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## Doctoral candidate

### Phase 1

- » Check your eligibility to become a doctorate at GAUSS
- » Find a research topic
- » Find a supervisor
- » Discuss funding opportunities for your PhD
- » Select the most suitable doctoral program
- » Compose thesis advisory committee
- » Apply for admission to GAUSS and the respective doctoral program and sign the supervision agreement

### Phase 2

- » Perform your independent research guided by your supervisor and thesis advisory committee
- » Prepare annual reports & thesis committee meetings
- » Attend mandatory courses and select your individual program of seminars, workshops and other activities
- » Write PhD thesis
- » Submit PhD thesis and apply for admission to the doctoral examination proposing the examination committee including the two referees

### Phase 3

- » Prepare for your oral exam known as thesis defense (usually taking place 6 weeks after thesis submission)
- » Defend your thesis (30 min presentation, 30-60 min questions)
- » Attend the graduation ceremony and celebrate!
- » Publish your PhD thesis within 12 months of your thesis defense

**Milestone 1**  
Admission to GAUSS

**Milestone 2**  
Submission of PhD Thesis

**Milestone 3**  
Publication of PhD Thesis

## Supervisor & Thesis Advisory Committee

### Phase 1

- » Check if you have the required examination accreditation
- » Check the eligibility of your prospective PhD student
- » Design a feasible PhD project and secure funding
- » Select the most suitable doctoral program
- » Advise on composition of thesis advisory committee
- » Support student's application for admission to GAUSS & the doctoral program; sign the supervision agreement

### Phase 2

- » Guide your PhD student to achieve scientific independence and visibility in the scientific community
- » Mentor your PhD student and make yourself available as the first point of contact
- » Review annual reports & attend thesis committee meetings
- » Make sure funding is secured for entire duration of PhD

### Phase 3

- » Review the PhD thesis within maximum 4 weeks
- » In case of proposing *summa cum laude* a third external referee is needed
- » Prepare and attend the oral examination
- » Discuss any modifications of the thesis with the doctoral candidate and sign the revision certificate
- » Support publication of your doctoral student's thesis