

Criteria for Dissertations Submitted by Candidates for Academic Degrees in Communications & Media

1. A dissertation draft, drawn up as a manuscript, should feature a title page, a page of contents, the main body, including an introduction, its main part, conclusion, a bibliography in alphabetical order along with sources. In addition, a dissertation text should include: a list of abbreviations and symbols, nomenclature and used terms and respective appendices.

In terms of its volume a dissertation text submitted for the awarding of a PhD in Communications & Media without a bibliography and source list, as well as appendices and annexes, shall be 5-6 academic pages (200,000-240,000 symbols with spaces, including footnotes); with respect to dissertations submitted for a DS (Doctor of Science) in Communications & Media, the volume shall come to 12-14 academic pages (480,000-560,000 symbols with spaces, including footnotes).

In dissertations written in Russian, footnotes shall be drawn up in line with GOST 7.05-2008; for dissertation works in English – in line with Harvard Reference Style Guide.

An introduction to a dissertation work should state the research problem for analysis, specify the extent to which it has already been researched, formulate the main research question, objects and subjects, objectives and goals of the research process, state working hypotheses (if the research is focused on empirical testing thereof) or theory (if the work is centered around a qualitative paradigm), any limitations to the research process, a description of its

theoretical/methodological foundations, empirical basis (if applicable), the rationale for applied methods, principles for selecting data sources, the academic contribution of this analysis to the development of the specific subject field, as well as statements to be defended.

The main body of a dissertation should feature a description of the process for solving set research tasks. Empirical results drawn from research should be considered in terms of their contribution to the theoretical discourse. The main body should be broken down into chapters and paragraphs. The solutions put forth by the dissertation author should be supported with well-reasoned arguments and assessed in comparison with other known solutions.

The dissertation conclusion should feature conclusions, covering the results of the research/analysis.

2. Academic degree candidates must draw up a summary for their dissertation work in both Russian and English. The summary should include:

1) a title page, specifying the institution where the dissertation has been submitted (i.e., National Research University Higher School of Economics / HSE University), full name of the dissertation author, the dissertation topic, full names and academic degrees held by academic supervisor(s) and consultant(s), publishing information (city, year);

2) research design, statement of the research problem, literature review, research question, object and subject, aims and objectives, working hypotheses or assumptions, research scope and limitations, methodology, empirical base, the rationale for the methods used, principles behind the selection of empirical data or the determination of the contribution to the discussion of the problem in existing literature, and statements to be defended;

3) a synopsis of the analysis of data and finding

In case of a defence of articles, all elements specified in the summary should be included and describe the relations of all attached publications to a single topic, conception and/or hypothesis as proposed by the thesis author.

Defense of articles means that all appendices to the publication should relate to a single topic, account for similar analytic issues and be united under the same problematic issues, hypothesis or assumption, etc., thereby specifying the originality of the research trajectory, bringing together the candidate's academic/science interests. Publications on different topics, which cannot be united under a single topic, general field of research interests and enquiries, cannot be included or cited for the defense of articles.

Footnotes shall be drawn up in Russian in line with GOST 7.05-2008; in English – in line with the Harvard Reference Style Guide.

A summary for a dissertation submitted for a Communications & Media PhD should come to 20,000-40,000 symbols with spaces, including footnotes. Summaries of candidates for a Doctor of Science in Media & Communications should come to 40,000-60,000 symbols with spaces, including footnotes.

Sample Title Page for a Dissertation Written in English

HSE University

As a manuscript

Name, Surname

TITLE

DISSERTATION

for the purpose of obtaining the academic degree of a
Doctor of Philosophy (Doctor of Science) in Communications and Media

Academic Supervisor (Academic Adviser (if any)):

Academic degree

name, surname

Moscow, 20__

Sample Title Page for a Dissertation Summary Written in English

HSE University

As a manuscript

Name, Surname

TITLE

SUMMARY OF THE DISSERTATION
for the purpose of obtaining the academic degree of a
Doctor of Philosophy (Doctor of Science) in Communications and Media

Academic Supervisor (Academic Adviser (if any)):
Academic degree
name, surname

Moscow, 20__