

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY



ANNUAL REPORT 2021 PHD SCHOOL AT THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

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Photos page 1,16: Martin Bertelsen
Photos page 3, 5, 8-9, 15: Rasmus
Degnbøl

Introduction by the Dean

As Dean of the Faculty of Theology it is my pleasure to introduce the 2021 annual report for the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology.

The PhD School forms an integral and important part of the overall academic life at the faculty through its education and support of upcoming young scholars, some of whom will eventually become staff members as part of ongoing research projects or on a permanent basis.

The accomplishments of the PhD School are vital to the faculty not only in training candidates for their future careers, but also for the development of the faculty's research activities as well as in supporting its programmes of teaching and learning.

During the recent Covid-19 pandemic the PhD School successfully provided support to the enrolled PhD students to its best abilities and continues to do so during the completion of the current projects, in close cooperation with the respective supervisors.

On behalf of the faculty I would therefore like to express my gratitude to the Head of the PhD School, Associate Professor Carsten Pallesen, for his important work and diligent commitment to the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology.

Professor Dr. Theol.
Carsten Selch Jensen,
Dean at the Faculty of Theology



Introduction by Head of PhD School

As Head of the PhD School, I am pleased to present the 2021 annual report for the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology. The PhD School is probably the smallest of its kind in all of Denmark with currently 25 enrolled students including three cotutelle projects. The Faculty of Theology is entitled to approximately six annual enrolments, which represents 1:60 of the PhD population at UCPH.

The current PhD projects cover various fields of research at the faculty's respective sections: Biblical Studies Section, Systematic Theology Section, Church History Section, and at the Centre of African Studies. They also include PhD projects conducted at thematic centres such as Centre of Church Research and Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre as well as externally funded research projects that are housed at the Faculty of Theology such as AMRAM: Apocalypticism: Manuscripts, Rewriting, and Authority Management, funded by the Independent Research Fund Denmark, the ECR funded European Quran Project, the Centre of Privacy Studies funded by the Danish Research Foundation, and Certifications of Citizenship in Africa (CERTIZENS) funded by DANIDA. The educational PhD programmes which are individualized for each specific project, are designed in collaboration with the different research environments at the faculty as well as with other environments at UCPH and abroad.

In this report, selected PhD statistics for 2021 are presented alongside an outline of the current state, initiatives, and challenges.

Covid-19 Pandemic - Effects and Responses

In 2021 the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology was able to enrol four new PhD students and six PhD degrees were awarded which are comparable to the average in the period 2017-2020. Since mid-March 2020 and through out most of 2021 the Covid-19 restrictions have challenged the PhD programme. Scheduled activities, stays abroad, fieldworks, archive studies, as well as PhD courses, were cancelled or postponed and/or had to be replaced by online activities at short notice. The academic environment transformed from physical to mainly online interaction. Possible negative consequences in terms of social isolation and lack of motivation had to be addressed. A survey that was made by student members of the PhD Study Board to identify challenges and possible counter measures, showed however that the policy of the Faculty to give younger scholars priority when the access to the physical workplaces at the faculty were still limited, was important. Furthermore, the PhD students experienced intense online interaction with their supervisors. This said, there have been and still are post-Covid effects to be addressed such as inquiries for leave and extensions of enrolments.

In accordance with the general practice of other faculties at UCPH and in close collaboration with supervisors and Heads of Sections, the PhD School has, as mentioned above, initiated several measures to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, some of which will or have become permanent options. Among these are more internal as well as external online PhD courses, a more

flexible adaptation of the requirements for the change of research environment, and a standard framework for the possibility of digital PhD defences.

Initiatives to improve the PhD programme

Each academic year the PhD School, in collaboration with other stakeholders, offers a range of PhD courses. With a limited budget and with the possibility for researchers and students from abroad to participate online, these activities have been intensified as an arena for academic exchange, presentation of papers and discussion, as a vital dimension of the PhD education.

Since 2014 the PhD Board and the PhD School each semester invites all students to participate in the PhD-Day. The PhD day, which is mandatory, is an occasion for social and academic exchange between the PhD students, supervisors, and senior researchers. The programme includes four to five presentations (20 min. each) followed by a short response by one of the students and a general discussion (also 20 min.). The event is concluded by a dinner. The PhD Days have generally received very good evaluations. Not least during the Covid-19 pandemic, the PhD Days proved to be a valuable arena to address challenges across fields of research.

In 2021 the PhD School continued to work on implementing the recommendations from the international evaluation from 2019 related to PhD supervision. In collaboration with TEACH at UCPH, the PhD Board and the PhD School established a new Faculty workshop for PhD

Supervisors on PhD education as a shared responsibility. The staff was invited to a three-hour workshop to facilitate mutual exchange of experiences among the group of supervisors. The first workshop, held on September 17, 2021, on the topic of Supervision as a Process, was well received. The next workshop on Feedback: Criteria and Practices is planned to take place 23 September 2022.

The PhD School wants to thank all supervisors and PhD students for their important contributions and hard work in challenging times. As Head of the PhD School, I look forward to continuing working closely with Vice-Dean for Research Professor Heike Omerzu, and Dean Professor Carsten Selch Jensen, the Heads of Sections and Centres, and last but not least the Phd Study Board and all other stakeholders at the PhD School.

Carsten Pallesen,
Associate Professor Dr. Theol.,
Head of the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology.

June 2022



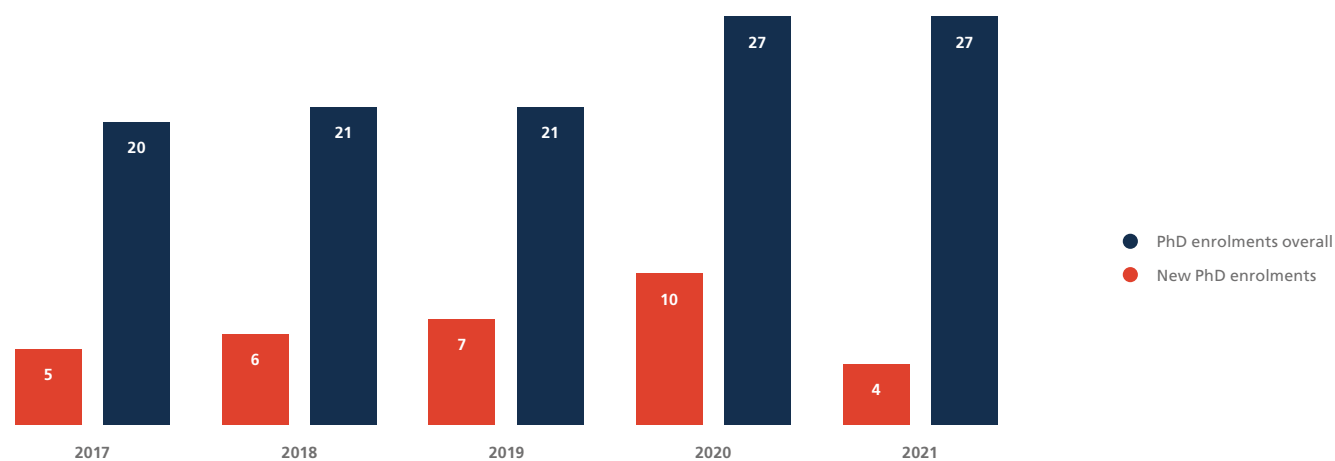
PhD students enrolled

By 31 December 2021, the PhD school of Theology had a total of 27 enrolled PhD students. The number includes PhD students on leave. The 27 PhD projects are evenly distributed in a number of PhD programmes conducted at the 4 departments and centres and at a number of associated externally funded, temporary centres and projects. The PhD programmes are situated at the Centre of

African Studies, including Certifications of Citizenship in Africa, the Biblical Studies Section, including the "Amram"-project and the EuQu Project, and at the Church History Section, including Centre for Privacy Studies, and finally at the Systematic Theology Section, which includes the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre

A total of 4 PhD students were enrolled in 2021. Compared to 2020, 4 new enrolments are less than the average of 6, that the Faculty is entitled to enrol. The period from 2017-2021 meets this norm, which is 6.

 **4**
new PhD students
were enrolled in 2021




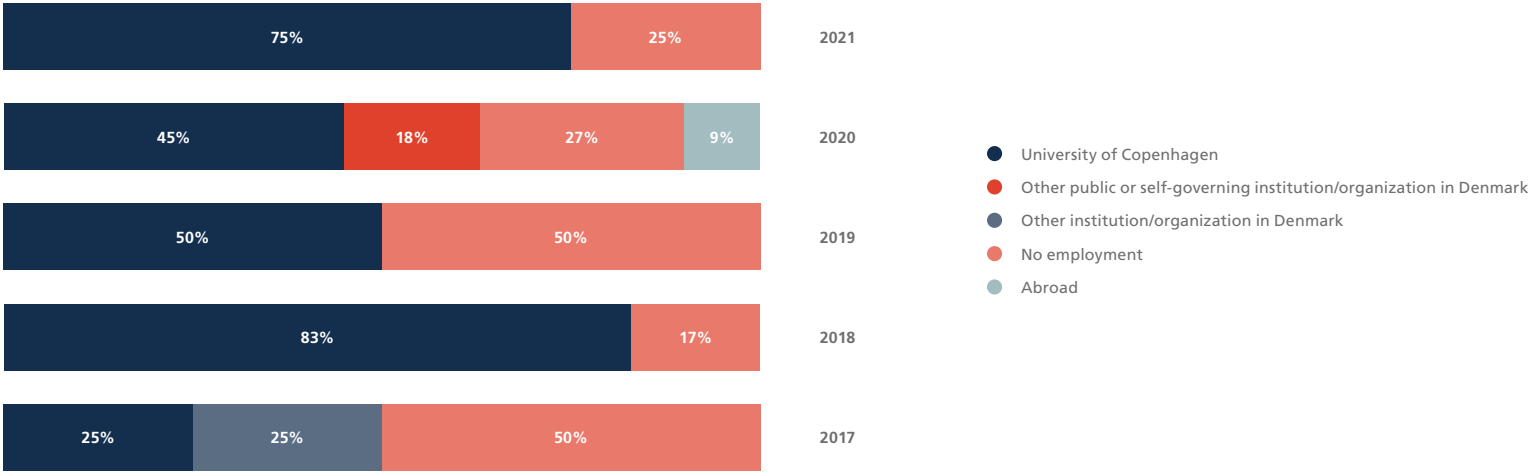
PhD students enrolled by place of employment

This figure shows the distribution by place of employment in six overall categories: University of Copenhagen, private institution/corporation in Denmark, other public or self-governing institution/organization in Denmark, other institution/organization in Denmark, no employment and abroad.

Each year, the Faculty of Theology announces one or two vacant PhD positions open for all areas of research at the Faculty and occasionally also one or two PhD positions are offered as enrolment without employment, often on 50% level of activity over a pe-

riod of 6 years. The so-called "friplads" implies that PhD student is exempted from paying tuition and will be employed elsewhere.

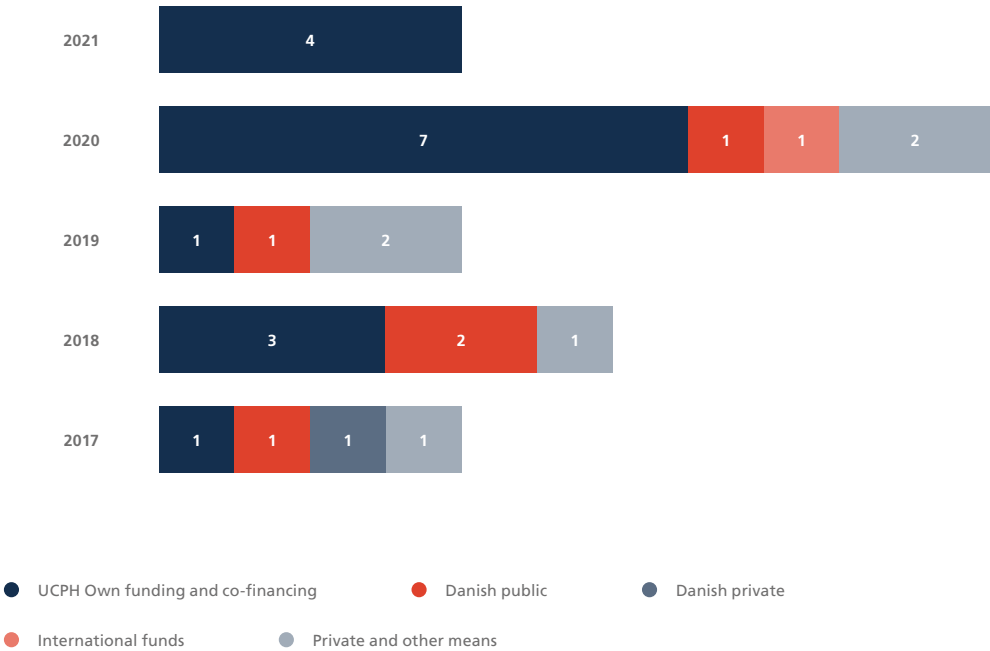
 **75%**
enrolled PhD students at employed at University of Copenhagen in 2021



PhD enrolments by funding

This figure shows the distribution of PhD funders in five overall categories: UCPH Own funding and co-financing, Danish public, Danish private, International fond, Private and other means.

**4**
PhD enrolments by UCPH Own funding and co-financing in 2021





Enrolled PhD students by qualifying degree

50% of the newly enrolled PhD students held a qualifying degree from the University of Copenhagen. Compared to the previous years, the average amount of external recruitment is 30%.



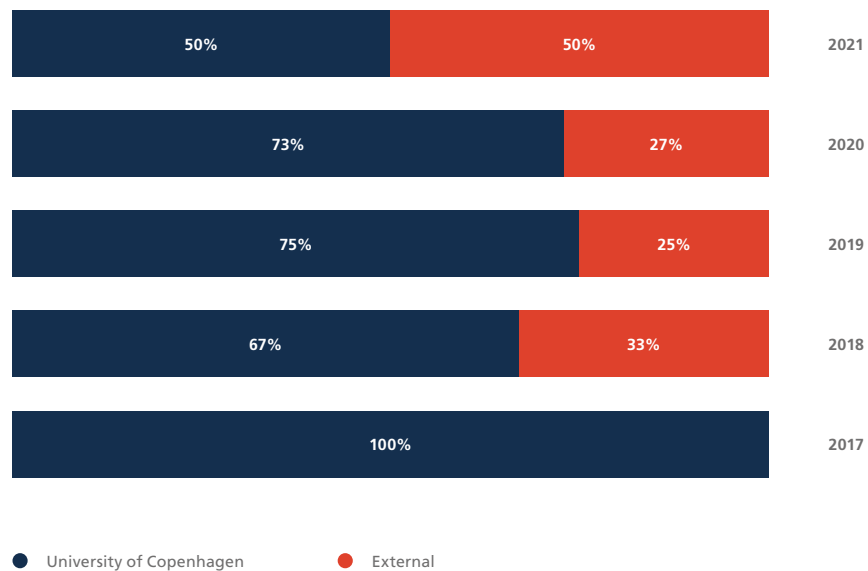
50%

of the newly enrolled PhD students held a qualifying degree from the University of Copenhagen in 2021.



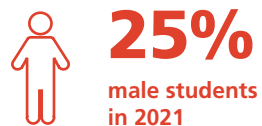
50%

of the newly enrolled PhD students held a external qualifying degree in 2021.

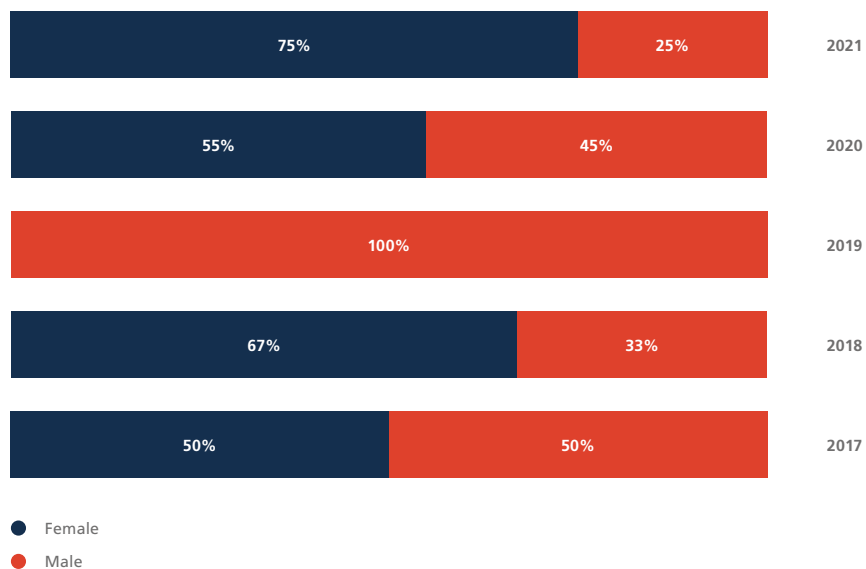


PhD students by gender and nationality

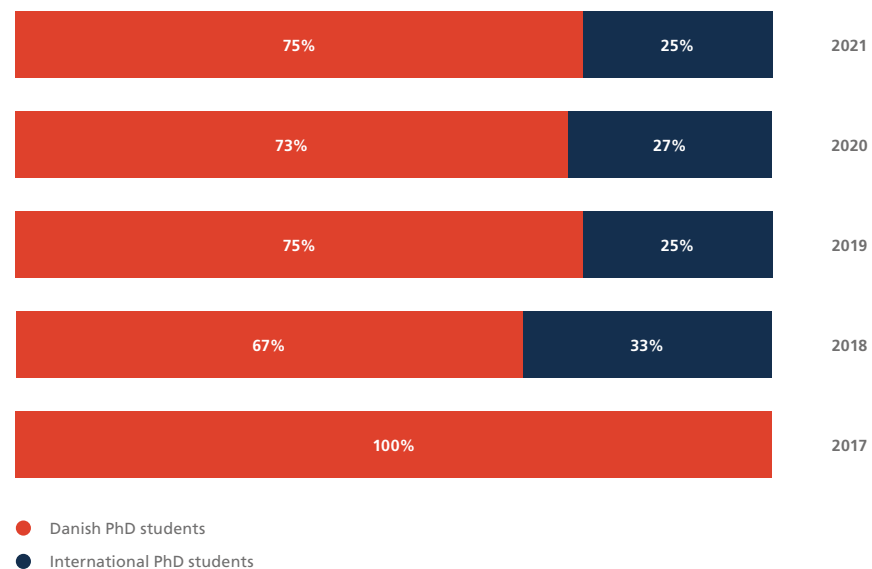
The gender distribution of the 4 PhD students enrolled in 2021 was 75% female and 25 % male; compared to the previous 4 years the average distribution amounts to 50% male 50% female. The number of international students enrolled in 2021 amounts to 25%. The majority approximately 75% is Danish, which has been an average distribution over the previous 4 year.



Gender



Nationality



PhD degrees awarded

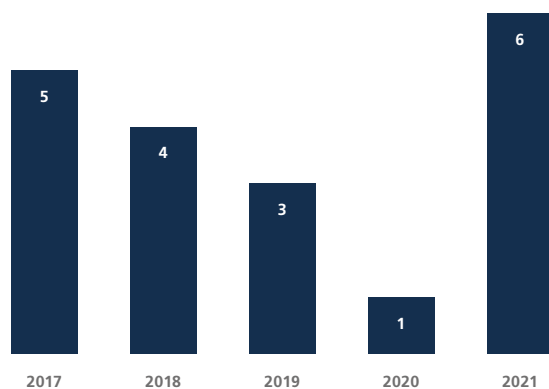
A total of 6 PhD degrees were awarded in 2021. Due to Covid-19 many defences were conducted online or as a hybrid defence. The numbers include PhD degrees awarded without prior enrolment (also known as §15,2). The PhD degree is awarded by the University when the PhD thesis is positively reviewed by an assessment committee and afterwards successfully defended at a public defence.



6

PhD degrees
awarded in 2021

Number of PhD degrees awarded during the year,
including previous years for comparison



Duration of PhD study

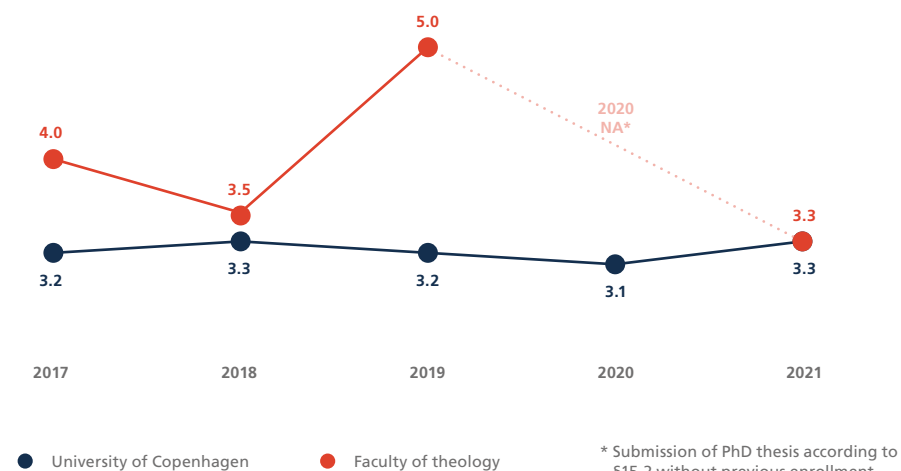
The average length of the PhD study at the Faculty of Social Sciences is 3.4 years. This length of time is equal to the average of the University of Copenhagen. The average is calculated as the period of time from enrolment date to the date of submission of the thesis. Periods of all kinds of leave are excluded.



3.3 Years

Duration of PhD study
in 2021

Average duration of the PhD study,
including previous years for comparison



PhD students enrolled in 2021

The list below contains the names of the PhD students enrolled in 2021, the title of the PhD project and the name of the principal supervisor.

Joanna Zofia Bard M Winterø

Intersubjective Attunement:

Attention and Resonance

Supervisor: Iben Damgaard

Stefan Marinus Kristensen

Visions of Amram as Testament

Supervisor: Jesper Høgenhaven

Hamida Massaquoi

A life course perspective on unmarried
motherhood among young girls in Sierra Leone

Supervisor: Karen Lauterbach

Jennifer Jack

Moral Injury: What's a Chaplain to Do?

Supervisor: Marlene Ringgaard Lorensen

PhD degrees awarded in 2021

The list below contains the names of those who have been awarded a PhD degree in 2021, the title of the PhD thesis and the name of the principal supervisor.

Dorte Gørtz Kappelgaard

Kirke i bevægelse - at facilitere lokal udvikling af kontekstuelle kirkelige

praksisser gennem hermeneutisk aktionsforskning

Supervisor: Marlene Ringgaard Lorensen

Emil Bjørn Hilton Saggau

Only Unity Will Save the Serbs -Eastern Orthodox history, memory and politics
in Montenegro post-Yugoslavia

Supervisor: Carsten Selch Jensen

Julie Skovgaard Sommer von Würden

Elimu. Education and Islamic Knowledge in Zanzibar

Supervisor: Niels Kastfelt

Karin Bräuner Vium Mikkelsen

Folkekirke og (børne)konfirmander med autismespektrumforstyrrelse

Supervisor: Hans Raun Iversen

Melissa Sayyad Bach

Power of Perception in the Community Rule through Stability & Change

Supervisor: Jesper Høgenhaven

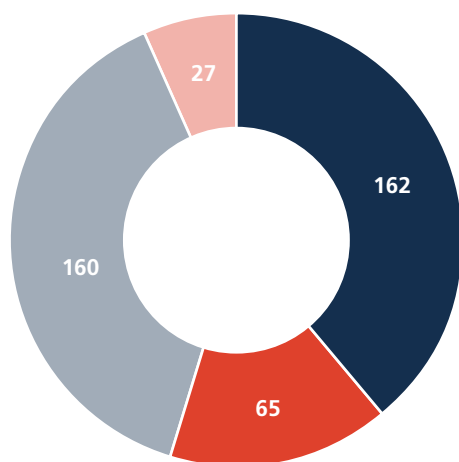
Tina Folke Drigsdahl

Det helliges dekonstruktion. En læsning af Jean-Luc Nancys tese om kristendommens
selv-dekonstruktion og (som følge deraf) en skitse til en kenotisk liturgi

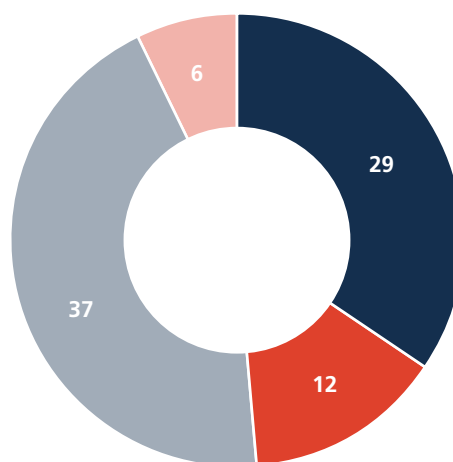
Supervisor: Carsten Petersen Pallesen

Key PhD statistics for the Faculties of Humanities, Law, Social Sciences and Theology

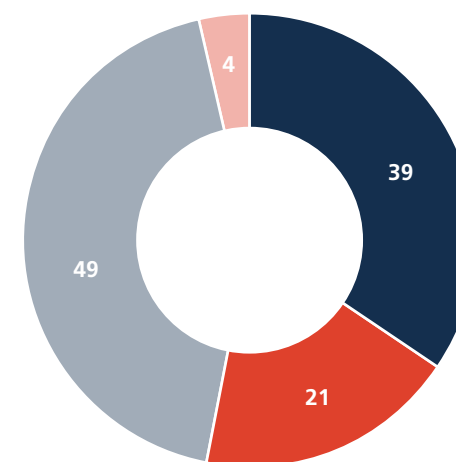
In these figures we present a comparison of the above mentioned faculties at the University of Copenhagen on key numbers: PhD enrolments and PhD degrees awarded during the year, as well as the number of enrolled PhD students by the end of the year.



Total number of enrolled PhD students at the end of the year



Awarded PhD degrees during the year



PhD students enrolled during the year

● Faculty of Humanities ● Faculty of Law ● Faculty of Social Sciences ● Faculty of Theology

The PhD School organisation

The PhD School at the Faculty of Theology initiates and supports PhD activities such as coursework and PhD workshops. The PhD Study Board is the elected academic organ responsible for the quality of these activities. The Head of the PhD School at Theology is also Head of the PhD Study Board, which consists of 4 PhD- students and 4 senior Faculty Staff members. The PhD School and Board are represented in the PhD KUFIR.

The PhD School at the Faculty of Theology is part of the PhD Schools of the faculties of Humanities, Law, and Social Science at UCPH, all of which are supported by the HR unit at the university's South Campus (HRSC). HRSC supports the online system of registration and the running documentation of the PhD project as it progresses from enrolment to the submission of the dissertation and to the establishment of the assessment committee. HR also coordinates and supports all PhD course activities.

Since 2017, the organization and administration of the PhD School at the Faculty of Theology has been harmonized with the abovementioned other three faculties. The harmonization of technical and administrative support conducted by the unit of HRSC is now about to be completed. This includes coordination of the programme of generic courses, such as PhD Introduction and the mandatory course on Responsible Conduct of Research, which has improved the efficiency and quality of the PhD education at the Faculty of Theology.







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