



## THE HISTORY OF THE PHD SCHOOL

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The PhD School of Aarhus School of Architecture was established in 1988. Since then the school has awarded 90 PhD students the PhD degree. The development of the PhD school can be divided into four periods. During the PhD school's first years the focus was on establishing a basic understanding of what research is in regard to architecture and how this differs from a more traditional academic approach to research. In phase 2 a more structured PhD study with a profound doctoral training programme with PhD courses was created. Phase 3 was characterized by the identity crisis dominating architecture research up until now finally fading into the background. Twenty years of experience with PhD education implied that there were now examples to follow, and design processes and research were no longer regarded as opposites. In the fourth and final phase, the PhD school has developed into a strong international unit at Aarhus School of Architecture. Among others, the PhD school became a partner in ADAPT-r, which is the largest international educational research project within architecture ever. In 2016 the PhD school was extended and established as a joint PhD school in collaboration with Design School Kolding with management and administration at Aarhus School of Architecture.

The current PhD school programme comprises our biannual VIVAs as well as the larger individual midway VIVAs, where the PhD students present their PhD projects and receive feedback from supervisors and external invited opponents. In addition, the PhD school offers approx. five annual PhD courses and masterclasses. The school hosts monthly lunch meetings, which facilitate professional exchange amongst the PhD students and provide an opportunity to invite external guests and discuss topics of both professional and administrative nature. In the current PhD population, which in all forms 27 PhD students, the PhD projects varies from the more theoretically rooted to projects based on research by design, which is the school's focus area of research.