



**University of Stuttgart**  
Germany

## Studying for a Doctoral Degree

In Germany PhD work is generally research-based. There are very few taught doctoral programs. The usual way to acquire a doctorate is to find a professor who is prepared to supervise your research.

### Research-based doctoral work

#### To establish contact with a professor,

- you might know the professor's name from a publication relevant to your research interest and look for his/her contact details by help of a search engine in the web
- or you may look for the research field on the internet ([www.uni-stuttgart.de](http://www.uni-stuttgart.de)) and contact the head of this field or department.
- In individual cases the dean's office can help if you state your research interests clearly (look for "Dekanat" one or two clicks down from <http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/organisation/fakultaeten>)

#### To contact a professor directly,

use email or send a formal letter, enclosing a brief description of your research interest, a review of your previous experience in this field and your CV.

### Some facts every doctoral candidate should keep in mind

- Your thesis can be written in English provided your supervisor agrees.
- Your university degree has to be recognised as equivalent to a German degree. To have your degree evaluated, send a copy of your university certificate to the dean of the faculty you want to do research at. You will receive a written evaluation of your current degree(s).
- Depending on the evaluation of your degree, before being admitted as a doctoral candidate, you may have to prepare a piece of scientific research of about 50 -100 pages (varying from subject to subject) as well as pass two oral tests of about 30 mins.
- You have to have been employed or registered at the University of Stuttgart for a minimum of two semesters
- Regarding visa: you need a student visa, no tourist or research visa.
- There are no tuition fees for doctoral students but no scholarships for covering your living expenses either. For scholarships, please inquire at the DAAD: [www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)

### The current taught PhD Program at the University of Stuttgart

- Environment Water / ENWAT (English) <http://www.phd.envwater.uni-stuttgart.de/>