

## **Program Design** & Curriculum

The Doctorate of Political Economy is an extensive study of the political and diplomatic trends of today, requiring the students to have a solid background in the field both academically and professionally. The program consists of political modules that lead to a broad perspective of the international problems from the points of view of the different parties involved. The program targets individuals who wish to excel in this field of ever increasing importance and who wish to obtain an international perspective on their previous education and experience. It is also aimed at individuals wishing to give their career an academic direction, thus entering the fields of applied research, political consulting and lecturing in the field of diplomacy/political science.

### **core stage**

Research Methodology & Design I

Research Methodology & Design II

### **specialization stage**

Advanced Political Economy

World and Comparative Politics

International Relations

Law and the State

Advanced Political Theory

### **dissertation stage**

Dissertation

Dissertation Defense

## Admission Criteria

SMC University welcomes qualified applicants with no discrimination towards their gender, age, cultural, ethnic, religious and racial backgrounds. Distance learning candidates are admitted on a continuous basis, admission procedures are free of charge.

Admission at Swiss Management Center sets minimum criteria which have been designed to identify applicants who have sound academic potential and who show creativity, critical thinking, social and moral values, evidence of English language proficiency and strong motivation.

Successful applicants must fulfill the following criteria:

- Master degree from an internationally recognized academic institution.
- Min. 4 years of work experience in executive or senior management positions
- Proficiency in English

## Tuition Plan

Tuition is calculated for the entire program and includes e-books and all learning materials and exam fees. Courses will be activated after receipt of the tuition. Students are responsible for obtaining additional reading materials (not compulsory), their travel and related expenses for the Dissertation Defense. For full payment details please refer to the SMC University website or contact the administration.

## Dissertation

An original, academic written product of the systematic study of a significant problem that follows a coherent methodology, independent research and comprehensive thinking. An appropriate organization and documentation is part of it. A supervisor (typically a SMC faculty member) accompanies and discusses the student's work, closely checks the progress and takes on academic responsibility.

## Dissertation Defense

Upon completion of the regular course work and dissertation, students are required to pursue the obligatory Dissertation Defense. This oral performance review is structured as a hearing vis-à-vis the Academic Defense Committee of SMC at one of our Learning Centers. The Defense has the purpose to challenge aspects of the candidate's research work, allowing the students to proof their integrity by defending the underlying argumentation.

## Contact

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