

# Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study

## Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations

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## Introduction

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### Compliance

1. The degree programme regulations define the types of award, their key characteristics, and their grounds for award. These regulations apply to all categories of postgraduate study at the University of Edinburgh, except for those qualified by a Senatus approved Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding for joint or collaborative awards. Students must comply with any requirements specific to their degree programme as set out in the Degree Programme Tables, the relevant College Regulations and the University's Assessment Regulations for the current academic session:

[www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/policies-regulations/regulations/assessment](http://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/policies-regulations/regulations/assessment)

2. Every student must comply with the detailed requirements of the curriculum for the degree as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table, the programme handbook, the course handbook, the order in which courses are attended and the assessment for the programme, which are published in the University Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study.

3. When selecting courses, students must comply with the pre-requisite, co-requisite and prohibited combination requirements for the Degree Programme, unless a concession is approved by the relevant College.

### Authority Delegated to Colleges

4. Where the Head of College has the authority to grant permissions and concessions, this authority may be delegated to appropriate nominees in the College or Schools. Students must consult their Personal Tutor, Student Support Team, Supervisor or School as to the appropriate point of contact, and must not approach the College directly. Where the College does not have authority to award a particular concession then the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee may award the concession.

### Code of Practice

5. The degree regulations are supported by the Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students:

[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/copsupervisorsresearchstudents.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/copsupervisorsresearchstudents.pdf)

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The Code of Practice, although not regulatory, provides essential information for staff and students.

#### **Fitness to Practise**

6. Where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements, the relevant College Committee must be satisfied at all times that in respect of health, conduct and any other matters which the Committee may reasonably deem relevant, whether such matters relate to the student's University programme or are unrelated to it, the student will not constitute a risk to the public, vulnerable children or adults or to patients and is a suitable person to become a registered member of the relevant professional body. Students are subject to the Fitness to Practise regulations both while actively studying and while on an interruption of study. Any student who fails to satisfy the relevant College Committee, irrespective of their performance in assessment, will be reported to the Head of College who has power to recommend exclusion from further studies and assessments or Professional Examinations, or to recommend the award of the degree be withheld, or other penalty set out in College procedures. An appeal against this decision may be submitted to the University's Student Fitness to Practice Appeal Committee. See the Student Appeal Regulations at: [www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studentappealregulations.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studentappealregulations.pdf)

#### **Disclosure of Criminal Offences**

7. Students must inform their Personal Tutor or supervisor if they have been charged or convicted of a relevant criminal offence since matriculating at the University. 'Relevant' offences are as defined in the University's Policy and procedure for the admission of applicants who disclose criminal convictions or who require [Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme](#) membership:

The Personal Tutor or supervisor will refer the case to the relevant College which will decide whether the University should take action under the Code of Student Conduct or (where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements) the College Fitness to Practice procedures.

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#### Postgraduate Awards and Degree Programmes

8. The University awards the following types of postgraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates. The University's postgraduate awards and degree programmes are consistent with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF: [www.scqf.org.uk/](http://www.scqf.org.uk/)) unless an exemption has been approved by the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee, or the award is not included in the SCQF. The SCQF credit levels required for each programme are specified within the appropriate Degree Programme Table.

General Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Certificate in a named subject discipline	At least 60 credits of which a minimum of 40 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
General Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Diploma in a named subject discipline	At least 120 credits of which a minimum of 90 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
Masters in a named subject discipline Master of a named discipline	At least 180 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11
Masters in a named subject discipline Master of a named discipline	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11
MSc by research	At least 180 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at level 11. The research element will be worth a minimum of 120 credits of which a minimum of 60 must be attributable to the dissertation or to a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs (a portfolio).
MPhil, MMus	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11
ChM	At least 120 credits at SCQF Level 12.
Doctorate	At least 540 credits of which a minimum of 420 are at SCQF Level 12
EngD	720 credits of which at least 540 are at SCQF Level 12. Of the remaining 180 credits 150 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above

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PhD with Integrated Study	720 credits of which at least 540 are at SCQF Level 12. Of the remaining 180 credits 150 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
MD, DDS, DVM&S* Doctor of a named discipline	*Note: these awards are not included in the SCQF therefore a credit value has not been included here

## A General Postgraduate Degree Regulations

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### Late Admission

9. No student will be admitted to a postgraduate degree, diploma or certificate programme or a course that is part of their programme more than two weeks after their given start date without the permission of the College. A student who leaves a course after six weeks will be deemed to have withdrawn and the course enrolment remains on the student's record.

### Part-time Study

10. Some postgraduate degree programmes may be pursued by part-time study on either a continuous or intermittent basis. Requirements for progression through individual programmes of study are shown in the relevant Degree Programme Table for taught postgraduate programmes and/or programme handbook for postgraduate taught and research programmes. Conditions for part-time study will be set out in the programme handbook.

### Registration for University Staff

11. Members of the University staff may only be registered for part-time study. Exceptions may be approved by the College.



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#### Conflicting Studies

12. Students at this University must not, except in exceptional cases and with the permission of the College, undertake any concurrent credit bearing studies in this (or in any other) institution other than the one for which they are registered in this University.

#### Applicants Awaiting Results

13. Applicants for postgraduate study may be studying at this or another institution just prior to the start of their postgraduate studies. Such applicants must have finished these studies before the start of the programme to which they have an offer.

14. If successful completion of this prior study is a requirement of admission, applicants are expected to provide evidence of achievement before the start of the programme.

#### Consecutive Registration

15. At the time of application, MSc by Research applicants may be invited to be registered for consecutive MSc by Research, followed by PhD study within the same School. This option may not be available in all Schools. Depending on the outcome of assessment the student will be invited to follow one of three routes:

- a. Start First Year of Doctoral Programme. If successful in the MSc by Research programme, the student graduates and also registers in the next academic session on the first year of the doctoral programme; or
- b. Start Second year of Doctoral Programme. Prior to the completion of the masters dissertation, the School is content that the quality of the student's work merits treating the masters year as the first year of doctoral study. No dissertation is submitted, no masters degree is awarded, and the student registers in the next academic session on the second year of the doctoral programme; or
- c. Graduate with MSc by Research Degree and Exit. If successful in the MSc by Research programme, the student graduates and permanently withdraws.

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#### Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

16. At the point of admission to the University, the College has the authority to recognise a student's prior learning. Before approval is granted the College must be satisfied that the learning to be recognised provides an adequate current basis for the programme or courses as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table.

[University RPL policy for admissions](#).

Colleges may also grant transfer of credit gained by students during their programme of study at the University. The maximum number of credits that the Colleges will grant RPL for taught programmes is one-third of the total credits for the award for which the student is applying, that is 20 credits for a postgraduate certificate; 40 credits for a postgraduate diploma; and 60 credits for a masters.

Colleges can approve RPL for research programmes up to a maximum of 360 credits.

17. University of Edinburgh courses which have a substantial curriculum overlap with any of the courses that contributed to a student's admission on the basis of RPL will not count towards the student's degree programme.

#### Permissible Credit Loads

18. Exceptionally, with College approval, students may take up to 20 credits of additional study at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels 7-11 during each year of study.

19. Students may attend courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the approval of the Programme Director and, where relevant, the supervisor or Personal Tutor. Decisions will be based on the overall load (credit and non-credit bearing) on the student in the year. The additional credits must not be more than one-third of the scheduled number of credits for the year.

#### Credit Award

20. A student who has submitted work for one course or programme at the University must not submit the same work to attempt to achieve academic credit through another course or programme.

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21. A student cannot, except under recognition of prior learning or application for associated postgraduate diploma or masters, or a formally approved collaborative programme of study, achieve an award comprising academic credit that contributed (or will contribute) to another award.

#### **Transfer to Another Programme**

22. A student may be allowed to transfer to a different degree programme from another within the University by permission of the receiving College. When such permission is granted, the student shall, in addition to satisfying the requirements for the degree to which transfer is made, pursue such further courses of study as the College may require.

#### **Attendance and Participation**

23. Students must attend and participate as required in all aspects of their programme of study. This includes being available for teaching sessions, assessment, examination and meeting, Personal Tutors, Programme Directors or supervisors face-to-face and/or electronically. The Degree Programme Table and programme handbook sets out programme requirements for attendance and participation. Certain students' visa conditions may require the University to monitor attendance and participation in specific ways.

24. It is a student's responsibility to provide a current postal contact address and to ensure that any legal requirements, including those imposed by their funding or grant authority, are met. All students are required to check their University email account frequently for communications from the University and respond where appropriate. See the University policy on Contacting Students by Email: [www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/contacting\\_students\\_by\\_email.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/contacting_students_by_email.pdf)

#### **Study Period**

25. A student must complete the requirements of the degree programme within the prescribed period of study, plus any permitted submission period, unless given a concession with the approval of the College.

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#### The Prescribed Period of Study

26. The University defines the prescribed period of study for each authorised programme. These are as stated in the study period table, unless the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee (CSPC) has approved a different prescribed period of study for the programme. The prescribed period of study for each programme is recorded in the offer of admission. See the Study Period Table: [www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf)

#### Reductions to the Prescribed Period of Study

27. The College may reduce the prescribed period of study as indicated below:

- Postgraduate Certificate:
  - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 4 months.
  - for **part-time intermittent** by up to 8 months.
- Postgraduate Diploma:
  - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 8 months.
  - for **part-time intermittent** students by up to 16 months.
- Postgraduate Masters:
  - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 12 months.
  - for **part-time intermittent** students by up to 24 months.
- MPhil:
  - Members of the University staff and students holding a MPhil research appointment under the auspices of the University may be registered for a minimum period of 24 months part-time.
  - Members of staff of Associated Institutions who can devote the whole of their period of study to research and who have regular and adequate involvement in the work of the University School may also be registered for a minimum period of 24 months part-time.
  - For full-time students the College may reduce the prescribed period by up to two months. The College may reduce the prescribed period by up to 24 months for part-time students. Reductions to the prescribed period are not available to those members of staff who are registered for the minimum period of 24 months.
- Doctorate:
  - Members of the University staff and students holding a PhD research appointment under the auspices of the University may be registered for a minimum period of 36 months part-time.
  - Members of staff of Associated Institutions who can devote the whole of their period of study to research and who have regular and adequate

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involvement in the work of the University School may also be registered for a minimum period of 36 months part-time.

- For full-time students the College may reduce the prescribed period by up to three months. The College may reduce the prescribed period by up to 36 months for part-time PhD students. Reductions to the prescribed period are not available to those members of staff who are registered for the minimum period of 36 months.

### Submission Period

28. The submission period for doctoral and MPhil degrees begins three months prior to the end of the prescribed period of study. In addition, some research degree programmes permit students to have a submission period following the prescribed period of study. This is for a maximum of a year, for either full-time or part-time students. The MSc by Research does not have a submission period.

### Leave of Absence

29. Leave of absence is required for compulsory and optional activities related to the programme of study that are not undertaken on campus in Edinburgh. Students must have the formal approval of the College for any leave of absence to study away from Edinburgh that is 30 calendar days' duration or longer. Study location changes of less than 30 calendar days must be agreed with the Supervisor or Personal Tutor. Where the activity is a compulsory part of the programme of study and is organised by the School or College, permission may be given by the College for a cohort of students without individual applications being made. Colleges and Schools must maintain records of all leaves of absence. This regulation does not apply to students on a recognised distance learning programme.

### Withdrawal and Exclusion

30. Any student may withdraw permanently from their programme of study at any point in the year. Students may be excluded for reasons outlined within the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:

[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal\\_exclusion\\_from\\_study.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf)

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#### Collaborative Degrees

31. The University of Edinburgh and one or more partner universities can collaboratively offer an approved degree programme. This can be awarded jointly or dually. The University maintains a record of approved collaborative degrees.

#### Authorised Interruptions of Study

32. A student may apply for an Authorised Interruption of Study, and it may be authorised by the College if there is a good reason for approving the interruption. Students must provide evidence to support their applications. Interruptions of study will not be applied retrospectively. Any one period of authorised interruption of study will not exceed one year, unless authorised by the College. The total period of Authorised Interruption of Study is the same for full-time and part-time students and will not exceed 100% of the prescribed period of full-time study.

#### Extensions of Study

33. In exceptional circumstances, a student may apply through the supervisor or school postgraduate director to the College for an extension and it may be authorised by the College if there is good reason. See Authorised Interruption of Study or Extension to Study – postgraduate research:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/pginterruption.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/pginterruption.pdf)

#### Maximum Degree Completion Periods

34. The maximum periods for completion of research degree programmes are the total of the prescribed period of study, any submission period, any interruptions of study, any extensions of study, and any other concessions. The maximum period includes any concessions. The Study Period Table sets out maximum degree completion periods. See the Study Period Table:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf)

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#### Additional Regulations for Doctoral and MPhil Research Degrees

##### Supervision

35. Each student will work under the guidance of at least two supervisors appointed by the College. There are two types of supervisory arrangement: Principal Supervisor plus Assistant Supervisor (or supervisors if more than one), and Co-Supervisors, one of whom is designated the Lead Supervisor. The former option is the usual arrangement, but the latter option may be chosen when it is clear that the student's work involves interdisciplinary research.

- a. At least one supervisor (the Principal/Lead Supervisor) must be appointed prior to registration, and the other should be appointed within two months of the programme start date.
  - b. The Principal/Lead Supervisor is responsible to the School's Postgraduate Director for the duties set out in the Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students, and must be:
    - a salaried member of the academic staff of the University; or
    - a non-academic member of staff employed by the University who has appropriate expertise in research; or
    - an honorary member of staff
      - The nomination of non-academic or honorary members of staff to act as Principal/Lead Supervisor for a stated period must be specifically approved by the College. In appropriate cases the other supervisor(s) may not need to be a member of the staff of the University, provided they assume their supervisory duties in accordance with University regulations and requirements. Supervisors must maintain regular contact with their students who, in turn, have a responsibility to make themselves available at times agreed with their supervisors.
  - c. In certain circumstances when the student is studying full time in an Associated Institution the Principal/Lead Supervisor may, if the College approves, be a full-time employee of the Associated Institution. In such a case the assistant supervisor(s) must be a University employee. A Principal/Lead Supervisor who is a member of an Associated Institution has exactly the same responsibilities as one working within the university.
  - d. Students, including those on leave of absence, must maintain frequent contact with their supervisor as and when required and at least twice in each three month period.
- Attendance and Engagement Policy:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/tier\\_4\\_student\\_engagement\\_and\\_attendance\\_policy\\_april\\_2016\\_update\\_2.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/tier_4_student_engagement_and_attendance_policy_april_2016_update_2.pdf)

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- Code of Practice for Supervisors & Research Students  
[www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/copsupervisorsresearchstudents.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/copsupervisorsresearchstudents.pdf)
- QAA UK Quality Code Chapter B11: Research Degrees  
[www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Pages/Quality-Code-Chapter-B11.aspx#.VUIc92Mt3IY](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Pages/Quality-Code-Chapter-B11.aspx#.VUIc92Mt3IY)

#### Transfers from Another Institution

36. The research studies of students who apply to transfer from another institution in order to study for a doctoral or MPhil degree of the University of Edinburgh may be counted towards the prescribed period of study for the degree. In such cases the prescribed period of study at the University of Edinburgh must be at least 12 months.

#### Request for Reinstatement

37. A student who has been excluded for lapse of time may ask the College to reinstate their registration at a later date to permit examination of a completed thesis. The College will decide whether or not a student should be reinstated, and factors such as the passage of time and its implications for the topic of study will be taken into account. The student must provide good reason for the previous failure to complete. If, exceptionally, reinstatement is approved, the student's thesis will be examined in accordance with the Postgraduate Assessment Regulations for Research Degrees, subject to payment of a reinstatement and examination fee.

#### Vacation Leave for Research Students

38. Research Students are entitled to up to six weeks' vacation leave in a year without applying for an interruption of study. Students must seek approval for vacation leave from their supervisor and the School Postgraduate Office. Visa restrictions may also apply in the case of International students.



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#### Grounds for the Award of Doctoral and MPhil Research Degrees

##### Demonstration by Thesis and Oral Exam for the Award of PhD

39. The student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and/or portfolio, which presents a coherent body of work, and by performance at an oral examination that the student is capable of pursuing original research making a significant contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study, relating particular research projects to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the research in a critical and scholarly way.

##### PhD Thesis Length - Word Count

40. The thesis must not exceed a maximum word count of 100,000. There is no minimum word count. The word count of the thesis includes the main text, preface material, footnotes and references but does not include material in the appendices, bibliography, abstract or lay summary. In exceptional circumstances, on the recommendation of the supervisor, permission may be granted by the College to exceed the stated length on the ground that such extension is required for adequate treatment of the thesis topic.

##### Additional Thesis Considerations

41. Taught professional doctorates will have additional entrance, curriculum and examination requirements. Information is provided in relevant Degree Programme Tables and programme handbooks. Students will be required to successfully complete the taught component, submit the thesis and/or portfolio and fulfil any placement requirements.

##### MPhil by Research

42. The thesis must not exceed a maximum of 60,000 words. There is no minimum word count.

The student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and/or portfolio containing a significant amount of material worthy of publication or public presentation, and by performance at an oral examination, that the student is capable of pursuing original research making a significant contribution to knowledge or

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understanding in the field of study, relating particular research projects to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the research in a critical and scholarly way.

The word count of the thesis includes the main text, preface material, footnotes and references but does not include material in the appendices, bibliography, abstract or lay summary. In exceptional circumstances, on the recommendation of the supervisor, permission may be granted by the College to exceed the stated length on the ground that such extension is required for adequate treatment of the thesis topic.

### **PhD (by Research Publications)**

43. Applicants must be either graduates of the University of Edinburgh of at least five years' standing; or members of staff of the University of Edinburgh or of an Associated Institution of not less than three years' standing. Permission to register will not be granted to applicants who are in a position to submit for the PhD by dissertation or who already possess a PhD. Applicants must have been active postgraduate researchers in their field of expertise for a minimum of five years, and they must not submit material published more than ten years prior to the date of registration.

44. The portfolio submitted for the PhD by Research Publications must demonstrate a substantial and coherent body of work which would have taken the equivalent of three years of full-time study to accomplish. The portfolio must demonstrate original research and make a significant contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study, and is presented in a critical and scholarly way.

45. Applicants must apply to the relevant College for approval of their candidature. Applicants are required to submit their published work, together with a 500-word abstract, their CV and a self-critical review of all their submitted work. If College approves registration, it will appoint an adviser to assist the applicant with the format of their submission and to guide them on the selection, coherence and quality of the portfolio of research work, the abstract and critical review.

46. The portfolio of published work must consist of either one or two books or at least six refereed journal articles or research papers, which are already in the public domain. The total submission, including the critical review should not exceed 100,000 words.

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- The critical review must summarise the aims, objectives, methodology, results and conclusions covered by the work submitted in the portfolio. It must also critically assess how the work contributes significantly to the expansion of knowledge, indicate how the publications form a coherent body of work and what contribution the student has made to this work. The critical review must be at least 10,000 words, but not more than 25,000 words in length.
- Students must either be the sole author of the portfolio of published work or must be able to demonstrate in the critical review of the submitted work that they have made a major contribution to all of the work that has been produced by more than one author.

### **Additional Regulations for Postgraduate Taught Degrees and MSc by Research, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates**

#### **Programme-Specific Regulations**

47. These regulations may be supplemented by certain programme-specific regulations for degrees offered in collaboration with other institutions.

#### **Period of Study**

48. The prescribed period of study is defined in the Degree Programme Table. This period may not be reduced, and may be extended only in exceptional circumstances.

#### **Assessment**

49. Students must comply with any assessment requirements specific to their degree programme and the University's taught or research (as appropriate) assessment regulations for the current academic session:

[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations)

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#### **MSc by Research Degrees only**

50. In addition to any requirements as detailed in the relevant Degree Programme Table, the student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a dissertation and/or portfolio that they are capable of pursuing research, or a critical survey of knowledge in the field of study, or both combined with a satisfactory plan for a more advanced research project. The research must demonstrate competence, knowledge and be presented in a critical and scholarly way. The assessed work, including the dissertation must not exceed 30,000 words. See MSc by Research Structure:

[www.docs.sasg.ed.ac.uk/AcademicServices/Staff/Curriculum/MScByResearch\\_Structure.pdf](http://www.docs.sasg.ed.ac.uk/AcademicServices/Staff/Curriculum/MScByResearch_Structure.pdf)

#### **Application for Associated Postgraduate Diploma or Masters**

51. A candidate who already holds a postgraduate certificate or diploma from the University of Edinburgh may be permitted by the appropriate College to apply for candidature for the associated postgraduate diploma or masters degree, provided that not more than five years have elapsed between their first graduation and acceptance as a candidate for the subsequent award.

#### **Posthumous Awards**

52. Senatus may authorise the conferment of posthumous degrees, diplomas and certificates if proposed by the College and approved by the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee. A posthumous award is conferred where the student has significantly completed the relevant year of study at the time of death.

#### **Aegrotat Awards**

53. In exceptional circumstances Senatus may authorise the conferment of *aegrotat* degrees to postgraduate students. Each such conferment requires a proposal from the relevant College to be approved by the Curriculum and Student Progression Committee. An *aegrotat* degree is conferred only where the student was nearly qualified to receive the degree and was unable to complete it due to circumstances beyond their control. Before any proposal is referred to Senatus, the College must check that the student is willing to receive the degree *aegrotat*.

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## B College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Postgraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

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### Doctor of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsychol)

54. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Grounds for Award.** Awarded on successful completion of supervised clinical practice, written examination, assessed essay and research portfolio, including thesis, small-scale research projects and experimental case reports.
  - b. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme can be taken on a full-time or mixed full-time/part-time basis, but the first year is taken on a full-time basis only. The prescribed period of study is 36 months full-time, or between 48 and 60 months on a mixed full-time/part-time basis.
  - c. **Thesis Length.** The thesis must not exceed 30,000 words unless, in exceptional cases, the College has given permission for a longer thesis.

### Doctor of Psychotherapy (DPsychotherapy)

55. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Placement.** Students will undertake a practice placement, consisting of 300 hours of supervised counselling practice and 60 hours of counselling supervision.
  - b. **Thesis Length.** The thesis will be between 35,000 and 45,000 words in length unless in exceptional cases the College has given permission for a longer thesis.
  - c. **Resits.** A student who fails the practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement if in the opinion of the Board the failure was attributable to illness, hardship or other relevant circumstances beyond the student's control. A repeat placement is to be completed within a further 24 months.
  - d. **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).** In the case of formal, certificated study, up to 60 credits of prior learning at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 11 may be recognised. In the case of non-certificated study, up to 20 credits of prior learning may be recognised.

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#### Doctor of Education (EdD)

56. The degree specific regulations are:
- Grounds for Award.** The degree of EdD may be awarded on the basis of successful completion of assessed coursework, a research project and a thesis.
  - Prescribed Period of Study.** The prescribed period of study is 60 months part-time, but this may be increased to a maximum of 72 months.
  - Thesis Length.** The thesis length should be no more than 75,000 words.

#### PhD in Musical Composition

57. **Grounds for Award.** The student must compose to a high creative level as demonstrated both by the student presenting a portfolio of compositions as well as attendance at an oral examination. The portfolio of compositions must comprise original work which:
- is suitable for professional performance and worthy of publication;
  - shows competence in the ancillary technical skills appropriate to the chosen style;
  - contains material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of three years postgraduate study;
  - is presentationally satisfactory and intelligible to any musician who might have to use it.
58. The portfolio of compositions should include at least one major and extended work, except where a shorter submission may be accepted in the case of electronic compositions. If a substantial part of the portfolio was completed before registration for the degree, the student should indicate this and identify the part of the portfolio so completed.

#### PhD(eca) - Submission by Portfolio

59. The degree specific regulations, when a student is submitting for award of PhD(eca) by means of a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs, are:
- The portfolio of artefacts or artworks must comprise original work of a high creative level which is worthy of public exhibition and also an integral part of the contribution to knowledge made by the overall work of the candidate submitted in fulfilment of the requirements of the PhD. It must show

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- competence in the appropriate ancillary technical skills; must contain material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of three years postgraduate study; must be satisfactory and intelligible in its presentation. There should also be a permanent record of the work; and
- b. The portfolio of artefacts and artworks will be accompanied by a thesis of not more than 50,000 words (including bibliography and footnotes but excluding appendices).

#### **MPhil(eca) - Submission by Portfolio**

60. The degree specific regulations, when a student is submitting for award of MPhil(eca) by means of a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs, are:

- a. The portfolio of artefacts or artworks must comprise original work of a high creative level worthy of public exhibition. It must show competence in the appropriate ancillary technical skills; must contain material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of two years postgraduate study; must be satisfactory and intelligible in its presentation. There should also be a permanent record of the work; and
- b. The portfolio of artefacts or artworks should normally be accompanied by a thesis of not more than 20,000 words (including bibliography and footnotes but excluding appendices).

#### **Master of Fine Art**

61. The Master of Fine Art is gained upon the successful completion of 240 Credits of study. A maximum of 30 credits can be taken below Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 11. The degree specific regulations are:

- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed by a combination of practical studio work with theoretical and written studies, including professional practice elements.
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 21 months full-time.

#### **Master of Social Work/Diploma in Social Work (MSW/DipSW)**

62. The degree specific regulations are:

- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will undertake two practice placements
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 21 months full-time.

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- c. **Re-Sit Options.** A student who fails a unit of academic assessment other than the dissertation on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment requirements. A student who fails a practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement.

#### Master of Chinese Studies (MCS)

63. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed by essays, examinations, a placement report and a dissertation. An oral examination will be required in the Chinese language and may be required for other courses. Students must work in the University of Edinburgh and in a Chinese institution approved by the Programme Director.
  - b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be between 24 and 36 months, full-time.

#### Master of Teaching

64. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study is between 36 and 60 months part time.
  - b. **Recognition of Prior Learning.** The total number of exemptions which may be granted for any student is 90 credits.
  - c. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed directly or synoptically on each course taken. In accordance with the national guidelines, courses are assessed on a pass/fail basis. Students who fail a course will be permitted a further attempt to pass the assessment of that course within three months of the result being made known to the student.

#### Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management/Scottish Qualification for Headship Programme

65. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed on each course through coursework (assignments, portfolios, reports and oral assessments) and through school visits by SQH field assessors in the case of course 5. In accordance with the national agreement all courses are assessed only on a



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pass/fail basis. Students who fail a course will be permitted one further attempt to pass the assessment of that course within six weeks of the result being made known to the student.

- b. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is available by part-time study only, and the period of study is between 27 and 60 months.

#### Master of Counselling/Diploma in Counselling (MCouns/DipCouns)

66. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will undertake a practice placement, consisting of at least 150 hours of supervised counselling practice and 30 hours of counselling supervision.
  - b. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 24 months full time or 48 months part-time. Each student must complete the requirements of the degree before the expiry of a further 12 months.
  - c. **Re-Sits.** Students who fail a unit of academic assessment other than the dissertation on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment. A student who fails the practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement. A repeat placement must be completed within a further 24 months.

#### MSc in Middle Eastern Studies with Arabic

67. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Collaboration.** The first year of study is taken at the University of Edinburgh. An intensive course is taken in an Arabic speaking country during the summer, followed by year two at the University of Edinburgh.
  - b. **Progression.** Progression from Year 1 to Year 2 will be decided by the University of Edinburgh's Board of Examiners, after completion of the taught element, and before the students commence their summer placement in an Arab country. Decisions on progression to Year 2 will be conditional on each student's satisfactory completion of the period of residence abroad.

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#### Postgraduate Certificate in Democracy and Public Policy (Edinburgh Hansard Research Scholars Programme)

68. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study is 13 weeks full time.
  - b. **Assessment Type.** Students will be assessed on each unit through coursework, examination and a research project linked to a placement. All units are assessed only on a pass/fail basis. Students who fail a unit will be permitted one further attempt to pass the assessment of that unit within six weeks of the result being made known to the student.

#### MSc in Architectural Project Management

69. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is delivered by distance learning over a period of 48 to 84 months. Each institution will provide 60 credits of teaching material in addition to a dissertation of 60 credits.

#### MSc in Advanced Sustainable Design (mixed mode)

70. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is delivered on campus and by distance learning over a period of 24 months (mixed mode).

#### PhD in Creative Music Practice

71. **Grounds for Award.** The degree is assessed on a single output that consists of two components:
- a. A text of not more than 50,000 words; and
  - b. A portfolio, performance(s), recording(s), and/or other musical output containing original or interpreted pre-existing works such as composition, installation, sound design, interactive music software etc. Such work would be supported by documentation of the process (e.g. video, photographs, recordings, sketches, studies, web pages) by which it was made.

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#### PhD in Trans-Disciplinary Documentary Film

72. **Grounds for Award.** There are three possible variations for final submission, which combine the submission of audio-visual material and a thesis:

- a. audio-visual material to a maximum of 1 hour documentary film or 100 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 25,000 - 30,000 words; or
- b. audio-visual material to a maximum of 40 minutes documentary film or 70 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 45,000 - 50,000 words; or
- c. audio-visual material to a maximum of 20 minutes documentary film or 40 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 65,000 - 70,000 words.

#### PhD in Architecture by Design

73. The thesis for the PhD in Architecture by Design must not exceed 50,000 words. In addition to the thesis the student will be required to submit a body of design work including studies, sketches and maquettes, which will be in addition to and fully integrated with the text and presented in a format which can be archived.

#### Master of Architecture

74. **Grounds for Award.** The programme will be delivered by a series of advanced level design exercises and projects, engaging with structural, environmental, cultural, theoretical and aesthetic questions. Students must pass the Academic Portfolio for exemption from ARB/RIBA Part 2.

#### Master of Public Policy (MPP/DipPP), PG Dip and PG Cert of Public Policy

75. The degree specific regulations are:

- a. **Prescribed Period of Study – Master.** The period of study is 12 months.
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study – PG Dip and PG Cert.** Students on the PG Certificate in Public Policy may complete this full-time over four months or part-time over a two year period. On successful completion of the PG Certificate, students may transfer to the PG Diploma in Public Policy (within a three year time period). Students on the PG Diploma in Public Policy may complete this full-time over nine months or part-time over a four year period. On successful completion of the PG Diploma, students may transfer to the Master Public Policy programme (within a three year time period).

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- c. **Grounds for Award.** Students will complete a compulsory programme of courses in the first and second semesters, comprising eight 15-credit courses, and a three-month placement in a policy organisation on which the Capstone Project/dissertation will be based. Students who decide not to complete the Capstone Project may, at the discretion of the College, be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Policy.
- d. **Resits.** Students who fail a unit of academic assessment other than the Capstone Project on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment.
- e. **Placement.** A student who fails the placement component of the Capstone Project may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement. A repeat placement must be completed within a further 12 months.

### Diploma in Professional Legal Practice

- 76. The degree specific regulations are:
  - a. **Grounds for Award.** Students must pass all of the core courses and three elective courses to be awarded the Diploma in Professional Legal Practice. Attaining a mark of 50% or more in the assignments, participation and attendance gives exemption from sitting the examination in Company and Commercial, Financial Services and Related Skills and Professional Responsibility.
  - b. **Assessment Type.** Students will be assessed in writing in each course of the curriculum. Students may only present themselves for examination in a course if they have been certified as having given regular attendance and having successfully completed the requisite work of the class in that course. Students may be permitted a single re-sit examination for each course of the curriculum in which they have failed.

### PhD in Creative Writing

- 77. Grounds for award. The programme is assessed via a portfolio of writing which should include:
  - a. A substantial piece or pieces of creative work of no more than 75,000 words of creative prose; or 75 page of verse; or a dramatic composition of no more than three hours length and
  - b. An extended critical essay of no more than 25,000 words reflecting on the work's aims and context(s).

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The balance between creative and critical elements should be 75% Creative, 25% Critical.

## **C College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Postgraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations**

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### **Professional Masters**

#### **Master of Clinical Dentistry (MClin Dent) (orthodontics/Paediatric Dentistry/Prosthodontics/Oral Surgery)**

78. Students will pursue an integrated programme of teaching and taught clinical practice. Work for an independent research dissertation will commence during the first year and will be spread over the duration of the programme. Students may be given the opportunity of one resit attempt for the theoretical and practical components. Students who, after resit examinations, have an aggregate mark of less than 40% for the first year will be excluded. The independent research component will be assessed by examination of the written dissertation and subsequent oral examination. The opportunity to resit does not apply to the dissertation.

#### **Masters in Surgical Sciences (MSc)**

79. Students may be given the opportunity of one resit attempt for their final written examinations at the end of their year 1 and /or year 2, if they have failed their first attempt. If they pass the resit they will be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate (Year 1) or Postgraduate Diploma (Year 2); they will not progress into Year 3 (Masters Year).

#### **Master of Surgery (ChM)**

80. The ChM suite of programmes are two year Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 12 programmes worth 120 credits. In order to be awarded the ChM students must:

- a. pass at least 80 credits at SCQF level 12 with a mark of at least 50% in each of the courses which make up these credits; and
- b. attain an average of at least 50% for the 120 credits at SCQF level 12 and;

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- c. satisfy any other specific requirements for the ChM degree programme, that are clearly stated in respective handbooks.

There is only one named award (ChM) for the programme; no named Certificate or named Diploma exit awards will be made if the requirements for the award of ChM are not fulfilled.

### **Masters in Transfusion, Transplantation and Tissue Banking (MSc)**

81. Students may be given the opportunity of one resit attempt for their final written examinations at the end of their year 2, if they have failed their first attempt.

### **Professional Higher Degrees**

#### **Doctor of Medicine (MD)**

82. An applicant for the degree of Doctor of Medicine (MD) must:
  - a. hold a qualification which is registrable with the General Medical Council and must have been engaged since graduation for at least one year either in scientific work bearing directly on the applicant's profession, or in the practice of Medicine or Surgery, and will be performing their work in the South East of Scotland\*, either employed as a member of staff of the University of Edinburgh; or as an NHS employee or as a research worker employed or self-financed or grant-funded, in the University of Edinburgh or an Associated Institution or an NHS establishment
  - b. all applicants are required to meet the University of Edinburgh standard postgraduate research admissions requirements.
83. The grounds for the award of the degree of MD are:
  - a. a student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis, a significant amount of material worthy of publication or public presentation, and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by the College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study, relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.
  - b. the thesis must deal with one or more of the subjects of study in the curriculum for the degrees of MB ChB of the University or with subjects arising directly from contemporary medical practice. It must be an original work

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making a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study; contain material worthy of publication; show a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature; show that the student's observations have been carefully made; show the exercise of independent critical judgment with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field; contain material which presents a unified body of work; be satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, give full and adequate references and have a coherent structure understandable to a scholar in the same general field with regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions. A concise and informative summary should be included with the thesis.

84. Supervisors must accommodate the student and the project within their research facilities, and obtain permission from line managers as required. Supervisors will be located in the University of Edinburgh or in NHS facilities within the supervision of the NHS Education for Scotland South East Scotland\* postgraduate deanery.
85. Registration may be full-time or part-time.
- a. Full-time registration will apply to students who will spend >80% full-time equivalent devoted to research related to the MD project. They may be either not in employment for >20% full-time equivalent, or employed in a post in which at least 80% full time equivalent time is available for research related to their MD project rather than for clinical training or practice or other duties. Full time students have a prescribed period of two years in which they will conduct the research with up to two years to write up the thesis thereafter. Thesis submission is permitted at two years at the earliest and within four years.
  - b. Part-time registration will apply to students who are in employment unrelated to their MD project for >20% full-time equivalent, or who elect not to devote as much as 80% of their time to the MD research project. Students may opt to study either at 40% full-time equivalent, for which they will have a prescribed period of research of four years, or at 60% equivalent, for which the prescribed period is 3 years. Students will have two years to write up the thesis at the end of the prescribed period. Thesis submission is permitted at the end of the prescribed period of study at the earliest.

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#### MD Timetable for submission

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<b>MD full time</b>	Prescribed Period		submission period			
<b>MD part time 60%</b>	Prescribed Period			submission period		
<b>MD part time 40%</b>	Prescribed Period				submission period	

86. A student who is registered for a MD may apply to the College for conversion to an alternative degree, including abbreviating the prescribed period to 1 year full time equivalent in order to complete a MSc by Research, completing a 2 year full time equivalent prescribed period to complete a MPhil, or extending the prescribed period to 3 years full time equivalent in order to complete a PhD. Conversion can only be considered prospectively, in advance of completing the necessary prescribed period of research, and will incur fees applicable for the new degree.

87. A student must submit a thesis specially written for the degree concerned and must not have submitted it in candidature for any other degree, postgraduate diploma or professional qualification. The thesis length should be no more than 60,000 words. Material to be included in a thesis may be published before the thesis is submitted. The thesis must record the fact of such publication. The thesis must conform to the Postgraduate Research Degree Assessment Regulations.

\*for this purpose, South-East Scotland is the areas covered by the Borders, Fife and Lothian Health Boards.

#### Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

88. An applicant for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) must hold a qualification which is registrable with either the General Dental Council or the General Medical Council or both and must have been engaged since graduation for at least two years either in scientific work bearing directly on the applicant's profession, or in the practice of Dentistry or other related disciplines, and will perform their research work in the South-East of Scotland\*, either employed as a member of staff of the University of Edinburgh; or as an NHS employee or as a research worker employed or self-financed or grant-funded, in the University of Edinburgh, or an Associated Institution or an NHS establishment.

All applicants are required to meet the University of Edinburgh standard postgraduate research admissions requirements.



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89. The grounds for the award of the DDS are that:
- a. the student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by the College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study, relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.
  - b. the thesis must deal with one or more of the subjects arising directly from contemporary dental or surgical practice relevant to oral health. It must be an original work that:
    - makes a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study;
    - contains a significant amount of material worthy of publication or presentation;
    - shows a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature;
    - shows that the student's observations have been carefully made;
    - shows the exercise of independent critical judgment with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field;
    - contains material which presents a unified body of work;
    - is satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, gives full and adequate references and has a coherent structure;
    - is understandable to a scholar in the same general field with regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions.

A concise and informative summary should be included with the thesis.

90. The supervisors must undertake that they will accommodate the student and the project within their research facilities, and obtain permission from line managers as required.
91. Registration may be full-time or part-time.
- a. Full-time registration will apply to students who will spend >80% full-time equivalent devoted to research related to the DDS project. They may be either not in employment for >20% full-time equivalent, or employed in a post in which at least 80% full time equivalent time is available for research related to their DDS project rather than for clinical training or practice or other duties. Full time students have a prescribed period of two years in which they will conduct the research with up to two years to write up the thesis thereafter. Thesis submission is permitted at two years at the earliest and within four years.

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- b. Part-time registration will apply to students who are in employment unrelated to their DDS project for >20% full-time equivalent, or who elect not to devote as much as 80% of their time to the DDS research project. Students may opt to study either at 40% full-time equivalent, for which they will have a prescribed period of research of four years, or at 60% equivalent, for which the prescribed period is three years. Students will have two years to write up the thesis at the end of the prescribed period. Thesis submission is permitted at the end of the prescribed period of study at the earliest.

#### DDS Timetable for submission

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<b>DDS full time</b>	Prescribed Period		Submission period			
<b>DDS part time 60%</b>	Prescribed Period			Submission period		
<b>DDS part time 40%</b>	Prescribed Period				Submission period	

92. The thesis length should be no more than 60,000 words. Material to be included in a thesis may be published before the thesis is submitted. The thesis must record the fact of such publication. The thesis must conform to the Postgraduate Research Degree Assessment Regulations.

\*for this purpose, South-East Scotland is the areas covered by the Borders, Fife and Lothian Health Boards.

#### Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (DVM&S)

93. A thesis for the degree of DVM&S must deal with one or more of the subjects of study in the curriculum for the degree of BVM&S of the University or with subjects arising directly from contemporary veterinary practice.

94. The grounds for the award of the degree of DVM&S are:
- the student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the

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field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.

- b. the thesis must be an original work making a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study; contain material worthy of publication; show a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature; show that the student's observations have been carefully made; show the exercise of independent critical judgement with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field; contain material which presents a unified body of work; be satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, give full and adequate references and have a coherent structure understandable to a scholar in the same general field with regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions.

95. Registration is five years part-time. An intending student shall submit to the College a suggested topic and description of the work on which the thesis will be based. A registration fee is paid upon initial registration, an annual advisory fee is paid at the beginning of each year of study (including the first year) and an examination fee is paid at the time of thesis submission. After formal acceptance of the suggested topic and description, a period of normally at least 18 months must elapse before the thesis is submitted.

96. The thesis length should be no longer than 60,000 words.