



Academic & Professional Pathways Monarch Switzerland

Pre-Amble

This document is intended to help prospective candidates understand the **different academic and professional pathways available at Monarch Switzerland along with various degree options**, clarify how programs are structured, and support informed decision-making prior to application. Detailed procedural guidance, tuition information, and admissions steps are provided in separate documents.

This document, Academic & Professional Pathways at Monarch Switzerland, is intended to provide conceptual orientation and academic clarity for prospective candidates exploring advanced study at Monarch Switzerland. Its purpose is to explain the structure of Monarch's programs, distinguish between academic, applied, executive, and research-preparatory pathways, and support informed self-assessment prior to application.

This guide is not an admissions decision document and does not replace individual academic review. Final program placement, pathway confirmation, and degree structuring are determined only after submission of a non-binding application, based on a holistic evaluation of academic background, professional experience, and alignment with the intended area of study.

To support clarity and transparency, this document forms part of a broader admissions information framework, which prospective candidates are encouraged to consult in parallel:

- **Understanding Tuition Options at Monarch Switzerland (Tuition Policy)**
Explains standard and extended study pathways, continuation provisions, and tuition structures in detail.



- **Next Steps: Applying to Monarch Switzerland**
Outlines the application process, documentation requirements, review stages, and typical timelines.
- **Your First Year at Monarch Switzerland**
Describes what candidates can expect during the initial phase of study, including academic structure, supervision, progression milestones, and early research development.

Together, these documents are designed to provide clarity, transparency, and reassurance, enabling prospective candidates to engage with Monarch Switzerland's programs confidently and with a realistic understanding of expectations.

Candidates who, after reviewing these materials, believe that Monarch Switzerland aligns with their academic and professional objectives are invited to proceed by submitting a non-binding application, after which personalized admissions guidance will be provided.

Note on Program Design and European Academic Alignment

Monarch Switzerland's programs are designed within the framework of the European Academic Tradition, with particular reference to the principles articulated by the **European Qualifications Framework (EQF)**. This tradition emphasizes academic level, learning outcomes, research capability, and intellectual autonomy over mode of delivery or instructional format.

In line with this approach, Monarch's academic and professional programs are structured to reflect [EQF-aligned expectations](#) appropriate to master's and doctoral-level study, including advanced analytical capability, methodological rigor, and independent scholarly inquiry. Program design prioritizes progression, coherence, and academic depth, ensuring that qualifications awarded accurately reflect the level of achievement attained.

The use of hybrid delivery formats at Monarch Switzerland should therefore be understood as pedagogical modalities. Within the European academic context, rigor and degree standing are determined by learning outcomes, research demands, and assessment standards alone. This design philosophy allows Monarch Switzerland to uphold European doctoral standards while remaining accessible to experienced



international professionals, researchers, and leaders whose academic work is embedded within complex professional and global contexts.

Section 1. Introduction to Monarch Switzerland

Monarch Switzerland is a private Swiss higher education institution specializing in **advanced academic research and professionally oriented doctoral study**. The institution is designed to serve experienced professionals, executives, researchers, and practitioners who seek academically rigorous qualifications while remaining active in their professional and leadership roles.

Monarch's academic model reflects the **European research tradition**, emphasizing intellectual rigor, independent inquiry, and structured scholarly supervision. At the same time, the institution recognizes that many qualified candidates do not follow linear academic pathways and may have built substantial expertise through professional practice, leadership, entrepreneurship, or public service. Monarch's program architecture is therefore intentionally designed to accommodate both **academic and professional trajectories**, without compromising degree integrity or academic standards.

All programs at Monarch Switzerland are delivered in a hybrid academic format and may also be completed fully online. Onsite academic workshops are offered in Switzerland as part of the doctoral and postgraduate learning environment for candidates who wish to engage in face-to-face scholarly exchange.

Admissions at Monarch Switzerland are based on a holistic review of each applicant's academic background and professional experience. The institution does not require entrance examinations, GMAT, GRE, or standardized language tests. Instead, emphasis is placed on prior academic performance, demonstrated professional maturity, and alignment between the candidate's background and the intended program of study.

Section 2. Understanding Program Pathways at Monarch

Monarch Switzerland offers a **structured yet flexible academic architecture** designed to accommodate candidates with differing professional backgrounds, career objectives, and academic aspirations. Rather than applying a one-size-fits-all model, Monarch



organizes its offerings into **distinct program pathways**, each aligned with a specific orientation toward research, practice, or executive development.

At a high level, Monarch programs fall into four primary pathways:

- Academic Doctoral Programs
- Applied Doctoral Programs
- Executive Programs
- Master-Level Programs

Each pathway reflects a different balance between theoretical research, applied inquiry, and professional practice, while maintaining consistent academic oversight and degree integrity.

Academic Doctoral Programs

Academic doctoral programs are designed for candidates seeking to make a **theoretical and scholarly contribution** to knowledge. These programs emphasize critical engagement with the academic literature, rigorous research design, and independent scholarly inquiry.

Candidates in academic doctoral pathways typically aim to:

- Contribute to disciplinary knowledge
- Publish scholarly research
- Pursue academic, research, or policy-oriented careers

These programs require strong academic preparation and a demonstrated capacity for sustained research activity.

Applied Doctoral Programs

Applied doctoral programs are intended for **experienced professionals and senior practitioners** who wish to integrate their professional expertise into a structured doctoral-level research project. Research in these programs is grounded in real-world organizational, leadership, or systemic challenges, while remaining analytically rigorous and methodologically sound.

Candidates in applied doctoral pathways typically seek to:



- Advance professional practice through research
- Examine leadership, management, or organizational issues in context
- Produce research with direct practical relevance

Professional experience is regarded as a central asset in these programs, informing both the research focus and analytical perspective.

Executive Programs

Executive programs are designed for senior leaders who wish to **enhance strategic capacity, governance insight, and executive decision-making** without undertaking a traditional doctoral research trajectory.

These programs emphasize:

- Strategic leadership development
- Organizational and systems-level thinking
- Applied learning informed by executive practice

Executive programs are academically structured but are **not research-intensive** in the same way as doctoral pathways.

Master-Level Programs

Master-level programs serve as **developmental and preparatory pathways**, particularly for candidates who wish to strengthen their academic foundation, research skills, or readiness for doctoral study.

These programs are especially appropriate for candidates who:

- Hold vocational or non-traditional academic qualifications
- Seek structured preparation before entering doctoral programs
- Require formal training in research methodology and academic writing

Master-level pathways may function as standalone qualifications or as progression routes toward doctoral study, subject to performance and admissions review.

Choosing the Appropriate Pathway

Selection of the appropriate pathway depends on several factors, including:



- Academic background and prior qualifications
- Depth and nature of professional experience
- Intended outcomes (academic, applied, or executive)
- Readiness for independent research

Final pathway placement may be confirmed following application review to ensure alignment between the candidate's profile and the academic expectations of the selected program.

The following sections of this document provide more detailed descriptions of each program pathway to support informed decision-making.

Section 3. Academic Doctoral Programs

Academic doctoral programs at Monarch Switzerland are designed for candidates seeking to undertake **rigorous, research-intensive doctoral study** grounded in theory, methodology, and scholarly inquiry. These programs follow the European doctoral tradition and are intended for candidates whose primary objective is to contribute to academic, theoretical, or policy-relevant knowledge.

Academic doctoral study is appropriate for candidates who aim to:

- Conduct sustained independent research
- Engage deeply with disciplinary and interdisciplinary literature
- Produce original theoretical or analytical contributions
- Publish or disseminate research at an academic or professional level.

At Monarch Switzerland, academic doctoral programs are offered within a **coherent and unified research framework**, ensuring consistency of academic standards across disciplines. Doctoral candidates engage in structured supervisory dialogue designed to support scholarly independence while ensuring methodological and theoretical rigor.

The PhD in Business Research as the Foundational Doctoral Framework

The PhD in Business Research serves as the **core academic rubric** upon which Monarch's other PhD programs are modeled. It establishes the institutional standards for:

- research design and methodology,
- theoretical engagement,



- supervisory structure, and
- doctoral-level academic rigor.

Under this framework, candidates may pursue doctoral research across a wide range of **management and business-related domains**, including (but not limited to):

- leadership and organizational studies,
- strategy and governance,
- human resources and organizational behavior,
- entrepreneurship and innovation,
- operations, project management, and systems thinking.

Where a specific domain of management study is not offered as a standalone PhD program, candidates may pursue their research within the PhD in Business Research, with the degree title reflecting this overarching academic framework.

PhD Program Offerings

Within this unified structure, Monarch Switzerland currently offers the following academic PhD programs:

1. PhD in Business Research

Designed for candidates who seek to undertake rigorous doctoral research across a broad range of business and management domains, the PhD in Business Research is the foundational academic doctoral program at Monarch Switzerland. It is intended for candidates whose interests span management, leadership, organizations, and business systems, and who wish to pursue research that is theoretically grounded and methodologically robust.

The program serves as the **core doctoral rubric** upon which Monarch's other PhD programs are modeled. Candidates may pursue research in leadership, strategy, governance, human resources, organizational behavior, entrepreneurship, innovation, operations, and related areas of management studies. Where a specific management domain is not offered as a standalone PhD program, research may be conducted under this degree framework while maintaining full academic rigor.



2. PhD in Economics

Designed for candidates pursuing advanced theoretical and analytical research in economics, the PhD in Economics supports doctoral study focused on economic systems, markets, policy, and development. It is intended for candidates with a strong interest in economic theory and analytical reasoning, and who wish to contribute to scholarly debates within the discipline.

Research within the program emphasizes engagement with classical and contemporary economic literature, appropriate analytical or methodological frameworks, and the development of original scholarly insight. Doctoral work may address macroeconomic, microeconomic, developmental, or policy-oriented questions, depending on the candidate's focus and background.

3. PhD in International Relations Theory

Designed for candidates focused on theoretical and conceptual research in international relations, this program supports doctoral inquiry into global systems, diplomacy, governance, and international order. It is particularly suited to candidates whose interests lie in the analytical and theoretical dimensions of international relations rather than applied policy training.

Doctoral research emphasizes engagement with international relations theory, conceptual frameworks, and scholarly literature. Candidates are expected to situate their work within established and emerging theoretical debates, producing research that contributes to academic understanding of international and transnational phenomena.

4. PhD in CSR & Sustainability

Designed for candidates examining corporate responsibility, sustainability, and ethical dimensions of global business, the PhD in CSR & Sustainability supports doctoral research at the intersection of business, society, and environmental stewardship. It is suited to candidates interested in the theoretical foundations of responsible management and sustainability governance.

Research in this program engages with CSR theory, sustainability frameworks, business ethics literature, and related scholarly traditions. Doctoral work may address organizational responsibility, stakeholder theory, sustainability strategy, or global governance issues, with emphasis on conceptual clarity and academic contribution.



5. PhD in Finance

Designed for candidates pursuing theoretical and analytical research in finance, the PhD in Finance provides a dedicated academic pathway for advanced study of financial systems, corporate finance, investment theory, and related financial domains. The program is intended for candidates seeking to engage deeply with financial theory rather than professional certification or applied training.

Doctoral research emphasizes engagement with financial literature, analytical frameworks, and appropriate methodological approaches. Candidates are expected to develop research that contributes to scholarly understanding of financial structures, markets, or decision-making processes, in alignment with Monarch's unified doctoral research standards.

6. Doctor of Social Science (DSS)

Designed for candidates who seek to undertake rigorous doctoral research into complex social, organizational, institutional, or policy-related phenomena, the Doctor of Social Science (DSS) provides an academically grounded pathway for interdisciplinary doctoral inquiry. The program is suited to candidates whose research interests cut across traditional disciplinary boundaries and who require conceptual flexibility while maintaining doctoral-level rigor.

Doctoral research within the DSS emphasizes engagement with social science theory, interdisciplinary literature, and appropriate methodological frameworks. Candidates may draw upon perspectives from sociology, political science, leadership studies, public policy, international studies, or organizational research, depending on the nature of the inquiry. While academically oriented, the DSS allows broader thematic framing than discipline-specific PhDs, making it particularly suitable for research addressing systemic, societal, or institutional challenges.

Academic Doctoral Expectations and Admissions Considerations

Admission to Monarch Switzerland's academic doctoral programs is based on a **rigorous, holistic evaluation of academic readiness** and scholarly capability. These programs are intended for candidates who demonstrate the capacity for sustained independent research and theoretical contribution.

Academic doctoral admissions considerations include:



- the level and quality of prior academic qualifications,
- demonstrated analytical and critical thinking ability,
- evidence of research aptitude or scholarly engagement, and
- alignment between the candidate's academic background and the proposed area of doctoral inquiry.

While professional experience may inform research interests and contextual understanding, academic doctoral pathways place primary emphasis on the candidate's ability to engage deeply with theory, literature, and research methodology. Candidates are expected to demonstrate intellectual independence, academic discipline, and readiness for doctoral-level scholarly work.

Final admission and program placement decisions are made following review of the candidate's academic record and supporting documentation, ensuring appropriate alignment between the individual's profile and the academic expectations of the selected doctoral pathway.

Section 4. Applied Doctoral Programs

Applied doctoral programs at Monarch Switzerland are designed for candidates whose doctoral objectives are **closely aligned with professional practice, leadership development, and applied inquiry**. These programs retain doctoral-level rigor while explicitly integrating the candidate's professional experience, organizational context, and practical challenges into the research process.

Applied doctoral study is appropriate for candidates who seek to:

- Advance professional and leadership practice through research
- Examine real-world organizational, managerial, or systemic challenges
- Produce applied research with practical relevance and scholarly grounding
- Integrate reflective practice with structured doctoral inquiry

At Monarch Switzerland, applied doctoral programs are offered within a coherent and unified applied research framework, ensuring consistency of academic standards while allowing program-level specialization.

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) as the Foundational Applied Doctoral Framework

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) serves as the **core applied doctoral rubric** at Monarch Switzerland. It establishes the institutional standards for:



- applied research design,
- integration of professional practice into inquiry,
- reflective and analytical depth, and
- supervision within practice-oriented doctoral contexts.

The DBA framework provides the foundation upon which Monarch's other applied doctoral programs are modeled. Where a candidate's professional focus aligns with leadership, neuroscience, decision making, or professional practice more broadly, specialized applied doctorates build upon the same underlying applied research principles while allowing domain-specific emphasis.

Applied Program Offerings

Within this unified structure, Monarch Switzerland currently offers the following applied Doctoral programs:

1. Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

Designed for candidates who seek to advance professional practice through rigorous, practice-based doctoral research, the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) is intended for senior professionals, executives, and entrepreneurs operating in complex organizational environments. The program integrates real-world business and management challenges into a structured doctoral research framework.

Doctoral research within the DBA emphasizes applied inquiry grounded in organizational contexts, informed by relevant theory and literature. Candidates typically investigate issues related to strategy, leadership, governance, operations, innovation, or organizational performance, producing research that contributes to both professional practice and applied scholarly understanding.

2. Doctor of Leadership (DOL)

Designed for candidates who focus on leadership as a central domain of inquiry, the Doctor of Leadership (DOL) supports applied doctoral research into leadership practice, ethics, decision-making, and organizational influence. The program is suited to candidates operating in senior leadership roles across corporate, public, nonprofit, or community-based settings.

Research within the DOL emphasizes reflective leadership practice informed by leadership theory, organizational studies, and related scholarly frameworks.



Doctoral work typically examines leadership challenges within real institutional or social contexts, producing applied insights that support leadership development and organizational effectiveness.

3. Doctor of Applied Neuroscience in Management (DANM)

Designed for candidates seeking to explore the intersection of neuroscience, cognition, and managerial practice, the Doctor of Applied Neuroscience in Management (DANM) provides an applied doctoral pathway for examining decision-making, leadership behavior, learning, and organizational dynamics through a neuroscience-informed lens.

Doctoral research in the DANM integrates applied neuroscience concepts with management and leadership practice, drawing upon interdisciplinary literature while maintaining a clear applied orientation. Research projects typically focus on how cognitive and neurological insights can inform leadership effectiveness, organizational design, or professional practice.

4. Doctor of Professional Studies (DPROF)

Designed for candidates whose professional practice does not align neatly with a single disciplinary framework, the Doctor of Professional Studies (DPROF) offers a flexible applied doctoral pathway for experienced practitioners across diverse professional domains. The program is particularly suited to candidates whose work spans multiple sectors or applied fields.

Research within the Doctor of Professional Studies emphasizes structured inquiry into professional practice, guided by relevant theoretical and methodological frameworks. Doctoral projects are shaped by the candidate's professional context and are expected to demonstrate analytical rigor, reflective depth, and applied contribution within the chosen field of practice.

Applied Doctoral Expectations and Admissions Considerations

Admission to applied doctoral programs is based on a **holistic assessment of professional experience and academic readiness**, including:

- depth and relevance of professional practice,
- demonstrated leadership or senior responsibility,
- prior academic qualifications, and
- alignment between professional context and doctoral focus.



Applied doctoral pathways place particular emphasis on the candidate's capacity to integrate professional experience into structured doctoral research, while maintaining analytical rigor and academic coherence.

Section 5. Executive Programs

Executive programs at Monarch Switzerland are designed for candidates seeking **advanced professional development and strategic leadership capability** without undertaking a traditional doctoral research trajectory. These programs are intended for experienced professionals and senior leaders who wish to formalize, deepen, and systematize their executive knowledge within a structured academic framework.

Executive study is appropriate for candidates who:

- hold senior managerial, executive, or leadership roles,
- seek advanced strategic, organizational, or governance insight,
- value academic structure without a research dissertation requirement, and
- wish to enhance professional effectiveness at the highest levels of practice.

Monarch's executive programs emphasize strategic thinking, reflective practice, and systems-level understanding, while remaining academically grounded and professionally relevant.

1. Doctor of Management (DOM)

Designed for candidates who seek to consolidate and advance executive-level understanding of management and organizational leadership, the Doctor of Management (DOM) is intended for senior managers, executives, and organizational leaders operating at the highest levels of responsibility. The program is particularly suited to candidates whose roles involve strategic oversight, governance, and complex decision-making across organizations or systems.

The DOM emphasizes **executive synthesis rather than doctoral research**, allowing candidates to engage deeply with advanced management concepts, leadership frameworks, and organizational strategy without undertaking a traditional research dissertation. Study within the program is academically structured and rigorous, focusing on the integration of theory, executive experience, and reflective analysis to support high-level professional judgment.



Candidates in the DOM typically draw upon their own leadership contexts to examine strategic challenges, organizational design, governance structures, and long-term performance considerations. The program is designed to enhance executive perspective, strategic clarity, and leadership maturity, offering a terminal qualification for professionals who wish to formalize their executive expertise within a respected academic framework.

2. Executive Master of Business Administration (Executive MBA)

Designed for candidates pursuing advanced executive education in business and management, the Executive MBA provides a structured academic program focused on leadership, strategy, and organizational performance. It is suited to professionals seeking to enhance managerial capability and broaden strategic perspective while remaining active in their careers. The Executive MBA emphasizes applied learning informed by contemporary business frameworks and professional practice. While academically grounded, the program is not research-intensive and does not involve doctoral-level inquiry. While academically structured at the postgraduate level, the Executive MBA is positioned within Monarch's executive pathway due to its leadership focus and professional orientation.

Executive Program Expectations and Admissions Considerations

Admission to executive programs is based on a holistic review of professional experience and leadership responsibility, including:

- seniority of role and scope of responsibility,
- professional trajectory and managerial exposure, and
- prior academic qualifications appropriate to executive study.

Executive programs prioritize **practical relevance, strategic maturity, and applied insight**, offering academically structured learning without the research expectations associated with doctoral pathways.

Section 6. Master-Level Programs

As a doctoral-focused institute, Monarch Switzerland places strong emphasis on the development of research capability across the full academic lifecycle. In addition to advanced doctoral programs, Monarch supports **earlier-stage research development**



through dedicated master-level research programs designed to prepare candidates for sustained scholarly inquiry.

Master-level programs at Monarch Switzerland serve as **developmental, preparatory, and transitional pathways** for candidates who are progressing toward doctoral-level study. They are intentionally structured to strengthen academic foundations, research literacy, and methodological competence, while remaining aligned with Monarch's broader research culture and doctoral standards.

These programs are particularly appropriate for candidates who:

- hold vocational or non-traditional academic qualifications,
- require structured preparation for doctoral research,
- seek to develop academic writing and research methodology skills, or
- wish to progress gradually toward advanced research degrees within a doctoral institute environment.

1. Master of Philosophy in Business Research (MPhil)

Designed for candidates who already possess a strong academic foundation and seek advanced research preparation, the Master of Philosophy in Business Research is a more research-intensive master's program. It is intended for candidates who are nearing doctoral readiness and wish to demonstrate research capability through structured, supervised inquiry.

The MPhil emphasizes advanced engagement with academic literature, research design, and scholarly analysis. Candidates are expected to undertake substantive research work that reflects doctoral-level thinking, though within a master-level framework.

Successful completion of the MPhil may support **progression into doctoral study**, subject to admissions review and alignment with the intended doctoral pathway.

2. Master of Arts in Business Research (MA)

Designed for candidates who seek to develop foundational academic and research skills, the Master of Arts in Business Research provides structured preparation in business studies, research methodology, and academic writing. The program is particularly suited to candidates whose prior education may be vocational in nature or whose professional experience has not previously required formal academic research training.



Study within the MA emphasizes critical thinking, structured inquiry, and engagement with business and management literature. Candidates are guided in developing research literacy, analytical clarity, and academic discipline, enabling them to approach advanced study with confidence and competence.

The MA in Business Research may function as a **standalone academic qualification** or as a **preparatory pathway toward doctoral study**, subject to performance and admissions review.

Master-Level Expectations and Admissions Considerations

Admission to master-level programs is based on a **holistic review of academic background and professional context**, including:

- prior qualifications and academic performance,
- relevance of professional or organizational experience, and
- readiness for structured academic study.

Master-level pathways are designed to be **supportive yet rigorous**, offering candidates a clear route toward academic advancement while respecting diverse educational and professional trajectories.

Section 7. Pathways, Flexibility, and Advanced Degree Options

Monarch Switzerland's academic model is intentionally designed to provide structured flexibility while preserving academic integrity. As a doctoral-focused institute serving experienced professionals and international candidates, Monarch recognizes that advanced study often unfolds within complex professional and personal contexts. In response, the institution has developed formal mechanisms that support progression, recognition, and advanced academic structuring without compromising standards.

These mechanisms include embedded and exit degree recognition models, as well as formally approved dual degree pathways. Together, they reflect Monarch's commitment to transparent academic governance, proportional recognition of scholarly achievement, and carefully structured flexibility within doctoral education.

Two distinct degree-recognition concepts, the Master-in-Passing (MiP) and the Master-in-Exit (MiE), operate alongside approved dual degree arrangements. Each serves a



different academic purpose and is governed by clearly defined criteria, ensuring that all qualifications awarded accurately reflect completed academic work.

Master-in-Passing (MiP) within Doctoral Programs

A distinctive feature of Monarch Switzerland's doctoral programs is the inclusion of a Master-in-Passing (MiP) as an embedded academic degree.

The Master-in-Passing is **awarded automatically upon the successful completion of a doctoral degree**. It formally recognizes that the candidate has completed the master-level academic and research components inherently embedded within the doctoral program, in accordance with European academic tradition.

Key characteristics of the Master-in-Passing include:

- it is not an exit award,
- it is conferred only when the doctoral degree is successfully completed,
- it acknowledges the completion of advanced coursework, research training, and approved scholarly milestones completed during the doctoral journey, and
- it reflects the integrated structure of postgraduate education within a doctoral institute.

The Master-in-Passing does not require separate enrollment or additional work beyond the doctoral program itself. It exists to formally recognize academic achievement already completed within the doctoral pathway.

Master-in-Exit (MiE): Early Completion Recognition

The Master-in-Exit (MiE) is a separate and distinct academic award, applicable **only in cases where a candidate does not complete the doctoral program** but has nevertheless achieved defined academic milestones at the master's level.

The Master-in-Exit:

- is not automatic,
- is subject to formal academic review and approval, and
- is awarded only where the required coursework, research training, and assessed outputs meet Monarch's master-level academic standards.



The MiE serves to ensure academic fairness and proportional recognition of completed postgraduate work, while maintaining a clear distinction between partial doctoral progress and full doctoral completion.

Dual Degree Pathways

In selected cases, Monarch Switzerland permits **formally approved dual degree pathways**, allowing candidates to pursue two complementary doctoral qualifications within a coherent and academically governed structure. Dual degree arrangements are limited, intentional, and subject to strict academic oversight to ensure that the integrity and standards of each qualification are preserved.

At present, the approved dual degree pathways at Monarch Switzerland are:

- PhD – Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- PhD – Doctor of Leadership (DOL)
- PhD – Doctor of Social Science (DSS)

These dual pathways are designed for candidates whose academic and professional objectives legitimately span **theoretical scholarship and applied or interdisciplinary inquiry**. Each degree within a dual pathway retains its own learning outcomes, assessment requirements, and academic expectations. Any overlap in learning or research activity is permitted only where it is academically justified and formally approved.

Dual degree pathways are not automatic and are considered on a case-by-case basis following admissions review. Approval depends on academic feasibility, candidate readiness, and the ability to maintain a clear and defensible distinction between the two degree awards.

No other dual degree combinations are currently approved outside the pathways listed above.

Closing Notes

Monarch Switzerland is founded on the principle that advanced academic study should be **rigorous, purposeful, and realistically aligned with the lived professional contexts of its candidates**. The academic and professional pathways described in this document reflect a deliberately structured ecosystem designed to support diverse scholarly and professional trajectories while maintaining clear standards of academic quality and integrity.



Program structures, progression pathways, and degree recognition mechanisms at Monarch are intentionally designed to improve alignment between candidate profile and program expectations, thereby increasing the likelihood of **successful and timely completion** of advanced degrees. This design philosophy recognizes that doctoral success is most strongly supported when academic ambition, professional context, and program structure are coherently aligned from the outset.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to reflect carefully on the pathways outlined, considering not only academic interests but also professional objectives, readiness for advanced study, and long-term aspirations. Monarch's admissions process is advisory rather than gatekeeping, guiding candidates toward pathways that are both academically appropriate and professionally sustainable.

Those who believe that Monarch Switzerland aligns with their intellectual ambitions and professional direction are invited to engage further through the non-binding application process, at which point individualized academic guidance and pathway clarification will be provided.

General inquiries may be directed to the Administration at administration@umonarch.ch.

Important Links

For further information and detailed guidance, prospective candidates are encouraged to consult the following resources:

- Academic & Professional Programs Overview – Monarch Switzerland
<https://umonarch.ch/program-overview/>
- Understanding Tuition Options at Monarch Switzerland (Tuition Policy)
<https://umonarch.ch/tuition/>
- Non-Binding Application
<https://umonarch.ch/apply/>
- Admissions & Administrative Information
<https://umonarch.ch/contact/>
- European Qualifications Framework (EQF)
<https://europa.eu/europass/en/european-qualifications-framework-eqf>

The European Qualifications Framework provides a reference framework for understanding how qualifications relate across European education systems and supports transparency in academic level alignment.

