DSEF PhD Programme

The DSEF PhD programme follows the high academic standards of the best PhD programmes offered in Economics and Finance in Europe and North America. Its research excellence and cross-disciplinary nature offer students an up-to-date and multifaceted training and research experience. Its link with a major financial centre makes it a unique programme, offering enhanced opportunities for a professional and/or academic placement within or outside of Luxembourg.

The programme is 3 years, during which the PhD student writes a thesis under the direction of a PhD supervisor in the department of Economics (CREA) and/or Finance (LSF). The PhD candidate can be offered a preparatory year of additional training to enhance his or her specialised and general skills.

The DSEF has three main training objectives:

1. Scientific competences, thematic training related to research

The first objective is to train PhD students in the most recent developments in their research area and to help them upgrade their knowledge and skills in the quantitative methods used in Economics and Finance. To reach this objective, PhD candidates take doctoral courses and seminars in their specific area offered by either DSEF or partner Universities and institutions.

2. Cross-disciplinary competences: training in common academic and scientific fields

The second objective is to develop doctoral students’ cross-disciplinary and academic competences. Successful training for today’s PhD graduates requires cross-disciplinary knowledge as well as strong communication, writing, and presentation skills in the area of study. Relevant courses are offered by the DSEF and the University of Luxembourg.

3. Training in transferable skills and development

Finally, each doctoral student is expected to follow training in skills applicable to their future academic or professional career (e.g. writing, presentation and communication skills). These courses are offered at the University level. Specific training and support will also be offered at this level to help students in their job search process.

The list of current doctoral courses can be found at http://dsef.uni.lu

Career Perspective

The Doctoral School in Economics and Finance aims to produce highly qualified professionals in Economics and Finance, for careers in Luxembourg or abroad, in research centres and Universities, in the financial industry, as well as in economic and/or financial public institutions.
Admission

The DSEF targets students that have a Masters degree in Economics, Finance, Econometrics, Management with a strong quantitative background, and/or in Math, Physics, Engineering, and Quantitative Sciences (on a case by case basis).

To become a PhD member of the Doctoral School of Economics and Finance, each student must have completed the equivalent of a preparatory training degree in academic research in Economics and Finance. If a student does not have this requirement, he/she is invited to enter the Masters in Economics and Finance, Research-Track, offered by the University of Luxembourg (see below).

In either case, candidates are invited to send a statement of interest, CV, transcript, motivation letter and TOEFL (or equivalent) to be considered for admission. The admission commission will make a recommendation on the candidate’s entry into either the DSEF PhD programme or the preparatory training.

For more information and deadlines for entering the PhD programme, please visit http://dsef.uni.lu.

Preparatory training

Students must show evidence of preparatory training at the academic research level. The University offers this training through the Masters in Economics and Finance, Research-Track.

The objective of this preparatory training is to provide students with a strong background and the necessary tools to conduct up-to-date academic research in Economics and Finance. The programme gives students a flavour of the types of activities involved in academic research. Emphasis is placed on recent developments in the academic literature that is relevant to today’s issues. Teaching language: English. Length: one year, starting in September, full time.

For more information please visit http://mef.uni.lu