

## ESDiT Training Policy

Core training for ESDiT PhD candidates takes place in the Ethics and Technology graduate programme offered by the 4TU.Centre for Ethics and Technology (4TU.Ethics). This is an existing graduate programme carried by TU Delft, TU Eindhoven, University of Twente and Wageningen University and Research, with participation by Utrecht University. The PhD programme is taken by all ethics PhD candidates from the first four mentioned institutions, and is mandatory for ESDiT PhD candidates. The PhD programme is unique on the world: no other programme exists with a comparable focus on ethics of technology. The graduate programme safeguards the quality of training for its PhD candidates. The current Graduate School Programme Director is Prof. dr. Vincent Blok, who is also scientific director of 4TU.Ethics and member of the ESDiT management board. The management team of 4TU.Ethics is responsible for strategic decisions concerning the two programmes. The majority of members of the 4TU.Ethics management team are also members of the ESDiT management board, thus guaranteeing that the Ethics and Technology programme is sufficiently connected to ESDiT training objectives. Yearly efforts are made to adapt the programme to give more room to ESDiT topics and results.

The PhD programme in Ethics and Technology is a four-year programme. Instruction consists of 30 European Credits (EC) of mandatory course work. The programme offers courses in ethics of technology specifically for PhD candidates, as well as combined courses for PhD candidates and advanced master students from the master programme Philosophy of Science, Technology and Society (PSTS) offered by the University of Twente. Most courses are 5 EC. Three courses are mandatory:

- Philosophies of Technology (5 EC) (multiple institutions)
- Writing retreat 1 (2.5 EC) (multiple institutions)
- Writing retreat 2 (2.5 EC) (multiple institutions)

Candidates take the remainder of the 20 EC requirement from elective courses, which included (in 2022-2023):

- Philosophy of Risk (TU/e)
- Philosophy of Responsible Innovation (WUR/TUD)
- Philosophy of Mind, Body and Technology (TUD)
- Anticipation and Assessment of Emerging Technologies (UT)
- Continental Philosophy of Technoscience (WUR)
- Good Technology for Users and Society (UT)
- Empirical Methods for Philosophy of Technology (TUD)
- Design for Values (TUD).

PhD candidates can choose additional elective courses, including skills training courses, depending on specific needs, educational background, and thesis topic. Such courses are offered by the participating institutions, the Dutch Research School for Philosophy (OZSW) or the Netherlands Graduate Research School of Science, Technology and Modern Culture (WTMC). Next to these courses, 4TU.Ethics also offers a variety of research meetings, tutorials, reading groups, seminars and colloquia to its PhD candidates. PhD candidates are expected to maintain a portfolio of their activities and review it with their daily supervisor on a regular basis.

Next to the Ethics and Technology PhD programme, ESDiT also offers PhD meetings, research days, and other meetings which involve training elements specific to the needs of ESDiT.

Regarding daily supervision of PhD candidates, we require that supervisors are members of ESDiT, and we encourage a role in supervision of ESDiT members from other institutions if it could have added value.

Assessment and improvement of the training programme is a regular agenda item for the 4TU.Ethics management team as well as for the ESDiT management board.

Link: <https://ethicsandtechnology.eu/ph-d-page/doing-your-ph-d-with-4tu-ethics/>