



Standards for grading PhD thesis - International Graduate School in Molecular Medicine Ulm

Rite (2.7, 3.0, 3.3)

Work that is **purely descriptive**, is based on the application of existing standard methods of molecular biology, biochemistry, genetic and/or bioinformatics and does not involve functional studies.

Cum laude (1.7, 2.0, 2.3)

Work that is **mainly descriptive** without novel functional analyses but is based on high quality novel data or includes the establishment of novel methods without functional analyses. In the fields of bioinformatics/informatics this includes the implementation of existing algorithms and their application.

Magna cum laude (1.0, 1.3)

Work providing **novel mechanistic insight** into biological systems or molecular mechanisms underlying diseases. This requires functional analyses involving manipulation of biological systems by state-of-the-art techniques (e.g., loss of function approaches, gain of function approaches, etc.). In the fields of bioinformatic/informatic this includes the development and implementation of algorithms or methodologies and their validation through simulation. The candidate has delivered one or more publications in highly ranked journals in the field as first author.

Summa cum laude (1.0 with distinction,)

Work that (1) provides **novel mechanistic insights** into biological systems or molecular mechanisms underlying diseases and (2) has a strong impact on a given research area or field. In the fields of bioinformatics/informatics this includes the development and implementation of new algorithms and their analysis by theoretical and simulation-based approaches. The candidate has delivered one or more publications in highly ranked journals in the field as first author. The candidate provided significant intellectual contributions to the project that is clearly higher than average. The candidate belongs to the top 15% students in the respective research area.