

The PhD Selection Committee at Psychology and Behavioral Sciences has further specified the criteria in the following way:

Academic qualifications

- 1) Grades obtained in the qualifying Bachelor's degree and Master's degree
- 2) Other scientific qualifications (e.g., engagement as research assistant; attending scientific conferences; authorship of scientific papers; research internship; being instructor [or equivalent])

Project proposal quality

- 3) Coherence and scientific relevance

The assessment here considers whether the project has a coherent, overarching aim or objective, and if it potentially can make a theoretical and/or practical contribution to the field. The latter should be clearly revealed by a literature review that covers the most important theoretical and empirical background of the project with its central concepts, and the current knowledge/state of the art within the field.

- 4) Design and method quality

The assessment here considers the study's/studies' design in relation to objectives, research questions and/or hypotheses, and the clarity of and details in the description of methods and materials. For empirical studies, details may cover design and procedures, inclusion and recruitment of participants, measures or other data collection methods, experimental apparatus, and data analysis strategies. Quantitative projects may include information on sample size justification and potential pre-registration (see these websites for further information: <https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/resources/preregistration> and <https://doi.org/10.1525/collabra.33267>)

- 5) Realistic completion

The assessment here considers whether the project probably can lead to a PhD degree within the time frame of the scholarship. This presupposes that the proposed time schedule for the project is likely to hold, considering information on practical aspects, as to, for instance, recruitment of participants, admission to necessary experimental equipment or research staff, and consent from possible cooperative research or participant recruitment institutions. It also presupposes that the quality and extent of the proposed project are adequate for a PhD Project. The extent of a PhD project may be judged from the requirement that a thesis based on a collection of papers (by far the most commonly applied thesis format) normally consists of at least three scientific papers that either already have been, or have the potential to be published in reputable academic journals.

- 6) Relevance to research at the Department

Since the primary supervisors for PhD students in the Program of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences must be professors or associate professors at the Department, the project should be related to the Department's ongoing research. Information on Research Units and Research Centers at the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences can be found on the website: <http://psy.au.dk/en/research/research-centres-and-units/>.

Note, that purely theoretical proposals are atypical, but will be considered.