



**Broaden your (academic)  
horizon with a joint PhD**

## A. Plan up front (individual)

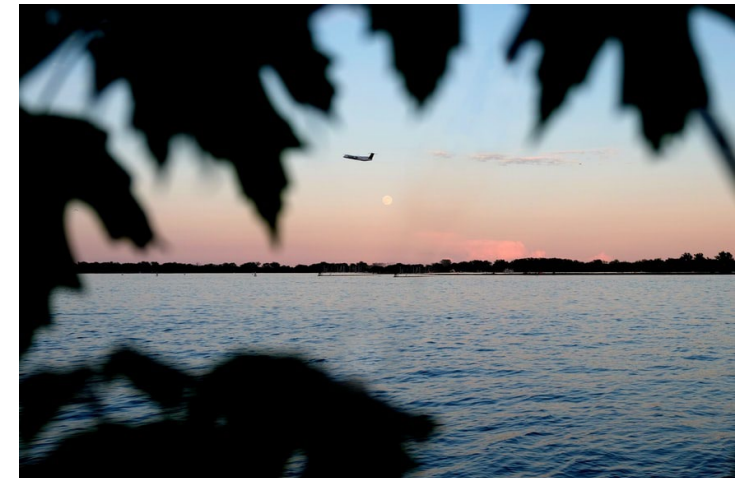
1. What is a Joint PhD?
2. What does a Joint PhD involve?
3. When to start a Joint PhD?

## B. Procedure (with all parties)

1. Joint PhD procedure
2. Important items to negotiate

## C. Journey

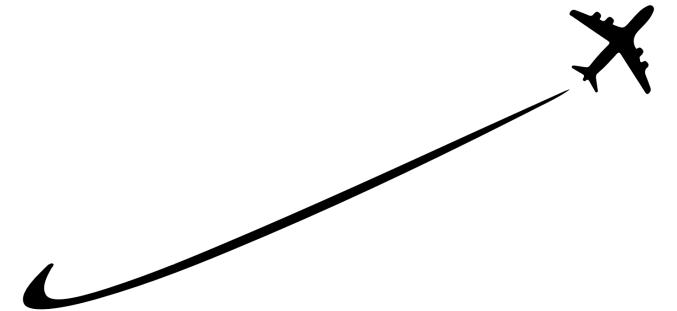
1. What's in it for me?
2. Tips from the experts





# Plan up front (individual)

1. What is a Joint PhD?
2. What does a Joint PhD involve?
3. When to start a Joint PhD?



# 1. What is a joint PhD?

- Research conducted in 2 or 3 universities
- A diploma of each partner (with reference to the collaboration)
- Research period (physically) at all partners ( $\geq$  6 month)
- Supervisor(s) at each university
- A single, public defence
- Jury with members of all partners



**Individual contract/cotutelle necessary**

## 2. What does a joint PhD involve?

**Are you ready for:**

- Finding a supervisor at two or more universities?
- Following a PhD procedure at two universities?
- Being in a different university culture? Even living in a different country for at least several months and organise all arrangements for that?
- Gaining more knowledge?
- Gaining wide networks?
- Gaining more perspectives?

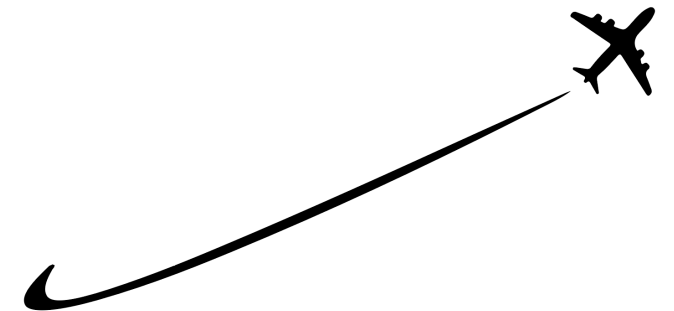
### 3. When to start a joint PhD?

- **Administratively no restrictions**
  - Beginning of PhD
  - Later state
  - No min or max length of PhD (usually)
- **Check if restrictions in partner university (& consult supervisor)**
- **Application sent latest 1 year before defence**



# Procedure (with all parties)

1. Joint PhD procedure
2. Important items to negotiate



# 1. Joint PhD Procedure

## Brief overview

- 1/ Finding a supervisor
- 2/ Assemble your application at UAntwerp
- 3/ Send your application to ADS ([JointPhD@uantwerp.be](mailto:JointPhD@uantwerp.be))
- 4/ ADS will coordinate the process
- 5/ Start up procedure at partner institution(s)

# 1. Joint PhD Procedure

## Application

- **Completed and signed application form**
  - Information about applicant
  - Information about thesis
  - Information about partner universities
  - Motivation for pursuing Joint PhD
  - Planning of research stay
- **Signed confirmation of all supervisors**
- **Motivation for more than 1 supervisor/partner university**
- **(Detailed cv)**

# ADS Team

*One team to guide you along  
your journey and answer all  
your questions!*

**Contact us:** [JointPhD@uantwerp.be](mailto:JointPhD@uantwerp.be)



Simone Kramer



Katleen Anthierens



Jana Cuyvers



Kristel De Poorter

# 1. Joint PhD Procedure

## Approval of application

- Application sent to Faculty
- Approval by Faculty Board/Departmental Board

 Follow procedure at partner university

# 1. Joint PhD Procedure

## Contract negotiations

- Contract proposal is drawn up
- Negotiations with partner university(ies)
- After approval by ADS and partner(s): final approval by faculty

 Fully coordinated by the **A**ntwerp **D**octoral **S**chool

# 1. Joint PhD Procedure

## Signing of the contract

- **After full approval signing will be initiated:**
  - On original paper copies
  - Digitally (DocuSign or other)
  - A combination (digital first, then original of the print-out)
- **Legal parties:** representatives of partners + PhD researcher
- **For acknowledgment:** all supervisors (+ e.g. dean)

## 2. Important items for the negotiation

- **Composition of the jury**
  - Minimal requirements: at least one academic staff member UAntwerp
- **Place of defence**
  - Can take place at either partner institution, usually at main institution

## 2. Important items for the negotiation

- **One single, public defence recognised by all partner universities**
  - Absolute requirement, no possibility to deviate from that for UAntwerp
- **Mentioning of the collaboration and date of defence on diploma**
  - Absolute requirement for UAntwerp, but can be mentioned on undividable diploma supplement

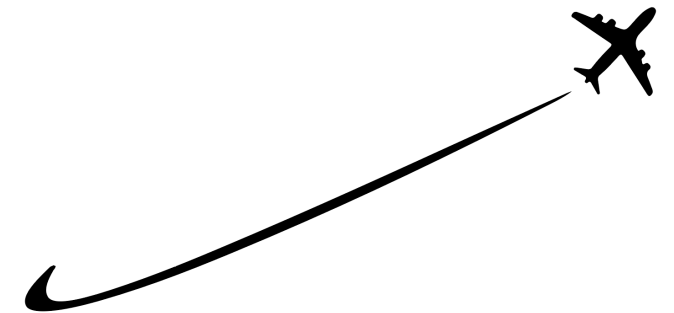
## *Good to know*

- **Research stay before application for Joint PhD**
  - Can count for Joint PhD at UAntwerp
- **(Still) IDC/Research Progress at UAntwerp**
  - Progress Doctoral Study Programme (depends)
- **Joint PhD = not a means of funding**

# Journey

**1. What's in it for me?**

**2. Tips from the experts**



# 1. What's in it for me?

- A degree from 2 or 3 universities
- (Inter)national mobility
- Enhances individual research
- Access to complementary facilities and resources
- Close contact with other research cultures & perspectives
- Improving respective language skills, gaining intercultural competence
- Networking

## 2. Tips from the experts

### Testimonials

- 1/ Prof. Dr. Annemie Bogaerts, Professor of Chemistry  
(Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry) – supervisor
- 2/ Marco Poli, PhD in Law  
Università di Torino (Italy) – INCOMING joint PhD
- 3/ Prof. Dr. Philippe Meers, Professor of Film and Media Studies  
(Faculty of Social Sciences) – supervisor

— “ —

**OPPORTUNITIES  
MULTIPLY AS  
THEY ARE SEIZED**

— ” —

SUN TZU

Questions?

