requirements for an AMC-UvA PhD thesis

A PhD thesis of the AMC-UvA should meet the requirements of the UvA Doctorate Regulations 2020, as well as the Further Regulations of the Faculty of Medicine (AMC). You find these listed below.

Doctorate Regulations 2014

Article 15

Content and length of thesis manuscript and doctoral thesis

1. The thesis manuscript consists of a scientific treatise on a particular subject or a number of separate scientific papers that have been published, in whole or in part, provided that these demonstrate sufficient coherence in relation to a particular subject. In the latter case, an additional section needs to be added to the individual papers which explains how they relate to one another and states the significance of each.

2. The length of the thesis should remain within certain limits. As a guideline, the maximum length is 70,000 words (excluding bibliography, references and appendices). Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Dean, on the basis of a reasoned proposal by the supervisor.

3. The doctoral thesis and any accompanying propositions are to be written in Dutch or in English. The supervisor may, with the approval of the Dean, ask the Doctorate Board for permission to use another language. This request must take explicit account of the possibility of appointing a Doctorate Committee that complies with the requirements of these Doctorate Regulations and whose members have sufficient ability in the language in question to be able to assess the doctoral thesis.

4. The doctoral manuscript that is submitted to the supervisor for final approval must be identical in form and content to the doctoral thesis submitted to the Doctorate Committee for assessment and public defence during the doctoral thesis defence ceremony. It should include the following elements:
   - a title page as supplied by the Office of the Beadle;
   - a table of contents;
   - an overview of the literature consulted;
   - if the doctoral thesis consists of articles or contain articles by multiple authors: a page with a complete reference list for each article with a list of authors for each article and an explanation of the relative contribution of the co-authors;
   - an explanation of how the research was funded, if applicable, as lead down in Article 29, par. 6;
   - a separate summary bearing the title of the thesis in the language in which it is written;
   - a separate summary bearing the title of the thesis, both in Dutch;
   - a separate summary bearing the title of the thesis, both in English.

An acknowledgements section is optional.
3. **Number of published papers**
   The PhD thesis contains at least three manuscripts with results of original scientific research with the PhD candidate as first author, published in or accepted by international, peer-reviewed, scientific journals at the time of assessment of the thesis manuscript by the voting members of the doctorate committee.

4. **Number of co-authorships**
   No more than 25% of the papers in the PhD thesis may have one or more voting members of the Doctorate Committee as co-author.
   
   *Supplementary to: Article 20.9 of the Doctorate Regulations of the UvA:*
   “If the doctoral thesis consists (partly) of articles that have been written in the name of several authors, the co-authors of these articles may only make up a minority of the (voting) members of the Doctorate Committee.”

7. **Portfolio**
   Adding a portfolio (see example) to the PhD thesis is compulsory.

**Specific concerns**
- In terms of content the Dutch and English summary must be identical.
- The General Discussion forms a separate chapter in the thesis and should not be included in the English summary.
- In case a publication is accepted after the submission of the manuscript to the Doctorate Committee and for screening on plagiarism, it may **not** be published in its final version in the definitive PhD thesis. Instead, add a reference to the article as published in the journal in the definitive version of the PhD thesis (note: report as a change in the final manuscript!).