

Fast Track

Disciplinary master programme applicants can apply directly to the Fast Track programme, an accelerated programme, combining the MA and PhD degrees in the same discipline.

- The fourth semester of the MA becomes the first semester of the PhD.
- The preliminary thesis dissertation is defended after two semesters instead of three.
- It is thus possible to complete both degrees in five years instead of six.

The Fast Track programme is for excellent students possessing advanced academic and non-academic skills and experience:

- A stellar record of academic achievement
- Clearly framed research interests and goals
- Thesis writing: presenting original critical thinking, supporting arguments and opinions with existing literature and new findings, documenting sources
- Doctoral level research: data collection and analysis for the creation of original new knowledge
- Self-discipline and time-management

These should be reflected in your transcripts, recommendation letters and motivation letter.

To apply for the Fast Track programme, indicate your interest by ticking the corresponding box on the online application form. The evaluation committee will consider your application for the MA-PhD Fast Track at the outset.

If your application is accepted, your admission to the PhD programme remains conditional until the end of your third semester. At that point, the Fast Track committee will do the following to confirm your continuing PhD enrolment in the Fast Track programme:

- Ensure that your grade point average is 5.0 or higher (on a scale of 6).
- Validate your research project and confirm your thesis supervisor.
- Evaluate your overall standing in the programme.

If your continuing PhD enrolment in the Fast Track is not approved, you may complete your master degree in the normal time line. You may then also be considered for a regular PhD application.