

### Plan your future!

The aim of your doctorate is to train you to become a successful researcher.

There are many funding instruments offered by the University of Fribourg, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Swiss Confederation and by private foundations.

To maximize your opportunities, be proactive: go to information events, consult the web site of the University of Fribourg and contact the Research Promotion Service, etc.

At the end of your thesis, do not hesitate to read the booklet

### Beyond the doctorate

<http://www.unifr.ch/phd/en/publications>

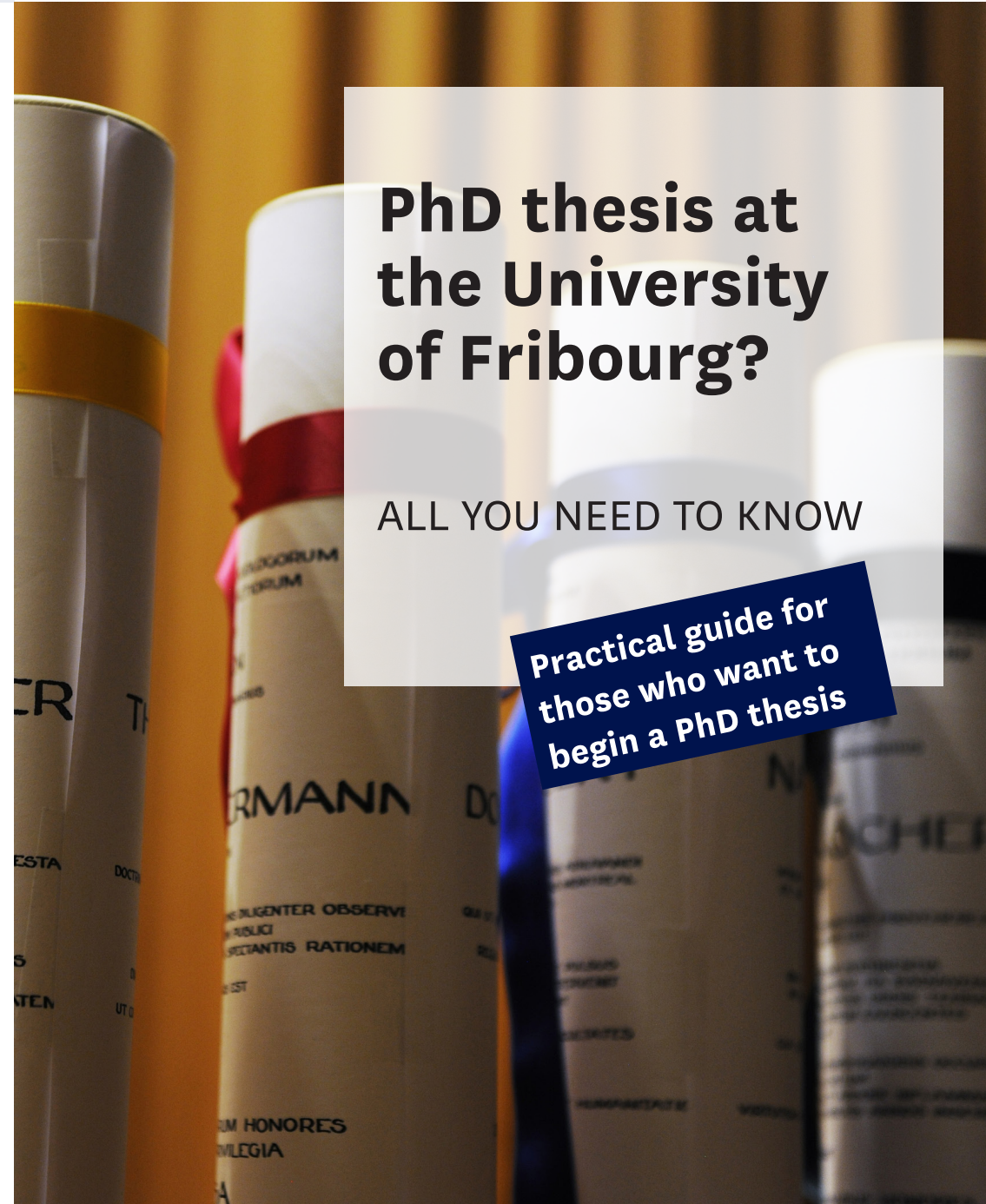
General information available on the  
**Portal for doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers** of the University of Fribourg:  
[www.unifr.ch/phd](http://www.unifr.ch/phd)

Research Promotion Service,  
Chemin du Musée 8, CH-1700 Fribourg  
Tél. +41 26 300 73 30  
Email: [research@unifr.ch](mailto:research@unifr.ch)

# PhD thesis at the University of Fribourg?

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

Practical guide for  
those who want to  
begin a PhD thesis

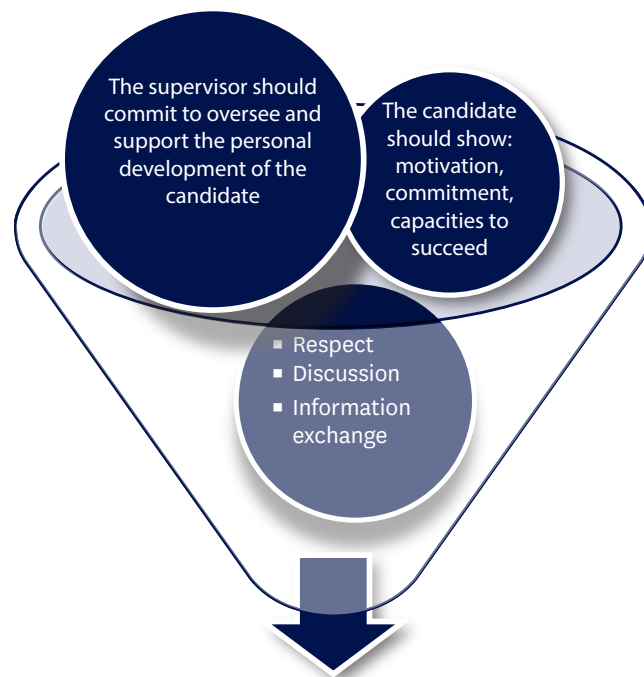


**You have a Master's degree from a Swiss or foreign University and you wish to make a PhD thesis at the University of Fribourg? Here you will find some information for a good start of your PhD.**

- In order to start a PhD thesis, you will have to first find a professor who accepts you as PhD student.
- Each faculty has its own PhD regulations.
- Each discipline of research has its own requirements and best practices for PhD theses.

Doing a PhD is:

- a life experience;
- an intellectual challenge;
- a period of transition between studies and independent research activity;
- the first step in an academic career.



**Successful doctorate and good start of career**

**How to proceed**

Before starting a thesis, the PhD candidate should clarify the working conditions by looking for information on:

- the average duration of the PhD thesis, the planned work, the doctoral programmes and training courses available.
- the admission procedure, the financing, the teaching load, the administrative tasks, etc.

To do so, it is necessary to directly get in touch with the professor of the domain of interest. It is also recommended to make contact with the Department and with the Deanship of the Faculty.

Several points should be discussed with the professor when starting a thesis and regularly revised, for instance:

- Scientific work plan
- Thesis main objectives and sub-tasks
- Training courses and formation of the fellow
- Scientific communication (conferences, publications, etc.)
- Participation at international congresses, etc.
- Participation in the common activities of the group

You may consult the booklet **Getting Your Thesis Off to a Good Start** <http://www.unifr.ch/phd/en/publications>

**Keep mobility in mind!**

You can spend some time abroad during the PhD thesis thanks to a grant of the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Apart from being an enriching personal experience, this is also a way to widen your scientific network and to create contacts on an international level.