# **APPENDIX 1**

## **WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSING THE GRADE OF PASS WITH DISTINCTION**

**Instructions:** Below are the Faculty of Arts assessment criteria for doctoral theses, together with descriptions. If the grade pass with distinction is proposed, the grading committee will review the criteria and their descriptions at a meeting and, based on the discussion, the first Faculty representative will write a short justification explaining **why the thesis is considered exceptionally praiseworthy and ambitious in the light of each criterion**. In other words, it is not enough for the doctoral thesis to meet the criteria, but its quality must be exceptionally high in terms of all the criteria.

**Criterion 1: Choice of topic, research problem, refining of research task and research questions:** The topic should have significant information value. The research task should be appropriately refined. The Faculty recommends that a monograph be no more than about 250 pages long, excluding appendices.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 2: Acknowledgement of previous research:** The work must serve as an appropriate continuation of previous debate or introduce a completely new initiative. Previous research must thus be acknowledged, but not repeated as such.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 3: Conceptual clarity, definitions and theoretical knowledge:** The reader must be able to fathom what the research is about.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 4: Methods:** The methods used must be presented and justified.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 5: Material:** The material must be qualitatively relevant and quantitatively sufficient.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 6: Results and conclusions:** The scientific significance of the results and conclusions should be neither exaggerated nor underestimated. The analysis must be logical and include different points of view. Interesting prospects for follow-up research can be considered as a merit, as can the social relevance of the research.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 7: Format:** The structure of the dissertation must be logical and the language clear. The basic idea must not be overwhelmed by a mass of information.

**Justification:**

**Criterion 8: Critical attitude:** The writer should demonstrate a critical attitude towards previous research, theories, methods, material, sources and the scientific significance of his or her own work. In other words, good research is original and independent.

**Justification:**