

Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution  
of Higher Education "National Research University "Higher School of Economics"

Approved at the meeting of the Academic Council  
Doctoral School of Cultural Studies

Agreed  
Academic Director of the Doctoral School of  
Cultural Studies      Anna Afanasyeva

**The program of the portfolio composition  
of the main educational program of higher education – programs for the training of scientific and  
scientific-pedagogical personnel at the Doctoral programme  
Cultural studies**

Scientific specialties:

5.10.1 Theory and History of Culture and Art

Moscow, 2026

### **1. The portfolio consideration**

The main purpose of reviewing the portfolio of the main educational program of higher education – programs for the training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel at the Doctoral School of Cultural Studies sciences programme "Cultural Studies" in scientific specialty 5.10.1 Theory and History of Culture and Art is to identify the applicant's readiness to prepare and defend dissertation research.

The consideration for the portfolio of the main educational program of higher education – programs for the training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel at the Doctoral School of Cultural Studies sciences programme "Cultural Studies" in scientific specialty 5.10.1 Theory and History of Culture and Art consists of reviewing documents confirming the results of the applicant's scientific, academic and/or professional activities.

### **2. Portfolio structure**

To participate in the individual achievement competition (portfolio) The applicant can provide the following documents in Russian or English:

**1. CV**, which includes information about education, a list of publications, information about participation in research projects, conferences, schools, receiving research grants, work experience, implemented cultural projects, completed educational and scientific internships, knowledge of foreign languages, etc.

#### **2. Motivation letter** (1000 - 1200 words) containing:

- explanation of the reasons that prompted the applicant to enroll to the Doctoral school,
- justification for choosing a PhD programme in cultural studies at the HSE,
- justification of the choice of a potential supervisor from among the staff of the HSE
- an indication of a possible place for an internship abroad (for applicants applying for admission to an Full-time Advanced Doctoral Programme).

#### **3. Research proposal** (5-10 pages, 12 Times New Roman font) containing:

- the proposed topic of the dissertation;
- substantiation of the relevance of the research, its compliance with the specifics of cultural sciences and the scientific novelty of the problem posed;
- the purpose and objectives of the research;
- a brief description of the research status on the topic;
- a description of the proposed research methodology with specific methodological strategies;
- a description of the intended source base;
- a description of the presence of a "groundwork", that is, the degree of elaboration of the problem by the applicant himself;
- the approximate structure of scientific research;
- a list of sources and literature designed in accordance with academic standards.

**The research proposal is a key element of the portfolio. In the absence of a research proposal, a high-quality review of the portfolio is not possible.**

#### **4. A letter of recommendation from the prospective supervisor**, which:

- a) assesses the research potential of the applicant
- b) agrees to provide scientific guidance for the dissertation research if the applicant is admitted to the Doctoral school,
- b) confirms the compliance of the proposed topic of the dissertation research with the priority research areas of the Doctoral School (current research tracks of the unit).

#### **5. Published (accepted for publication) scientific papers in the field of the educational programme**

The availability of publications is confirmed by the provision of:

- copies in pdf format, including the pages of the publication and allowing identification of the publication (title page, title page turnover, contents, release data sheet),
- a link to an open source on the Internet,,  
a certificate from the editorial office of acceptance for publication (with the attached text of the work in pdf format).

### **6. Information about reports and presentations at scientific conferences, seminars, etc.**

It is confirmed by providing programs of conferences, seminars, etc. or by referring to an open source on the Internet.

**7. Diplomas and certificates**, confirming academic and research internships, individual academic scholarships and grants, and other academic achievements (victories in student Olympiads, student paper competitions, etc.) indicated in the resume and motivation letter.

### **3. Components included in the portfolio documents**

The selection procedures for applicants to the quota places are held in the portfolio consideration format

The portfolio is not evaluated according to criteria and scores.

<b>Components</b>
<b><i>Research proposal:</i></b>
- substantiation of the relevance and novelty of the research
- the purpose and objectives of the study
- description of the state of research on the topic and proposed methodological
- the quality of written speech, clear expression of thoughts, literacy in the design of the list of references and footnotes
- description of the "groundwork" or the degree of elaboration of the problem by the applicant himself
- the compliance of the proposed topic of the dissertation research with the priority research areas of the Doctoral School (current research tracks of the unit).
<b><i>Availability of published or accepted scientific papers (without co-authorship) in the field of the educational program</i></b>
<b><i>A Letter of recommendation from the prospective supervisor:</i></b>
- - the requirements for the letter of recommendation have been fulfilled in full
- - the other cases
<b><i>Experience of participation in Russian and international scientific conferences</i></b>
<b><i>Other educational and scientific achievements:</i></b>
- certificates of victory in Olympiads, scientific work competitions, certificates of receipt of grants, special scholarships related to academic success