

UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED  
DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF HISTORY  
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General principles and rules of the complex exam of the  
Doctoral School of History, University of Szeged

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## **General principles and rules of the complex exam**

The conditions for admission to the complex exam are the earning of minimum 90 credits in the “training and research phase” (first 4 semesters) AND the gaining of all “training credits” prescribed in the course plan of the doctoral school (except for those who prepare individually for obtaining the doctoral degree, whose contractual legal relationship as a student is created by registering for the complex exam and its acceptance).

The complex exam must be passed publicly, in the presence of a committee. The examination committee must consist of at least three members, and at least one third of the members are not in a legal relationship of official employment with the institution running the doctoral school. The chair of the committee is a university professor *or* associate professor with habilitation *or* college professor with habilitation *or* professor emeritus *or* an instructor, researcher with the Doctor of Science (Doctor of the HAS) title. All the members of the committee hold a scientific degree. The supervisor of the doctoral student cannot be a member of the examination committee.

The complex exam consists of two main parts: in the first part the examinee’s theoretical preparedness and background is investigated (“theoretical part”), while in the second part the examinee presents his/her advancement in his/her scientific field (“dissertational part”).

In the theoretical part of the complex exam, the examinee takes an exam of at least two subjects / topics, the list of subjects / topics is included in the course plan of the doctoral school. The theoretical exam can have a written part too.

In the second part of the complex exam, the examinee refers his/her knowledge of the literature in a lecture, presents his/her research plan pertaining to the second part of the doctoral training, and the scheduling of the writing of the dissertation as well as publishing the results. The supervisor must be given a chance in advance to submit a written evaluation of the examinee and/or evaluate him/her during the exam.

The examination committee evaluates the theoretical and dissertational parts of the exam separately. Minutes is made about the complex exam, including a written evaluation. The result of the exam must be announced on the day of the oral exam. The complex exam is successful if the majority of the members of the committee evaluate both parts of the exam as successful. In case the theoretical part of the exam is unsuccessful, the examinee can resit the exam one more time in the given exam period and retake the unachieved subject(s). However, if the

dissertational part of the exam is unsuccessful, then the exam cannot be retaken in the given exam period.

The members of the examination board will mark the theoretical and dissertation parts of the exam separately on a scale of 0-5. The complex examination is successful if a majority of the members of the board parts of the examination, giving a score of at least 3 points and an average score of at least 3. The complex examination may be graded in two stages, pass or fail. The doctoral student may retake the failed complex examination once in the same examination period.