GRADE – the university wide Graduate Academy – offers a platform for excellent doctoral education and research support for all 16 faculties of Frankfurt’s Goethe University.

- Enjoy Individual Support – use our Language Service for checking the final draft of your manuscript or get advice on personal and research-related issues by attending a professional coaching session.
- Take part in our Social Events and meet doctoral candidates from other faculties and from all around the world.
- Get help with your start in Frankfurt with our Buddy Programme: we support you with housing, insurance, visa issues and more.
- Learn German with other international PhDs students in our GRADE language course.
- Benefit from our comprehensive Training Programme.

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"The 18-month German course simultaneously improves my ability to manage my life in Frankfurt and connects me to other international students."
Claire Teterbaum, Biology, USA

Checklist inside!
The German doctorate enjoys an outstanding reputation in all disciplines. Here are five good reasons to pursue a doctoral degree at Goethe University Frankfurt:

1. Frankfurt – the smallest metropolis in the world – is a young, vibrant, international city with a high standard of living.
2. With 45,000 students, 650 professors and 960 professors and degree programs in 16 different faculties, Frankfurt’s Goethe University offers a wide range of research areas and top researchers.
3. Goethe University Frankfurt was ranked 10th in the world in the "New York Times" “What the job market wants” university ranking.
4. Frankfurt is a leader in university-business collaborations, giving you a career advantage once you’ve finished your PhD.
5. The nationally and internationally acclaimed graduate academy (GRADE) will help you make the most of your doctoral studies!

The Social Events offer the opportunity to discover Frankfurt behind the scenes. GRADE presents a real chance to enrich your life in Frankfurt, both in and out of work!

Diana Rosen, Nature and Life Sciences, Belgium

There are two ways to get your doctorate in Germany:

- In an individual doctorate, the doctoral thesis is written under the supervision of a professor.
- In a structured doctorate programme, a team of supervisors advises a group of doctoral students.

No matter how you choose to get your PhD, GRADE is there to support you!

GRADE provides you with its own specially designed workshop series called Get Prepared for the Future. The programme has three main modules:

- Get Started is designed as an introduction for first-year PhD students. The workshop covers communication skills as well as organisation and time management techniques, and fosters networking among PhD students.
- Get on the Right Track brings PhD candidates into contact with the corporate world, NGOs and outstanding researchers by way of regular held Career Talks.
- Get Finished is designed to prepare last year doctoral students for their oral PhD exam (viva voce). The workshop also guides participants in developing an individual roadmap for launching their career.

GRADE members are also free to choose from a wide selection of workshops covering a range of topics, including:

- Scientific and academic methods
- Academic writing
- Presentation techniques
- Grant applications
- Career planning

"I have benefited hugely from participating in the various training programmes offered by GRADE. They have greatly assisted my doctoral study!"

Hsiang-Chung, Economic Sciences, China

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Checklist

Before coming to Germany, you should...

- find a supervisor or a structured doctoral programme,
- arrange for financial support,
- have your university graduation certificate officially translated into German, and
- organise a valid visa for Germany.

After your arrival, it is important to...

- take out all necessary insurances (especially health insurance),
- register with the local authorities,
- register as a doctoral candidate at your faculty at Goethe University Frankfurt, and
- register as a member of GRADE and benefit from our free services!