



**GENERAL CURRICULUM FOR EDUCATION AT POST-GRADUATE
LEVEL
IN
TIMBER STRUCTURES**

TFN Chair, 2007-09-10

1 Subject Area

Timber Structures is directed towards the development of industrialized construction, with the focus on timber, and includes structural and production engineering as well as construction and business processes.

2 Programme curriculum

Education at post-graduate level in Timber Structures that concludes with a licentiate degree comprises a total of two years' full time study (120 higher education credits) and consists of a study programme that gives higher education credits and a licentiate thesis that gives higher education credits.

Education at post-graduate level in Timber Structures that concludes with a doctoral degree comprises a total of two years' full time study (240 higher education credits) and comprises courses and a doctoral thesis. The education is made up of courses that give 67.5-90 higher education credits and an academic thesis (with associated reports) that gives 150-172,5 higher education credits.

The normal distribution is courses worth 37.5 higher education credits and an academic thesis worth 82.5 higher education credits in the first half of the education, with the possibility to take a licentiate degree, and courses worth 30 higher education credits and an academic thesis worth 90 higher education credits in the second half of the programme.

The normal study period is five years with studies 80% of the time, which permits a reasonable commitment to related tasks, e.g. teaching and collaborative projects with industries. Studies less than half-time are not permitted.

Courses are chosen for each individual as needed. See also 4.1.

Up to the licentiate degree, the education primarily focuses on knowledge of methods and familiarisation the current position of research in the field. The later part of the education focuses chiefly on the theme of the academic work and the development of related research questions and theory. The research work is reported in articles in scientific journals and communicated to industry through participation at industrial conferences and collaborative projects. These articles may form the framework of a licentiate thesis and

doctoral thesis or be published after the licentiate seminar or disputation if they are in the form of monographs.

An individual study programme is drawn up for every post-graduate student (according to a fixed model) where the study programme is specified in detail. The individual study programme is followed up at least once a year by the post-graduate student and his/her supervisor and is then approved by the head of department, as delegated by the faculty board.

3 Eligibility and selection

3.1 General eligibility requirements

As specified in Section 39 of Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance and the local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology.

3.2 Specific eligibility requirements

Good skills in oral and written communication in English.

3.3 Selection

As specified in Section 41 of Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance and the local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology.

For selection for education at post-graduate level in Timber Structures the following selection criteria apply:

- Knowledge relevant to the project in question.

4 Examinations included in the education

The education consists of courses and an academic thesis. Examinations included in post-graduate programmes are graded Pass or Fail. Course and licentiate thesis grades are decided by specially appointed teachers (examiners). Doctoral thesis grades are decided by a specially appointed grading committee.

4.1 Courses

Compulsory courses for a doctoral degree are: Scientific Methods, 7.5 higher education credits, and Mathematical Statistics, 7.5 higher education credits.

Goal attainment is tested by means of the form of examination specified in the syllabus.

4.1.1 Recognition of prior studies

As specified in the local guidelines laid down in the Admission Rules for Post-graduate Education at Luleå University of Technology.

4.2 Academic thesis

A scientific thesis in Timber Structures shall preferably be in the form of a short summary – comprehensive summary – based on appended scientific articles published in academic

media that the post-graduate student has written personally or together with others (composite thesis) or as a homogenous, cohesive thesis (monograph).

Thesis manuscripts shall be presented at one or more research seminars or be subjected to equivalent review through the agency of the department.

The licentiate thesis is defended orally at a public licentiate seminar and is graded Pass or Fail. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. The grade of a licentiate thesis is decided by an examiner appointed by the head of department.

The doctoral thesis is defended orally at a public disputation and is graded Pass or Fail. When the thesis is graded both the content of the thesis and the defence of the thesis are taken into consideration. The grade of a doctoral thesis is decided by a grading committee that is appointed for each thesis.

5 Degree

In Timber Structures, a post-graduate student who has been admitted to a doctorate has the possibility to take a licentiate degree after completing a portion giving at least 120 higher education credits of the education that will be concluded with a doctorate.

5.1 Degree objectives

As specified in the degree description (Higher Education Ordinance, Appendix 2 – Degree Ordinance. See also the appendix below.

5.2 Degree title

A post-graduate student who takes a licentiate degree in Timber Structures receives the degree title of Licentiate in Technology.

A post-graduate student who takes a doctorate in Timber Structures receives the degree title of Doctor of Technology.

Requests for another degree title are made according to established guidelines.

6 Entry into effect and interim regulations

The previous general curriculum will cease to apply for post-graduate students who are admitted to education at post-graduate level after 1 July 2007. Post-graduate students admitted before this date may choose to either follow the previous curriculum or transfer to the present curriculum.

Qualifications ordinance (Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2) Contents

the qualifications that may be awarded in the third cycles, and
the requirements to be fulfilled for the award of each qualification (qualification descriptors).

THIRD-CYCLE QUALIFICATIONS

General qualifications

Degree of Licentiate [Licentiatexamen]

Scope

A Degree of Licentiate is awarded

either after a third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 120 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered,
or after a third-cycle student has completed one part comprising at least 120 credits of a study programme intended to conclude with the award of a PhD, if a higher education institution decides that a licentiate of this kind may be awarded at the institution.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall have:

- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake a limited piece of research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames in order to contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general, and
- demonstrate the skills required to participate autonomously in research and development work and to work autonomously in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of his or her own research
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Thesis

For a Degree of Licentiate the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis of at least 60 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Licentiate with a defined specialisation.

Degree of Doctor

Scope

A Degree of Doctor is awarded after the third-cycle student has completed a study programme of at least 240 credits in a subject in which third-cycle teaching is offered.

Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.
- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such work
- demonstrate through a dissertation the ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through his or her own research
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society in general
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in some other qualified professional capacity.

Judgement and approach

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

Research thesis (doctoral thesis)

For the Degree of Doctor the third-cycle student shall have been awarded a pass grade for a research thesis (doctoral thesis) of at least 120 credits.

Miscellaneous

Specific requirements determined by each higher education institution itself within the parameters of the requirements laid down in this qualification descriptor shall also apply for a Degree of Doctor with a defined specialisation. Ordinance (2008:132)