

**REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURE FOR PARTICIPATION IN CANDIDATE  
DOCTORAL COMPETITION by field 3.3 Political Science (Public Administration),  
DEPARTMENT OF "PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION", FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY,  
SOFIA UNIVERSITY "ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI"**

**NECESSARY DOCUMENTS:**

**1. Detailed academic CV.** It should include:

- Academic education;
- Professional experience and/or internships in the specialty,
- Foreign language knowledge;
- Previous research experience and scientific publications, if you have them;
- Personal interests and involvements.

**2. Motivation letter for participation in the specific doctoral competition.**

With the motivation letter (of about 2 pages) you introduce yourself before the commission. Please describe in it:

- Your educational and professional path;
- Your academic interests and strengths;
- Your intention and goals in applying for a PhD in chosen field.

**3. If desired, the candidate can provide one of his written scientific work of a maximum of 45,000 characters** (25 standard pages): term paper, chapter/part of thesis or master's thesis, scientific publication.

**SYLLABUS OF SUBTOPICS:**

The syllabus consists of subtopics and basic scientific resources, which is recommended to the candidate for PA doctoral programme to consider in the process of preparing his / her concept for the exam. The description of the dissertation research project during the exam must demonstrate knowledge of a mandatory minimum theoretical basis in the given research field.

The candidate for doctoral studies is also expected to present his / her specific interest in the topic - knowledge of data, research, various publications, the state of the sector, special problems, etc.

In particular, preparation for this exam involves:

- The doctoral candidate has to pre-select one of the subtopics described in the syllabus, in which he will develop his future dissertation;
- The candidate-doctoral student gets acquainted with the applied literature for preparation or other of his choice, but in the given thematic area;
- The PhD candidate considers in advance the elements of the research dissertation project and searches for specific information and literature;
- The PhD student is acquainted in advance with the requirements set out below for the "research project".

Research project: development guidelines:

Describe the proposed research topic as accurately as possible.

The project must contain answers to the following questions:

- What is the problem that underlies your interest in the topic?
- What are your main research questions?
- What literature on the subject you know and what are its limitations?
- What are the main hypotheses of the work?
- What methodology do you intend to apply (justify your choice)?

Explain your expectations:

- How do you intend to conduct your research?
- What type of information (empirical material) will you need and how do you intend to collect and analyze it?
- What research results do you aim to achieve?

1. **First part (four hours of written work):** The doctoral candidate describes his future research project within one of the thematic areas proposed below.

2. **Second part (oral presentation):** Interview on the submitted project and the submitted documents (CV and cover letter).

Only candidates who received a grade not lower than "very good" (4.50) on the first written part of the exam are allowed to participate in the interview.

### **EVALUATION:**

Successfully passed the competition are the candidates who received an average grade from the written and oral exam at least "very good" (4.50).

When enrolling in a doctoral programme, the final topic of the dissertation is definite after discussion with the supervisor and is approved at a department meeting and by the faculty council.

**Criteria for evaluating** the written development of research dissertation project are:

- Completeness of the research project according to the previously indicated requirements;
- Clarity and argumentation of research questions and expected results;
- Knowledge of the indicated or other literature in the given thematic area;
- Demonstration of interest in the topic (reference to data, research, publications);
- Ability for critical analysis in the exhibition.

### **THEMATIC PROGRAM (SYNOPSIS) OF THE DOCTORAL COMPETITION IN 3.3 POLITICAL SCIENCE (PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION):**

The candidate preliminarily and freely chooses the thematic field in which he / she develops a research project, as well as the elements of the content of the field, corresponding to his / her project.

The indicated literature is not obligatory, but guiding.

Applicants are expected to search for literature themselves in accordance with the selected project.

#### **1. First thematic area - Public policies - theory and methods. Sectoral policies: Security policies; Minority policies and anti-discrimination; Social Policy.**

Suggested literature:

- Peters, B. Guy & Jon Pierre, Handbook of Public Administration, Sage, 2003
- Arrow, Kenneth J. (1963), Uncertainty and Welfare Economics of Healthcare, The American Economic review, vol. LIII, December 1963, No 5
- Mintzberg, Henry et al. Strategy Safari. A Guided tour Through The Wilds Of Strategic Management“, Prentice–Hall, 2009.
- Porter, Michael. Competitive Startegy. 1980
- Rowe, A., R. Mason, K. Dickel, R.
- Mann, R. Mocker. 1994. Strategic Management. A Methodological Approach. IV-th edition.
- Addison-Wesley. The Five Competitive Forces That Shape Strategy by [Michael E. Porter](http://hbr.org/2008/01/the-five-competitive-forces-that-shape-strategy/ar/1) - <http://hbr.org/2008/01/the-five-competitive-forces-that-shape-strategy/ar/1>

#### **2. Second thematic area - Management, Strategies, Policy and Administration.**

Suggested literature:

- Arrow, Kenneth J. Social Choice and Individual Values, New Haven and London, Yale University Press, 1963
- Mises, Ludwig von, (1944), Bureaucracy, New Haven, Yale University Press
- Niskanen, William, (1968), The Peculiar Economics of Bureaucracy, The American Economic Review, Vol. 58, No (May 1968), pp. 295-305

#### **3. Third thematic area - Local government, local self-government, regional government and politics. Territory management.**

Suggested literature:

- STEFANOVA, M., State of Local Democracy in Bulgaria” (в съавторство) in: Gabor Soos (ed.) State of Local Democracy in East and Central Europe, Local Government and Public service reform Initiative, Open Society Institute, 2006, достъпна на [http://lgi.osi.hu/publications/2006/340/Soos\\_complete\\_low\\_res\\_2.pdf](http://lgi.osi.hu/publications/2006/340/Soos_complete_low_res_2.pdf)
- Elinor Ostrom's 8 Principles for Managing A Commons, at: On the Commons: OTC co-sponsors a Commons Festival featuring the Nobel Prize winner, Oct. 7-8, 2011, in Minneapolis - <http://www.onthecommons.org/magazine/elinorostroms-8-principles-managing-commons>
- <http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp/article/view/358/396>

#### **4. Fourth thematic area - Economics of the public sector and public finance.**

Suggested literature:

- Coase, Ronald H. The Problem of Social Cost, The Journal of Law and Economics, 8/October 1960: 1-44
- David R. Myddleton, They Meant Well (Government Project Disasters), London, IEA, 2007
- Elinor Ostrom, Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action (Political Economy of Institutions and Decisions), Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1990
- OECD (2004), Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) Inventory, OECD, 2004  
<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/22/9/35258430.pdf>
- Harvey Rosen, Ted Gayer, Public Finance, McGraw-Hill, 2010
- Tullock, Gordon (2005),
- Arthur Seldon, and Gordon L. Brady, The Government Failure, A Primer in Public Choice, Washintton D.C. Cato Institute, 2005.

#### **5. Fifth thematic area - Leadership and communications in the public sphere. Public ethics and administrative elite. Negotiations. Conflict resolution.**

Suggested literature:

- Burns, J. M. 1978. Leadership. New York, Harper and Row.
- Bass, B, Theory of Transformational Leadership Redux, Leadership Quarterly, 6(4), 463-478, 1995
- Rost, Joseph C., Leadership For The Twenty-First Century, Westport, Connecticut London, 1993
- Methods of Studying Leadership. 2003 (Anthonakis et al)
- Bennis, Warren, The Leadership Advantage, Leader to Leader, No. 12 Spring 1999

#### **6. Sixth thematic area: Civil Service. Human resources management in the public sphere. Administrative reform.**

Suggested literature:

- Mises, Ludwig von, (1944), Bureaucracy, New Haven, Yale University Press
- Niskanen, William (1968), The Peculiar Economics of Bureaucracy, The
- American Economic Review, Vol. 58, No (May 1968), pp. 295-305

#### **7. Seventh thematic area: Public Management issues in the system of public law and civic participation. Interaction of the state and the non-governmental sector. NGO management.**

Suggested literature:

- Alexander, J. The Civil Sphere (Oxford:Oxford Univ. Press, 2006)
- Hall, Daniel E. Administrative Law: Bureaucracy in a Democracy (Prentice Hall; 5 ed. 2011)
- Leeson, Peter T. and Paola A. Suarez, An economic analysis of Magna Carta, International Review of Law and Economics 47 (2016) 40–46

- North, Douglass C., John Joseph Wallis, Barry R. Weingast, Violence and Social Orders: A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded Human History, NBER Working Paper No. 12795, December 2006, at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w12795>
- Scharpf, Fritz (2007) The Joint-Decision Trap: Lessons From German Federalism and European Integration, Public Administration, April 2007: 845-864
- Warren, F. Kenneth, Administrative Law in the Political System (Westview Press, Fifth ed., 2010)
- White House, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, The Role of Economic Analysis in Regulatory Reform and Estimates of the Total Annual Costs and Benefits, chapter 1 and 2 in: Report to Congress on the Costs and Benefits of Federal Regulations, available at: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_chap1/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_chap1/)
- World Bank (2011), Fighting Corruption in Public Services: Chronicling Georgia's Reforms, The World Bank, Washington D.C.

**Articles to all topics from Public.policy.bg:**

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp>

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp/issue/view/36>

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp/issue/view/39>

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp/issue/view/34>

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp/issue/view/40>

<http://www.ejpp.eu/index.php/ejpp>

Concise Encyclopedia of Economics, at: <http://www.econlib.org/library/CEE.html>

Human Progress: Portal on Visualized Statistics on Economic Policy Issues: