The PhD program comprises two distinct stages:

**STAGE 1**
Stage 1 is expected to last approximately 15 months. Participants acquire in-depth knowledge about quantitative and qualitative management research methods. Considerable attention will also be devoted to literature search and review and to the skills needed to transfer knowledge. They gain broad insights into their specialization through being embedded in the relevant research centers or research labs of the respective university.

Every intake is developed according to a ‘cohort’ principle with a network of faculty supervising, guiding and advising the entire intake. Successful completion of all modules and assignments provides all the elements required for an academically robust PhD research proposal.

**STAGE 2**
With the acceptance of their PhD research proposal and the appointment of a PhD supervisor, participants progress to stage 2. Over a period of approximately 33 months, participants proceed with their research, write and eventually defend a doctoral dissertation. During this stage, participants are expected to grow their competencies in presenting, discussing and publishing their research. Participants are expected to attend doctoral Research Colloquia and seminars on academic publishing, writing teaching cases and facilitate case study discussions in academic and business environments.