Thesis Directive – Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law uses the following guidelines regarding the form and size of a thesis. As regards to form, it is possible to obtain a PhD on the basis of:

a) a scientific monograph or;

b) a collection of individual academic articles.

To complete your PhD tract on the basis of articles, the following minimum requirements have been formulated. A thesis based on articles:

- consists of four or more articles/chapters;
- consists of two or more articles that have been submitted to the editorial board of a journal;
- consists of at least one article that has been accepted by the editorial board of a journal;
- may consist of articles/chapters that have not yet been published;
- may consist of articles that have not yet been accepted by the editorial board of a journal;
- may consist of a combination of articles and chapters;
- must be internally and substantively coherent;
- must contain an introduction or summarizing conclusion that explains this coherence;
- may contain articles co-written with other authors, provided the article can be largely attributed to the PhD candidate;
- may not contain articles that, with the exception of dispensation, were published five years or longer before the candidate first asked the professor to act as supervisor;
- may contain articles that have been submitted to a recognized academic or peer reviewed (double blind) journal.
- may contain other types of academic publications such as preliminary reports, contributions to scientific bundles, scientific reports;
- may include articles in facsimile or in a new layout;
- may, if so desired, include updated versions of the articles.

The Faculty sets, as a guideline, for the size of both a) and b) above, a maximum of 300 pp. (100,000 words) (excluding bibliography and foot- and endnotes).