

# SENATE REGULATION 5: Research Degrees

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## POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMMES

These Regulations are effective from 1 September 2017 for all research degree students and should be read in conjunction with the Code of Practice for Research Degrees which sets out mandatory policies and procedures under Senate Regulation 5.

### Standards

1. Doctoral degrees (FHEQ level 8) are awarded to candidates who have demonstrated:
  - a) the creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship, of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication;
  - b) a systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of an academic discipline or area of professional practice;
  - c)



EngD/PhD by new route	36	60
DrPH	30	60
<u>Part-time</u>		
PhD/EdD	48	96
MPhil/LLM	24	48
DrPH	48	84

11. The period of candidature shall be determined from the date of registration and



26. All candidates for a research degree will be examined by at least two Examiners, one of which must be external to the University. Candidates who are current or recent members of the staff of the University must be examined by at least two External Examiners and one Internal Examiner. "Current" members of staff are defined as anyone employed by the University at any point since the date of their registration for the research degree and up to the date of their viva voce examination. The only exception to the requirement for two external examiners is where a candidate becomes employed by the University after submission of their thesis. In these circumstances, the Head of Quality Assurance may approve an exception to the requirement to appoint two external examiners". "Recent" in this context shall mean members of staff who have ceased employment with the University within the last five years.

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- c) shall, if appropriate, set out reasons why no viva voce should be held;
- d) shall be confidential to the Examination Panel members;

33. Viva voce examinations shall normally take place within three months of the date of the submission of the thesis. The candidate will be required to present themselves for the viva voce examination.

Recommendations of the Examiners

Extensions to the six-month period may be approved by the College if there are accepted extenuating circumstances. The examination of the revised thesis will normally be completed within three months of the re-submission.

- g) The Examiners may, upon consideration of the thesis and the candidate's performance at the viva voce, make the recommendation that the degree not be awarded.

35. At the conclusion of the viva voce examination the appropriate report form should be completed, signed by all Examiners. Where all Examiners agree in their recommendations, they should submit a joint report, although each may, in accordance with the regulations, submit an individual report. (h)10.6 (s)-2 (epom)-5.9 (t)-6Tw 2.  
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44. No person may normally make a submission for the PhD degree by published works if s/he has previously been awarded a doctoral degree, or is concurrently enrolled on another award-bearing programme in this or any other University/Institution.

45. An applicant for the PhD degree of the University of Bath must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or a Commonwealth country or a country with which the United Kingdom has a reciprocal agreement for the award of PhD degrees.

d) A critical review of between 10,000 and 15,000 words. In particular the critical review shall:

- x outline the themes that give the works their defining coherence;
- x show how the works make a significant and coherent contribution to knowledge;
- x provide an assessment of the impact of the works contained in the submission;
- x justify

c) a short statement

independent assessment. In their evaluation of a submission, Examiners shall be empowered to make such enquiries as they think fit.

62. If all Examiners recommend the award of the degree, their reports together with a recommendation for the conferment of the award shall be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor, as Chairman of Senate. If the Examiners' reports do not unanimously recommend the award of the degree, the Pro Vice Chancellor shall consult the Vice-Chancellor and take appropriate action.

63. The anonymised final report(s) of the Examiners will be issued to the candidate.

64. One copy of the published works submitted in evidence for the award of the degree shall be retained by the University Library.

## SR5(b) JOINT RESEARCH DEGREES

### Award of the Joint Degree

65. The University may approve arrangements for a candidate to register on a programme leading to a joint award of the degree of Master of Philosophy or Doctor of Philosophy with a specific named institution, in accordance with the University's procedures for approving collaborative partnerships and the procedures established for such degrees.

66. A joint research degree programme leading to a joint award with another named institution shall be governed by a Memorandum of Agreement approved and signed by the authorised signatories of the University and the other named Institution participating in the award.

67. In addition to the Memorandum of Agreement every candidate for the award of the degree of PhD under these regulations shall enter into an Individual Doctoral Agreement signed by authorised signatories of the University and the other named Institution and the candidate's supervisors which sets out the terms and conditions governing the joint award.

68. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) may be awarded by Senate to postgraduate students who have successfully pursued a programme of study jointly with another approved institution, as prescribed below and have satisfied any other requirements to the satisfaction of the relevant academic authorities of both institutions concerned.

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91. A candidate who fails to submit a corrected or revised thesis by the date set by the examiners shall normally be regarded as having failed the examination and the recommendations of the examiners shall lapse. In exceptional circumstances a revised date for submitting corrections may be approved by the partner instaittut0ai ci<</MC/PC /TT0 15Tf -0.0165.04 52