



Anglia Ruskin  
University

# **Research Degrees Regulations**

Seventeenth Edition

September 2016



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University

# **Research Degrees Regulations**

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September 2016

This edition supersedes any earlier editions  
of the Research Degrees Regulations

## FOREWORD

The booklet contains, at Part A, the Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's degrees of Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Medicine by Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorates.

The booklet also contains, at:

- Part B The Regulations for the Award of Doctor of Philosophy on the basis of Published Work
- Part C Specific Regulations for the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorates
- Part D The Regulations for Higher Doctorates
- Part E Specific Regulations for the Doctor of Medicine by Research

The Research Degrees Regulations can be accessed on the web at:

[www.anglia.ac.uk/researchregs](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/researchregs)

Approved by Senate  
15<sup>th</sup> June 2016

## **PART A**

### **Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's Degrees of Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Medicine by Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorates**

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## **PART A**

### **Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's Degrees of Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Medicine by Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorates**

## **SECTION 1**

### **PRINCIPLES**

- 1.1 Anglia Ruskin University's Research Degrees Regulations are the definitive statement over all other Anglia Ruskin University documents of the regulatory framework leading to an Anglia Ruskin research degree. They are legally binding. In the unlikely event of any discrepancy between the Research Degrees Regulations and any other Anglia Ruskin publication, the Research Degrees Regulations take precedence and will be applied in all cases.

#### Consistency and Comparability of Academic Standards

- 1.2 Anglia Ruskin University's Research Degrees Regulations are the principal means through which we ensure consistency in the academic standards achieved across our research degree awards.
- 1.3 Anglia Ruskin University will ensure that its research degrees are comparable in standard with those conferred throughout higher education in the United Kingdom and consistent with the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This is achieved through the appointment, where relevant, of external panel members with appropriate knowledge and expertise, to serve on Approval Panels and independent, experienced external examiners to examine candidates. For the taught modules of professional doctorate programmes independent, experienced external examiners are appointed. Approval Panel members are provided with copies of the QAA Qualification Descriptors for Masters and Doctoral degrees and the QAA Characteristics Statement: Doctoral Degree (September 2015). The Descriptors and Characteristics are also included in the Notes of Guidance for Examiners of Postgraduate Research Degree Examinations and Chairs of Postgraduate Research Degrees Examinations.

#### Award Titles

- 1.4 Anglia Ruskin University shall award the degrees of Master of Philosophy (MPhil), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Medicine by Research (MD (Res)), Professional Doctorates, Professional Masters (MProf) and Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research (PGDipProf) to registered candidates who successfully complete the approved programmes.
- 1.5 Programmes of research may be proposed in any field of study in which Anglia Ruskin University has expertise, subject to the requirement that the proposed programme is capable of leading to scholarly research and to its presentation for assessment by appropriate examiners. The written thesis may be supplemented by material in other than written form. All proposed research programmes shall be considered for research degree approval on their academic merits and without reference to the concerns or interests of any associated funding body.
- 1.6 The MPhil shall be awarded to a candidate who, having critically investigated and evaluated an approved topic and demonstrated an understanding of research methods appropriate to the chosen field, has presented and defended a thesis by oral examination to the satisfaction of the examiners.



- 1.7 A PhD shall be awarded to a candidate who:
- having critically investigated and evaluated an approved topic resulting in an *independent and original contribution to knowledge* and
  - demonstrated an understanding of research methods appropriate to the chosen field,
- has presented and defended a thesis by oral examination to the satisfaction of the examiners.
- 1.8 A professional masters or doctorate shall be awarded to a candidate who has successfully passed the taught parts of the award and has presented and defended a thesis by oral examination to the satisfaction of the examiners. In advancing their understanding and practice within their profession, candidates must have demonstrated an awareness of research as a vehicle to integrate theory and practice.
- 1.9 A postgraduate diploma in professional research shall be awarded to a candidate who has successfully passed 120 credits at Level 7 as specified at approval.

#### Qualification Descriptors

- 1.10 Anglia Ruskin University's masters and doctoral degrees are awarded to candidates who have demonstrated the outcomes specified in the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. Examiners are provided with copies of the QAA Descriptors for Masters and Doctoral Degrees and the Doctoral Degree Characteristics within the Notes of Guidance for Examiners of Postgraduate Research Degrees Examinations. Examiners are asked to confirm in their final report that candidates have demonstrated the characteristics set out in the QAA Qualification Descriptors.

#### Valuing Diversity and Promoting Equality

- 1.11 Anglia Ruskin University will consider applications to register as a research degree candidate in accordance with its published Equality Policy Framework. The aim of the policy is to provide a supportive environment in which to work and study, and where we will treat each other with dignity, courtesy and respect.

#### Research Integrity

- 1.12 Anglia Ruskin University is compliant with the Concordat to Support Research Integrity and continues to ensure that the principles expected therein are effectively embedded, evaluated and strengthened in our research endeavours, including in the pursuit of the research degrees qualifications covered by these Regulations.

#### Research Committee

- 1.13 The Research Committee is responsible, on behalf of Senate, for the development and implementation of Anglia Ruskin University's Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Strategy. The terms of reference and constitution of the Research Committee and its Subcommittees can be found in the 'Constitution of Senate and its Standing Committees' document.

### Research Degrees Subcommittee

- 1.14 The Research Degrees Subcommittee is responsible, on behalf of the Research Committee, for the development of research degrees in Anglia Ruskin University and for developing, monitoring and reviewing Anglia Ruskin University's quality assurance and enhancement policies and procedures for monitoring and reviewing the quality of the student experience.
- 1.15 The implementation and development of these regulations, and their associated procedures, are overseen by the Research Degrees Subcommittee established within the academic committee structure of Anglia University's Senate. Some of the Subcommittee's responsibilities and procedures are devolved to Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittees. The terms of reference and constitution of the Research Degrees Subcommittee and the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee can be found in the 'Constitution of Senate and its Standing Committees' document.

### Research Ethics Subcommittee

- 1.16 This Subcommittee of the Research Committee considers policies and procedures relating to the ethics of research investigations involving human participants, human tissue and organs, animals and other research that presents ethical issues (such as damage or disturbance to culturally, spiritually or historically significant artefacts or places, or human remains or research that may have a negative effect on the environment) undertaken by staff and students of Anglia Ruskin University and students at our Associate Colleges. Responsibility for the approval of individual research ethics applications is devolved by Research Ethics Subcommittee to Faculty Research Ethics Panels. Each faculty, apart from Medical Science, also has Departmental Research Ethics Panels, whose approval of ethics applications must be ratified by the relevant Faculty Research Ethics Panels. The terms of reference and constitution of Research Ethics Subcommittee, Faculty Research Ethics Panels and Departmental Research Ethics Panels can be found in the 'Constitution of Senate and its Standing Committees' document.

### Review of Regulations

- 1.17 These regulations are subject to review as and when appropriate, normally on an annual basis. They embody nationally recognised good practice as recommended from time to time in policies, codes of practice and regulations of the Quality Assurance Agency, funding bodies, and research funding councils.

### Useful Publications for candidates and supervisors

- 1.18 A list of useful publications is shown at Annex 1.

### Annual Faculty and Institutional Reports

- 1.19 Research Degrees Subcommittee will receive an annual report from each faculty commenting on its postgraduate research activity. This report will include commentary on recruitment, retention, completion rates and times, comments from annual review etc. The faculty reports will inform an annual institutional report which will also be tabled at Research Degrees Subcommittee.

### The University's Right to Discontinue a Candidate

- 1.20 The University may discontinue a candidate if he or she fails to comply with any research degree regulation which makes specific requirements of him or her, or fails to make satisfactory academic progress as determined at a point of assessment.

## **SECTION 2**

### **ADMISSION OF STUDENTS**

#### General Entry Requirements for Research Study

- 2.1 An applicant may seek admission to study for any of the following awards:
- (a) Master of Philosophy
  - (b) Doctor of Philosophy with progression from Master of Philosophy
  - (c) Doctor of Philosophy (direct)
  - (d) Doctor of Medicine by Research
  - (e) Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research
  - (f) Professional Masters
  - (g) Professional Doctorate

- 2.2 Entry is permitted in the following months: September, January, April, and June.

#### Entry Requirements for Master of Philosophy (MPhil) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) with progression from MPhil

- 2.3 An applicant seeking admission to the degree of MPhil or PhD with progression from MPhil shall normally hold a first or upper second class honours degree, in an appropriate cognate area, of a university or any other institution of higher education in the UK with degree-awarding powers or a qualification which is regarded by Anglia Ruskin University as equivalent to a first or upper second class honours degree.

#### Applications for Direct Entry to PhD

- 2.4 Direct entry to the degree of PhD may be permitted to an applicant who holds a Master's degree awarded by a UK University, or an overseas Master's degree of equivalent standard, provided that the Master's degree is recent and is in a closely related discipline which is appropriate to the proposed research and that it included training in research and the execution of a research project.
- 2.5 A faculty may also permit direct entry to a PhD for a candidate who, although lacking a Master's degree, has a good honours degree (or equivalent) in an appropriate discipline and has had appropriate research or professional experience at postgraduate level which has resulted in published work, written reports or other appropriate evidence of accomplishment.
- 2.6 The applicant must provide an academic justification for acceptance onto the direct entry PhD route with their application.

### Applications for Entry to a Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research or Professional Masters

2.7 An applicant seeking admission to the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research or the Professional Masters with the possibility of subsequent progression to the Professional Doctorate shall normally:

- hold a first or upper second class honours degree of a university or any other institution of higher education in the UK with degree-awarding powers or a qualification which is regarded by Anglia Ruskin University as equivalent to a first or upper second class honours degree;

AND

- have appropriate research and professional experience.

### Applications for Entry to a Professional Doctorate

2.8 An applicant seeking entry to the Professional Doctorate shall normally, as a minimum entry requirement:

- hold a first or upper second class honours degree of a university or any other institution of higher education in the UK with degree-awarding powers, provided that the degree included training in research and the execution of a research project or dissertation, or a qualification which is regarded by Anglia Ruskin University as equivalent to a first or upper second class honours degree.

AND

- have appropriate professional experience

2.9 Any DProf programme that wishes to propose that the minimum entry requirement must be a Master's degree, in an appropriate cognate area awarded by a UK University or an overseas Master's Degree of equivalent standing is required to submit a case to Research Degrees Subcommittee for consideration.

2.10 An applicant who does not have appropriate research experience will be required to demonstrate depth of understanding of research methods by successfully passing a programme of researcher development identified by the Programme Director, prior to registering.

### Non Standard Entry Requirements

2.11 Applicants holding qualifications other than those indicated above shall be considered on their merits and in relation to the nature and scope of the programme of proposed work. In considering an applicant in this category, the Faculty shall look for evidence of the candidate's ability and background knowledge in relation to the proposed research. Professional experience, publications, written reports or other appropriate evidence of accomplishment shall be taken into consideration. An applicant may be required to pass an externally assessed qualifying examination at final year honours degree level before registration is approved. An applicant wishing to be considered under this regulation shall include in the application the names of two suitable persons whom Anglia Ruskin University may consult concerning their academic attainment and fitness for research.

2.12 Requests for recognition of previously acquired learning are dealt with under our agreed procedures.

### English Language Competence

- 2.13 Where English is not an applicant's first language, they must demonstrate evidence of English language ability by holding an IELTS score of 6.5 (or equivalent) and have achieved a minimum of English language competence of at least IELTS 5.5 (or equivalent) across all four disciplines – writing, reading, speaking and listening.
- 2.14 These minimum requirements may be supplemented by additional requirements as determined by individual Faculties. This may include a requirement to complete Anglia Ruskin University's Postgraduate English Support Programme.

### Student Access to Resources

- 2.15 Students must be able to access resources for their research, through the use of, for example, broadband to access our University Library, our virtual learning environment and online research skills courses.

### Students Working as Part of a Research Group

- 2.16 An applicant whose work forms part of a larger group project may register for a research degree. In such cases each individually approved project shall in itself be distinguishable for the purposes of assessment and be appropriate for the award being sought. The application shall indicate clearly each individual contribution and its relationship to the group project.
- 2.17 Where a research degree project is part of a piece of funded research, the Faculty shall establish to its satisfaction that the terms on which the research is funded do not detract from the fulfilment of the objectives and requirements of the candidate's research degree.

### Franchised and Associate Colleges

- 2.18 Resources to support doctoral students studying at our Franchised or Associate Colleges are provided in accordance with the signed Academic Agreement between Anglia Ruskin and the individual College.

## Students Located Overseas

2.19 A faculty may approve an application from a candidate proposing to work outside the UK, provided that:

- (a) the arrangements proposed enable regular face-to-face contact by the appointment of a local supervisor or adviser. Supervisors or advisers based overseas shall have access to a mentor at Anglia Ruskin who shall be either the First Supervisor or a colleague nominated by the First Supervisor who has supervised at least one postgraduate research student at the level of the candidate to successful completion. Where the appointment of a local supervisor or adviser is not possible steps must be taken to provide the equivalent web-based face-to-face contact. The form and frequency of contact must be specified at the point the supervisory team is approved. All new supervisors must attend either a) the appropriate staff development activity on-campus at Anglia Ruskin or b) an equivalent staff development activity for supervisors located overseas delivered by the Faculties and agreed by the Doctoral School. All supervisors must attend a relevant CPD session at least every two years.

AND

- (b) unless approval has been given for delivery of researcher development at individual Associate Colleges, all candidates located overseas are required to attend an annual week-long generic researcher development programme at Anglia Ruskin on at least two occasions during their registration (see also paragraphs 3.15-3.24 on The Researcher Development Programme)

AND

- (c) there is satisfactory evidence as to the facilities and resources available for the research both at Anglia Ruskin University and abroad

AND

- (d) the arrangements to work outside the UK do not contravene the national laws of the country concerned

### Previous Registration at Anglia Ruskin

- 2.20 Where an applicant has previously registered as a candidate for a research degree at Anglia Ruskin the relevant Faculty may approve a shorter than usual registration period which takes account of all or part of the time already spent by the candidate on such research.
- 2.21 Candidates who have been discontinued due to academic failure are permitted to apply for re-admission to a Research Degree provided that:
- at least six months has lapsed between the date of discontinuation and the date of application for re-admission
  - the candidate is able:
    - if appropriate, to provide clear evidence of a change in personal circumstances since the date of discontinuation
    - to demonstrate a positive commitment to resume study at postgraduate research degree level
    - to demonstrate an enhanced knowledge-base and/or relevant experience (for example, employment in the period since the date of discontinuation)
  - the candidate has been formally interviewed by at least two members of academic staff whose decision to re-admit the candidate is unanimous
- 2.22 Candidates who voluntarily withdraw may apply for re-admission provided that:
- the candidate is able:
    - if appropriate, to provide clear evidence of a change in personal circumstances since the date of withdrawal
    - to demonstrate a positive commitment to resume study at postgraduate research level
    - to demonstrate an enhanced knowledge-base and/or relevant experience (for example, based on employment in the period since the date of withdrawal)
  - the candidate has been formally interviewed by at least two members of academic staff whose decision to re-admit the candidate is unanimous

### Applicants transferring their Registration from another institution to Anglia Ruskin University

- 2.23 Where an applicant has previously undertaken research as a registered candidate for a postgraduate research degree at another institution the relevant Faculty may approve a shorter than usual registration period which takes account of all or part of the time already spent by the candidate on such research.

- 2.24 An applicant transferring their registration from another institution to Anglia Ruskin University shall be required to provide the following information:
- (a) a letter of agreement from the institution where the candidate is currently registered
  - (b) a copy of the candidate's original research proposal to the other institution
  - (c) a current progress report from the candidate's First Supervisor (or equivalent)
  - (d) the date, and mode, of original registration and the period of registration time remaining under the regulations of their current institution (including detail of any intermissions and extension of registration time)
  - (e) the title of the research project and the names and email-addresses of current supervisors
  - (f) an indication of the level of resources required to support the research project
- 2.25 Any application lacking the information set out in 2.24 will be rejected.

#### Concurrent Study

- 2.26 The Research Degrees Subcommittee may permit a candidate to register for another course of study concurrently with the postgraduate research degree registration, provided that either the postgraduate research degree registration and/or the other course of study is by part-time study and that, in the opinion of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, the dual registration will not detract from the research. A candidate will not be permitted to register concurrently for two postgraduate research degrees, or to submit the same piece of work for assessment for more than one postgraduate research degree. However, in certain circumstances, related to his/her development needs, a postgraduate research candidate may be permitted to register for a postgraduate research degree and in addition to register concurrently for a taught course or module, in both cases leading to an Anglia Ruskin award.

#### Transferring Course

- 2.27 A candidate registered for a Professional Doctorate who wishes to transfer their registration to MPhil or PhD, or vice versa, is required to seek the support of their First Supervisor and discuss the proposed transfer with the relevant Professional Doctorate Programme Director, before applying in writing to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee for approval. The relevant form can be obtained from the appropriate Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee Secretary.

#### The Selection Process

- 2.28 The process of selecting appropriately qualified and/or experienced applicants for admission to a research degree is the responsibility of the appropriate Faculty.



- 2.29 The process will involve the judgement of at least two members of University academic staff who have been suitably trained or briefed. Normally this would be the faculty Director of Research Students and a member of the indicative supervisory team. An interview must occur before an offer of a place is made. At the interview the research proposal and any ethical considerations should be discussed with the applicant as should the likely total cost of the course. The interview will result in a decision to admit/not to admit an applicant to Anglia Ruskin University in the light of the following factors:
- (a) the academic profile of the applicant and his/her ability to achieve the standard of the appropriate degree within the permitted timescales
  - (b) the viability of the proposed research project, its aims and its suitability for the level of award identified
  - (c) the availability of supervisors with appropriate expertise, experience of supervision and time to supervise
  - (d) the availability of sufficient supporting resources for the conduct of research in the area of the proposed research project
  - (e) the ability of the applicant to pay ongoing annual tuition fees for a specified period of time (see Section 4 for details of the minimum and maximum periods of registration)

#### Registration as a Student of Anglia Ruskin University

- 2.30 A formal offer letter is sent to successful applicants offering them a place to read for a postgraduate research degree at Anglia Ruskin University. On receipt of confirmation of acceptance of the offer, students are sent an induction pack which includes a registration form.
- 2.31 All applicants who have accepted the offer of a place at Anglia Ruskin University are required to register as a student of Anglia Ruskin University. This process involves completion of online registration and payment of the appropriate tuition fee, in return for access to Anglia Ruskin University's facilities and to the First Supervisor allocated provisionally to assist the candidate in developing their research proposal. The name of the First Supervisor, or Programme Director for Professional Doctorate programmes, are included in the offer letter sent to the prospective student. Registration as a student of Anglia Ruskin University occurs in the months indicated in paragraph 2.2.
- 2.32 All returning students are required to re-register in each year of their studies and pay the appropriate tuition fee, in return for access to Anglia Ruskin University's facilities and their supervisory team.
- 2.33 Students who have not paid their tuition fees are deemed to be a debtor of Anglia Ruskin University and will not be entitled to access Anglia Ruskin University's facilities or their supervisory team.

Additional Requirements for Registration as an International Student (non-EEA) of Anglia Ruskin University

- 2.34 Students who have been granted a visa to study in the UK are bound by the student immigration rules also known as Tier 4 of the Points Based System. It is a student's responsibility to ensure they comply with these rules at all times.
- All new students to Anglia Ruskin University must take their passport and visa to our University iCentre on arrival so that a copy of both documents can be made and stored on our University records system.
  - If a student visa is extended or a passport is renewed at any time during the period of registration the student must bring the new biometric ID card/passport to the iCentre so that their record can be updated.
  - Students must ensure their passport and student visa are valid throughout their period of registration.
  - Attendance is monitored throughout the period of registration. If a student does not meet the attendance requirements or is suspended and excluded from Anglia Ruskin University for any reason, our University is required to inform the immigration authorities.
  - Student visa holders are allowed to study on a full-time basis only. Part-time study is not permitted.
  - Students must inform Anglia Ruskin University of any change of address and telephone number (UK and overseas). This can be undertaken via e-vision.
  - Students must ensure that they re-register at the required time. Our University is required to inform the immigration authorities of any student who fails to re-register

## SECTION 3

### APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

#### Approval of Research Proposal

- 3.1 All registered students for the award of MPhil, PhD and MD (Res) are required to seek approval of their research proposal by the following deadlines:

<u>Month of Registration</u>	<u>Research Proposal deadline (Full-time Candidates)</u>	<u>Research Proposal Deadline (Part-time Candidates)</u>
September	28 October	28 November
January	28 February	28 March
April	28 May	28 June
June	28 July	28 August

All candidates for the award of a Professional Masters and a Professional Doctorate are required to seek approval of their research proposal normally no later than 12 months full-time and 24 months part-time after initial registration.

- 3.2 Any candidate missing the relevant deadline stipulated in 3.1 will be treated as a resubmission and the procedure in 3.5 will apply.

#### Scrutiny of Research Proposal

- 3.3 Appropriate academic judgement is brought to bear on the viability of each candidate's research proposal as soon as the candidate and first supervisor (or programme director for Professional Doctorate candidates) are ready, but in accordance with the timescales indicated in 3.1 above. The research proposal will be considered by a minimum of two suitably experienced academics independent of the student and supervisors who will have received appropriate staff development. A candidate for a postgraduate research degree, except those submitting for a PhD by Published Work, shall be ineligible to act as a reviewer.

The consideration of the research proposal will take into account:

- (a) the viability of the proposed research within the permitted timescale
- (b) the content and clarity of the research proposal
- (c) the suitability and experience of the proposed supervisory team (taking into account the criteria set out in Section 7 of these regulations)
- (d) the candidate's understanding of the ethical implications of their research
- (e) if our University or Associate College is able to provide appropriate research facilities
- (f) the identification of any required researcher development activity

Approval of the research proposal may be subject to attendance at Stage 1 of the Researcher Development Programme.

- 3.4 The reviewers will make one of the following recommendations to Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee:
- the research proposal is approved
  - the research proposal is not approved
- 3.5 If a research proposal is not approved on first submission the student is allowed one opportunity to revise and resubmit it. The resubmission must occur within two months of the date the application is considered by the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee. The student must be provided with a statement of the deficiencies of the research proposal within ten working days of the meeting of the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 3.6 If a student fails to resubmit their research proposal within the period specified in regulations 3.5 the reviewers will report this to the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee with a recommendation that the student is discontinued under regulation 1.20.
- 3.7 Where the reviewers are unable to reach a majority recommendation the research proposal, and the reviewer's reports, will be considered by the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee which will reach one of the conclusions stated in paragraph 3.4.
- 3.8 A candidate wishing to make a significant change to the focus, or context, of their approved research proposal should seek the support of their First Supervisor before applying in writing to the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee for approval.

#### Research Ethics Approval

- 3.9 Candidates need to consider ethical issues at an early stage and should consult the relevant web pages for further advice: <http://www.anglia.ac.uk/researchethics>
- 3.10 A Research Proposal Ethics Checklist must be submitted with the Research Proposal. Submission of the checklist does not constitute applying for ethical approval, which is a separate process.
- 3.11 A Stage 1 Research Ethics Application Form must be completed by all researchers, including those carrying out desk-based or secondary research.<sup>1</sup> This will help determine the risk category of the research.
- 3.12 Where completion of the Stage 1 form indicates that institutional ethical approval is required, candidates should refer to the Research Ethics Policy and the relevant sections of the Code of Practice for Applying for Ethical Approval at Anglia Ruskin University.
- 3.13 Candidates must determine if their research is of such a nature to require additional insurance.
- 3.14 Candidates may also be required to complete a Risk Assessment and apply for Anglia Ruskin travel insurance if conducting research outside the UK.

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<sup>1</sup> There is a separate version of the Stage 1 form for research involving Animals and Habitats.

### The Researcher Development Programme and other training

- 3.15 Candidates are required by the Research Degrees Subcommittee to attend all three of Anglia Ruskin University's compulsory researcher development sessions, which are designed to support students during their programme of research. These sessions are part of the broader Researcher Development Programme offered by the Doctoral School.
- 3.16 Stage 1 is linked to the Research Proposal application. Stage 2 is linked to the application for Upgrade/Confirmation of Registration. Stage 3 must be attended before the viva.
- 3.17 As part of the Stage 1 training, all students must pass the online module Intellectual Property (IP) in the Research Context.
- 3.18 All candidates must complete a Research Skills Training Needs Analysis to establish their skills development needs and create a personal development plan. This must be submitted each year as part of the process of Annual Review.
- 3.19 Each Faculty offers specific researcher development, events, some of which may be compulsory.
- 3.20 All postgraduate research degree candidates must attend either a) Introduction to Research Ethics and Integrity (in Human Research) training offered by the Doctoral School or b) pass the online module Ethics 1 - Good Research Practice.
- 3.21 All postgraduate research degree candidates whose research falls under risk categories yellow or red (as determined by completing the Stage 1 Research Ethics Application Form), are also required to pass the online module Ethics 2 - Research with Human Subjects in the Health and Social Sciences or an equivalent course approved by the Chair of the appropriate Faculty Research Ethics Panel.
- 3.22 Postgraduate research students with an undergraduate medical qualification recognised by the General Medical Council in the UK may be exempt from Ethics 1 and Ethics 2 training, subject to providing evidence of an up-to-date Good Clinical Practice training record. Good Clinical Practice training needs to be renewed every two years and a copy of the updated training record provided.
- 3.23 All candidates who are engaged in undertaking teaching on any Anglia Ruskin modules and who have not received approved training for that teaching must attend the Learning and Teaching in Practice programme.
- 3.24 As part of their research, a candidate may follow a programme of related studies where this is necessary for the attainment of competence in research methods and/or to broaden their disciplinary knowledge.

### Research Degrees Involving Creative Work

- 3.25 A candidate may undertake a programme of research in which the candidate's own creative work forms a substantive part of the intellectual enquiry. Such creative work may be in any field (for instance, art, design, engineering and technology, architecture, creative writing, musical composition, film, dance and performance), but shall have been undertaken as part of the registered research programme. In such cases, the presentation may be partly in other than written form.

- 3.26 The submission as a whole, creative work and associated commentary/documentation will form the thesis. The commentary, setting the creative work within its relevant theoretical, critical or design context shall conform to the usual scholarly requirements and be of an appropriate length (see paragraph 10.13).
- 3.27 For a PhD involving creative writing, the creative component will be volume or book length to suit the particular genre (e.g. novel, collection of poetry or stories, play, biography).
- 3.28 The final submission shall be accompanied by some permanent record of the creative work, to be submitted in digital format (as for example, video, photographic record, CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, musical score, diagrammatic representation).
- 3.29 Where the above conditions apply the research proposal and application for confirmation of registration shall set out the form of the candidate's intended submission and of the proposed methods of assessment for the creative work.

#### Treatment of Scholarly Work

- 3.30 A candidate may undertake a programme of research in which the principal focus is the preparation of a scholarly edition of a text or texts, musical or choreographic work, or other original artefacts.
- 3.31 The final submission shall include a copy of the edited text(s) or collection of artefact(s), appropriate textual and explanatory annotations, and a substantial introduction and critical commentary which set the text in the relevant historical, theoretical or critical context.

#### Submission of the thesis in a language other than English

- 3.32 Permission to present a thesis in a language other than English shall normally be sought at the time of application. Permission to present a thesis, and be examined, in a language other than English shall normally only be given if the subject matter of the thesis involves language and related studies.

#### Confidentiality (see also paragraph 9.10)

- 3.33 Where a candidate or Anglia Ruskin University wishes the thesis to remain confidential application shall normally be made to the Research Degrees Subcommittee at the time of seeking approval of the research proposal. In cases where the need for confidentiality emerges at a subsequent stage, a special application for the thesis to remain confidential must be made to the Research Degrees Subcommittee. While the normal maximum period of confidentiality is two years from the date of oral examination, in exceptional circumstances the Research Degrees Subcommittee may approve a longer period. Where a shorter period would be adequate the Research Degrees Subcommittee shall not automatically grant confidentiality for two years.
- 3.34 Where the confidential nature of the candidate's work is such as to preclude the thesis being made freely available in Anglia Ruskin University Library, collaborating establishment or Associate Colleges the thesis shall be retained by Anglia Ruskin University on restricted access and, shall only be made available to those who were directly involved in the project.

- 3.35 The Research Degrees Subcommittee shall normally only approve an application for confidentiality in order to enable a patent application to be lodged or to protect commercially or politically sensitive material. A thesis shall not be restricted in this way in order to protect research leads.

#### Intellectual Property

- 3.36 All postgraduate research degrees students are required to sign an undertaking that, in instances where they are formally notified as working on a project having commercial sponsors or commercial potential, they will enter into a confidentiality agreement, and assign their Intellectual Property rights to Anglia Ruskin university unless they are employed by the organisation funding the research. In return we will treat postgraduate researcher inventors on such projects on the same financial basis as staff inventors in respect of Intellectual Property-based income.

## SECTION 4

### TIMESCALES FOR COMPLETION

#### Minimum and Maximum Periods of Registration

- 4.1 The minimum and maximum periods of registration are calculated from the initial date of registration. Entry onto the Writing Up Stage must take into account the following minimum and maximum periods of registration within which students must submit their thesis for oral examination:

	<u>Minimum</u>	Maximum
<b>MPhil</b>		
<i>full-time</i>	12 months	36 months
<i>part-time</i>	24 months	48 months
<b>PhD [via progression from MPhil registration and including that period of MPhil registration]</b>		
<i>full-time</i>	30 months	60 months
<i>part-time</i>	42 months	72 months
<b>PhD [direct]</b>		
<i>full-time</i>	24 months	60 months
<i>part-time</i>	36 months	72 months
<b>MD (Res)</b>		
<i>full-time</i>	24 months	48 months
<i>part-time</i>	36 months	72 months
<b>Professional Doctorate</b>		
<i>part-time</i>	36 months	72 months
<i>part-time</i> (following full-time taught stage)	32 months	60 months
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research</b>		
<i>part-time</i>	16 months	30 months
<i>full-time</i>	12 months	18 months
<b>Professional Masters</b>		
<i>part-time</i>	30 months	48 months
<i>part-time</i> (following full-time taught stage)	26 months	36 months

- 4.2 A full-time candidate should be ready to submit their thesis for MPhil after 2 years of registration and for PhD after 3.5 years. Part-time candidates should be ready to submit their thesis for MPhil after 3 years of registration and for PhD after 5 years. A professional doctorate candidate should be ready to submit their thesis after 5 years of registration. A Professional Masters candidate should be ready to submit their thesis after 3.5 years of registration. A full-time MD (Res) candidate should be ready to submit their thesis after 2 years of registration.



#### Holiday Entitlement

- 4.3 Students may take up to 35 days holiday in each year (pro rata for parts of a year) inclusive of normal public holidays. The timing of their holidays must be agreed with their First Supervisor.

#### Shortening the Period of Registration

- 4.4 Where there is evidence that the research is proceeding exceptionally well, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may approve a shorter minimum period of registration. An application for such shortening should be submitted before the application for approval of examination arrangements.

#### Extending the Period of Registration

- 4.5 A candidate is expected to submit their thesis before the expiry of the maximum period of registration. The Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may extend a candidate's period of registration where evidence is submitted to support the request, normally for not more than 6 months at a time up to 12 months.
- 4.6 Only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances will a further and final period of 6 months be permitted.
- 4.7 A candidate seeking an extension shall apply to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee on the appropriate form. In all cases an action plan demonstrating how the extension will enable the successful completion of the thesis must be submitted at the time of requesting the extension. This action plan must be agreed by the First Supervisor. In making their decision the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will take into account the progress made by the candidate and any previous requests for intermission or extensions.

#### International Candidates Requesting Extensions

- 4.8 If a candidate requires an extension to their current student visa they should seek advice from an International Student Adviser within Student Services at least two months before their current visa expires.
- 4.9 Anglia Ruskin University may refuse to support a student visa extension in the UK if a student is not making satisfactory progress, has outstanding debts, has breached their immigration conditions or has overstayed their visa.

#### Change of Mode of Study

- 4.10 Where a candidate changes mode of study the minimum and maximum registration periods shall be calculated on a pro-rata basis as a proportion of the stated minimum and maximum periods of registration, in accordance with the length of time spent as a full or part-time candidate. Before making a request students and their supervisors' should fully consider the implications.

4.11 When a candidate changes mode of study their remaining registration time will be arrived at by applying the following procedure:

- Take the maximum period of registration in the original mode.
- Subtract from it the actual period of registration in the original mode to produce the original remaining period of registration.
- Then take the original remaining period of registration and divide it by the maximum period of registration on the original mode multiplied by maximum period of registration on the new mode.
- This produces the new remaining period of registration.

Note: Any periods of intermission or extension should be taken into account and all figures should be expressed in months.

#### Annual Review

4.12 All postgraduate research degrees candidates are required to attend an annual review meeting except those who have formally submitted their thesis to the Doctoral School and those registered for PhD by Published Work, for whom alternative monitoring arrangements exist (see Part B, paragraph 5.2). Candidates who are required to resubmit their thesis for re-examination following their viva voce examination must have an annual review meeting within four months of the date the examiners' feedback is sent to them.

4.13 The annual review meeting must be held face-to-face for all full-time students, however for part-time students, and those located overseas, this may take place using a video link.

4.14 The annual review meeting is conducted by a panel of at least two suitably qualified academics who are independent of the student and the supervisors and who have received appropriate staff development.

4.15 A candidate for a postgraduate research degree, except those submitting for a PhD by Published Work, shall be ineligible to act as a panel member.

4.16 The candidate and at least one member of the supervisory team (preferably the First Supervisor) must attend.

4.17 For MD (Res) students one of the supervisors attending the review meeting must be the medical practitioner.

4.18 Particular attention is given to a student's progress during the Annual Review at the end of their first year of registration.

4.19 The purpose of the Annual Review meeting is to decide if:

- (a) the student is actively engaged on the research programme and is making good progress
- (b) the student and supervisors are maintaining regular and frequent contact
- (c) the student is likely to achieve the academic standards of the degree for which registered
- (d) the student is likely to gain their award within the normal permissible time scales
- (e) all issues raised by any previous Annual Review meeting have been successfully addressed

4.20 The documents required for Annual Review are:

- a) A submission by the candidate looking back over the previous year which will take the form of a self-evaluation of work undertaken, training undertaken, development of researcher skills, progress towards meeting research goals and the success of the supervisory arrangements.
- b) At least one piece of written work by the candidate derived from their current registered research (e.g. a draft chapter of the thesis). This work to have been written during the period under review.
- c) The supervisory team will, having considered the candidate's submission, address the same matters in its own written submission which will include a confirmation that the required minimum number of supervision sessions has taken place and records of the meetings
- d) A schedule for the coming year which will include a timetable for the completion of the thesis. This must be agreed by the candidate and the supervisory team. If appropriate it must include the timing for upgrade/confirmation of registration.

4.21 The panel will ensure that the student is offered the opportunity to meet with them without the supervisors being present.

4.22 The possible recommendations from annual review are that:

- a) the student proceeds to the next year of their programme
- b) the student resubmits their documentation for a reconvened review meeting to be held within three months of the date of the first meeting
- c) the student should be discontinued for demonstrating lack of progress (this recommendation can only be made after a reconvened review meeting)

4.23 The reviewers will produce a brief joint report for Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee concerning the Annual Review meeting.

4.24 If a student is required to resubmit for annual review the reviewers will provide a statement of the deficiencies to be addressed within ten working days of the panel meeting.

4.25 If a student fails to attend their annual review meeting they will be treated as a resubmission and the procedure outlined in 4.22 (b) will apply.

4.26 If a student fails to attend their reconvened review meeting the panel will report this to the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee with a recommendation for discontinuation under regulation 1.20.

4.27 Where the reviewers are unable to reach a majority recommendation the annual review documentation, and the reviewer's reports, will be considered by Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee which will reach one of the conclusions stated in 4.22.

4.28 In any academic year in which the candidate's upgrade/confirmation of registration is due the Annual Review can occur at the upgrade/confirmation of registration meeting.

4.29 As part of our processes for monitoring postgraduate research activity the Research Degrees Subcommittee will receive a report and action plan regarding Annual Review as part of the Annual Faculty Report (see 1.19).

### Intermission of Study

- 4.30 Approval of any period of intermission shall be subject to a candidate's immigration status.
- 4.31 Where the candidate is prevented, by ill-health or other cause, from making progress with the research, the candidate may apply to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee to intermit their studies. Candidates may apply for up to a maximum of 6 months intermission, excluding requests for maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoptive leave.
- 4.32 Any exceptional further requests will be considered by the Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 4.33 Candidates who wish to intermit from their studies will be required to provide evidence to support the request.
- 4.34 During the period of intermission a student's registration on their research degree is suspended, and they will not receive supervision.
- 4.35 Any candidate eligible for maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoptive leave should discuss their situation with their First Supervisor well in advance of the leave period. Such leave does not count as intermission time but the provisions of 4.34 will apply.
- 4.36 Student visa holders are required to leave the UK during the period of intermission. In addition Anglia Ruskin University is required to inform the immigration authorities of any Tier 4 student visa holder who is intermitting from their studies. Tier 4 visa holders will have their current UK visa curtailed (along with the visas for any of their dependants also resident in the UK) and will need to apply for a new student visa to return to the UK.
- 4.37 If a candidate requires a new visa to return to the UK after a period of intermission they should seek advice from an International Student Adviser within Student Services at least two months before they are due to return.
- 4.38 Any student visa holder considering intermitting from their studies should seek advice from an International Student Adviser on the likely impact to their immigration status in the UK.

### Withdrawal of Registration/Discontinuation of Registration

- 4.39 Where a candidate terminates their research the withdrawal of registration shall be notified to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee by the First Supervisor.
- 4.40 The Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee is responsible for monitoring students' progress. Where concern is expressed by the First Supervisor about a candidate's progress, or lack of contact, the chair of the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will write to the candidate at their last known address advising them that they need to make satisfactory progress by a given deadline or they will be discontinued. The letter will specify in detail what the candidate must do by the given deadline. If satisfactory progress is not made by the stipulated deadline the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will, at the next meeting, discontinue the candidate. Following the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee meeting the Secretary will write to the candidate informing them of the decision.

4.41 In addition, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may discontinue a candidate for any of the following reasons (the list is not exhaustive):

- (a) if the candidate's period of registration has expired, and an application for extension of registration has not been submitted and approved
- (b) if the candidate's period of registration has expired, and their thesis has not been submitted
- (c) if the candidate has failed to maintain registration as a student of Anglia Ruskin University
- (d) if the candidate has failed to comply with the annual review process
- (e) the annual review panel has recommended discontinuation
- (f) if the candidate has not made satisfactory academic progress and has been sent written warnings by Anglia Ruskin University as set out in paragraph 4.40
- (g) if the candidate has not submitted their thesis on completion of the Writing Up Stage
- (h) if the candidate has failed to attend compulsory researcher development
- (i) if the candidate has failed to submit a satisfactory, or any, research proposal
- (j) if the candidate on a Professional Doctorate programme has exhausted all available attempts to pass the taught modules of the programme

4.42 Anglia Ruskin University may discontinue a candidate who has failed to submit the revised thesis for examination by the stated deadline and who has not requested and had approved an extension.

## SECTION 5

### SUPERVISION

#### Responsibilities of the Supervisory Team

- 5.1 The primary role and responsibility of doctoral supervisors is to advise upon and guide candidates through the scholarly and technical processes that enable candidates to produce a Level 8 thesis.
- 5.2 One supervisor shall be designated as the First Supervisor with responsibility to supervise the candidate on a regular and frequent basis and to act as the principal point of contact on administrative matters. S/he will also be accountable to the Faculty in the first instance and to Anglia Ruskin University for the proper conduct of the research programme, including compliance with relevant University policies.
- 5.3 The First Supervisor shall be:
- either a full-time or fractional member of the academic staff of Anglia Ruskin University whose role includes full academic duties including research or
  - an Emeritus Professor of Anglia Ruskin University, where this is in the best interest of the student, who must be based in the UK, but not a Visiting Professor nor the holder of any other visiting title conferred by Anglia Ruskin University (with the exception of candidates for the Doctor of Medicine by Research) or
  - a full-time or fractional member of the academic staff of Cambridge Theological Federation.
- 5.4 A research degree candidate shall have at least two supervisors who **collectively** meet all of the following criteria: -
- (a) Hold a doctoral award
  - (b) Have previous supervision to completion up to the level of the award being supervised
  - (c) Recent involvement in externally funded research and/or relevant refereed publications
- It is also preferable for the supervisory team to include members with experience of internal or external examining at the level of the award being supervised.
- 5.5 In addition, for candidates registered for the award of Doctor of Medicine by Research, one member of the supervisory team must be a medical practitioner.
- 5.6 All supervisors must attend Anglia Ruskin University's Supervisor Training Session within six months of their first appointment to that role.

- 5.7 Unless they are granted exemption by the Faculty Director of Research Students, all supervisors are required to either attend Introduction to Research Ethics and Integrity (in Human Research) training offered by the Doctoral School or pass the online Epigeum course Ethics 1 - Good Research Practice. In addition, First Supervisors must also pass the online Epigeum course Ethics 2 - Research with Human Subjects in the Health and Social Sciences.

#### Nominations for Appointment as Supervisors

- 5.8 Nominations for appointment as supervisors are considered from all members of the academic staff whose role includes full academic duties including research or those who have a contract of employment with Anglia Ruskin University specifically to undertake research supervision. The supervisory team should have appropriate subject expertise and the necessary skills and experience to monitor, support and direct candidates' work. Faculties may appoint, and pay for, an external supervisor where this is deemed necessary but s/he cannot act as the First Supervisor. At least one member of the supervisory team, preferably the First Supervisor, will be currently engaged in research in the relevant discipline so as to ensure that the direction and monitoring of the candidate's progress is informed by up to date subject knowledge and research developments.
- 5.9 In allocating supervisors, FRDSCs will need to be aware of, and guided by, the overall workload of the individual, including teaching, research, administration and other responsibilities, for example, external examining duties and other professional commitments, such as consultancy or clinical responsibilities.
- 5.10 Members of staff located in Support Services are eligible to be nominated as a First Supervisor.

#### Exclusions from Supervisory Teams

- 5.11 A relative/partner of the candidate shall not be permitted to be appointed as a member of the candidate's supervisory team.
- 5.12 Supervisors who are related to each other will normally not be permitted to be appointed as a member of the supervisory team without explicit approval of the Chair of Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 5.13 A candidate for a research degree, except those submitting for a PhD by Published Work, shall be ineligible to act as First Supervisor for another research degree candidate but may act as a second supervisor or adviser.

#### Role of Adviser

- 5.14 In addition to the supervisors, an adviser or advisers may be proposed to contribute some specialised knowledge or a link with an external organisation.

### Supervision for Candidates Located Overseas

- 5.15 All research degrees candidates located overseas must receive face-to-face supervision on a regular basis. This should be achieved by the appointment of a local supervisor/adviser. Supervisors/advisers based overseas shall have access to a mentor/colleague at Anglia Ruskin who shall be the First Supervisor or a colleague appointed by the First Supervisor. Where the appointment of a local supervisor is not possible steps must be taken to provide the equivalent web-based face-to-face experience. The form and frequency of supervision must be specified at the point the supervisory team is approved. All supervisors must attend supervisory training, which will normally occur at Anglia Ruskin. However, for local supervisors located overseas, individual Faculties may, after consultation with the Doctoral School, organise training *in situ*.

### Maximum Number of Candidates per Supervisor

- 5.16 The Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee on approval of the research proposal shall ensure that individual supervisors are not overloaded, using the following allocation:

First Supervisor	Full-time student	1 FTE
	Part-time student	0.5 FTE
Second or subsequent supervisor	Full-time student	0.5 FTE
	Part-time student	0.25 FTE

- 5.17 Supervisors may normally supervise up to 8 full-time equivalent (FTE) research degree students, to a total of 15 research degree students (head count).

### Change in Supervision Arrangements

- 5.18 A proposal for a change in supervision arrangements shall be made to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee on the appropriate form.

### CPD

- 5.19 All existing supervisors are required to attend a supervisor CPD session at least once every two years.



## SECTION 6

### **UPGRADE OF REGISTRATION FROM MPhil to PhD OR CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION AS A CANDIDATE FOR PhD (DIRECT), MD (Res) OR FOR A PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE**

#### Purpose

- 6.1 This process is designed to support the research candidate and provide constructive criticism of the research presented. Ideally at this stage candidates will have presented either posters and/or papers at appropriate research conferences.
- 6.2 A candidate registered for the degree of MPhil only may apply to upgrade their registration to PhD.
- 6.3 A candidate registered for the degree of MProf only may apply to upgrade their registration to DProf.
- 6.4 A candidate who is registered for the degree of PhD and who is unable to complete the approved programme of work may, at any time prior to the submission of the thesis for examination, apply to Research Degrees Subcommittee for the registration to be transferred to that for MPhil.
- 6.5 A candidate who is registered for the degree of MD (Res) and who fails to meet the requirements of confirmation of registration will not be eligible for an award.

#### Timing of Application

##### **For students starting their programme in September 2015 onwards:**

- 6.6 PhD (direct), PhD via MPhil and MD (Res) candidates are required to apply for upgrade or confirmation of their registration between 9-18 months after starting their programme for full-time and between 15-24 months for part-time candidates.
- 6.7 Professional Doctorate candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.

##### **For students starting their programme prior to September 2015:**

- 6.8 PhD (direct) candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration normally no later than two years after starting their programme for full-time, candidates and no later than four years after starting their programme for part-time candidates.
- 6.9 PhD via MPhil candidates are required to apply for upgrade of registration normally no later than two years after starting their programme for full-time, candidates and no later than four years after starting their programme for part-time candidates.
- 6.10 MD (Res) candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration normally no later than one year after starting their programme for full-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates.

- 6.11 Professional Doctorate candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.

Submission Requirements

- 6.12 To apply for upgrade or confirmation of registration all candidates are required to submit to the appropriate Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee Secretary:

**For students starting their programme in September 2015 onwards:**

- (a) A report, of normally no more than 6,000 words, that evidences achievements and progress following the submission of the research proposal. The report should include:
- i. an introduction
  - ii. a narrative account of the research (including any research question(s), research problem(s), working hypotheses, etc.) incorporating where appropriate a critical review of the research already completed
  - iii. a section on methodology
  - iv. substantial examples of work towards draft sections of the thesis
  - v. a plan and timetable for the remainder of the work
- (b) Completed form RD4. A copy of the Turnitin Originality Report must be submitted with the RD4 form.

**For students starting their programme prior to September 2015:**

- (a) A report, of no more than 3,000 words, that evidences achievements and progress following the submission of the research proposal. The report should include:
- i. a statement of the likely original contribution to knowledge
  - ii. an outline of the approach to the research/methodology/conceptual framework
  - iii. a critical review of the research undertaken to date
  - iv. an indicative thesis structure
  - v. an action plan detailing the necessary steps to completion
- (b) two examples of doctoral level work in progress. Where there is more than a single contributor to a publication, a signed statement by the candidate indicating the extent of the contribution by other collaborating researchers with reference to the contribution to design, analysis, conduct of the research and writing up of the publication, should be provided. Collaborators are asked to endorse this statement. These examples could take the form of extracts from publications or two draft chapters, or other material relevant to the discipline.
- (c) completed form RD4. A copy of the Turnitin Originality Report must be submitted with the RD4 form.

### Process

6.13 There are two stages in the process:

- a) a consideration of the written submission by the review panel
- b) an oral presentation by the candidate to the review panel followed by a question and answer session

6.14 The panel will reach a view on the application at the end of the two stage process.

### Panel

6.15 The report is considered by a panel of not fewer than three academics who have received appropriate staff development. At least one member of the panel shall have substantial knowledge in the subject area. All members of the panel must be independent of the student and supervisors. They will all individually have experience of supervising at doctoral level.

6.16 If there is no one within Anglia Ruskin University with the necessary knowledge and expertise an external panel member must be sought. The Chair of the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee shall be responsible for determining whether or not an external panel member is required.

6.17 The panel will consider the report and presentation for evidence that:

- (a) the candidate's research is developing into an appropriate doctoral research topic of sufficient scope and depth
- (b) the candidate has identified the context of the research and how it relates to other work in the discipline
- (c) the candidate is demonstrating independent critical thinking
- (d) the candidate is demonstrating that the research will lead to a significant contribution to knowledge in the discipline
- (e) the candidate is acquiring appropriate research skills and techniques
- (f) the candidate has provided a realistic programme of future activities

### Exclusions from the panel

6.18 A relative/partner of the candidate or supervisors shall not be permitted to be appointed as a member of the panel.

6.19 A candidate for a postgraduate research degree, except those submitting for a PhD by Published Work, shall be ineligible to act as a panel member.

## Presentation

- 6.20 Candidates make a 15 minute presentation of their work in progress to the review panel. The style of presentation is at the candidate's discretion. The presentation should cover the following:
- a) a brief résumé of the candidate's achievements in their research to date
  - b) the candidate's plan for their research, together with a timescale, for achieving their doctorate
  - c) justification that the research is at doctoral level

The panel members will then put any questions that they have to the candidate.

The candidate's performance in the oral presentation, and the subsequent question and answer session, will form part of the overall consideration of the application by the panel.

- 6.21 Up to two members of the supervisory team may be invited to attend the oral presentation, **as observers only and subject to the agreement of the candidate.**

## Institutional Approval

- 6.22 The review panel provides a report on the application for consideration by Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 6.23 The Research Degrees Subcommittee will consider form RD4 and the written report of the panel as recorded on form RD13, and evidence of the candidate's performance in the oral presentation as recorded on form RD13A.
- 6.24 In considering an application for upgrade/confirmation of registration, the Research Degrees Subcommittee will ensure that the review panel has followed due process.

## Unsuccessful Applications for upgrade/confirmation of registration

- 6.25 If a candidate fails to make a successful application for upgrade/confirmation of registration they are given one further opportunity to revise the application. The revised application must be submitted between 2-4 months (for full-time candidates) and between 4-6 months (for part-time candidates) after the panel meeting which considered the initial application. In exceptional, and evidenced, circumstances these time limits may be extended by up to 2 further months by Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 6.26 If following resubmission the candidate's revised application for upgrade/confirmation of registration is not approved, the candidate will:
- if enrolled on the PhD (direct) be transferred to MPhil and be subject to the applicable registration maxima
  - if enrolled on the PhD via MPhil, remain on the MPhil and be subject to the applicable registration maxima
  - if enrolled on a professional doctorate be transferred to MProf and be subject to the applicable registration maxima
  - if enrolled on the MD (Res) be discontinued
- 6.27 If a candidate fails to submit the required documentation and/or attend the presentation meeting they will be notified of a new review date. This will be within two months of the original deadline.

6.28 If a candidate fails to submit the required documentation and/or attend the rescheduled presentation meeting the panel chair will notify Research Degrees Subcommittee of this event and recommended that the student is discontinued.

## **SECTION 7**

### **WRITE UP STATUS**

7.1 Write Up status is available to candidates for the awards of MPhil, PhD, MD (Res), MProf and Professional Doctorate (excluding PhD by Published Work). It is not compulsory for candidates to enter Write Up status.

#### Criteria to be met in order to enter Write Up status

7.2 For the initial 12 months of Write Up status candidates apply to Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee confirming that:

- a) they have completed the minimum period of registration as set out in Section 4 of the Research Degrees Regulations
- b) they have completed their research analysis including all field and laboratory work (as appropriate)
- c) they will not need access to university facilities such as laboratories, provision of a room or a desk. (N.B. On entering Write Up status candidate's access to services are limited to the Library, IT facilities and the supervisory team.)
- d) they have completed all compulsory researcher development activity and attended any compulsory workshops
- e) they have submitted to their First Supervisor a draft of their thesis
- f) it is viable for their thesis to be submitted within 12 months

7.3 Candidates wishing to enter Write Up status should discuss with their supervisory team the viability of submitting their thesis for examination within the permitted 12 months before they submit their application.

7.4 Retrospective requests for approval to enter Write Up status will not be considered.

7.5 Candidates submitting for a doctorate must have successfully completed upgrade/confirmation of registration before entering Write Up status.

### Write Up Status Entry Points

- 7.6 Candidates may enter Write Up status at two points per year, determined by their month of entry (registration), as follows:

*For candidates registering **prior** to September 2015:*

Month of entry (registration)	Month of entry to Writing Up stage	Thesis submission deadline
September	September	31 August
	January	31 January
October	October	30 September
	March	28 February
November	November	31 October
	April	31 March
January	January	31 January
	June	31 May
February	February	31 January
	July	30 June
April	April	31 March
	September	31 August
May	May	30 April
	October	30 September
June	June	31 May
	November	31 October
July	July	30 June
	December	30 November

*For candidates registering **after** September 2015:*

Month of entry (registration)	Month of entry to Writing Up stage	Thesis submission deadline
September	September	31 August
	January	31 January
January	January	31 January
	June	31 May
April	April	31 March
	September	31 August
June	June	31 May
	November	31 October

### Period for which Write Up status may be held

- 7.7 Both full-time and part-time candidates may remain in Write Up status for an initial period of 12 months.
- 7.8 Extensions to the initial Write Up status period are permitted only where there are documented, exceptional, and **unforeseen** circumstances which prevented submission of the thesis for examination.
- 7.9 Candidates may request a second and final Write Up status period of up to 12 months. This request will be considered by Research Degrees Subcommittee.

- 7.10 Candidates who have not submitted their thesis for examination are discontinued at the end of the second 12 month Write Up status period.
- 7.11 The maximum Write Up status period is 24 months.
- 7.12 Where any student visa holder is considering applying for Write Up status they should seek advice from an International Student Adviser on the likely impact to their immigration status in the UK.



## **SECTION 8**

### **THE THESIS**

#### Submission of the thesis in English

- 8.1 The thesis shall be presented in English. Exceptionally, and with the approval of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, the thesis may be presented in a language other than English (see paragraph 3.22). Where a thesis is presented in a language other than English, a summary in English of a maximum of 1,000 words shall be included in the thesis.

#### The Abstract

- 8.2 There shall be an abstract of approximately 300 words on a single page bound into the thesis. The abstract should be single line spaced. The abstract should state the nature and scope of the work undertaken and of the contribution to knowledge in the discipline. The abstract should normally contain four separate paragraphs which shall clearly state:-
- what was investigated and why
  - how the topic was investigated
  - what was found
  - what conclusions were drawn from the evidence

Candidates shall note, however, that there are other models of abstract writing that reflect the specific conventions of individual disciplines.

The Abstract shall conform to the specification at Annex 2.

Immediately after but on the same page as the abstract, the candidate shall identify three to six key words.

#### Acknowledgements

- 8.3 The candidate should acknowledge any funding or other support received whilst undertaking their research.

#### Source Material – Referencing

- 8.4 All sources referred to in the thesis must be included in the reference list. In some subjects a bibliography may be appropriate.
- 8.5 Anglia Ruskin University would expect candidates to normally use the Harvard Referencing System (or other accepted methods of referencing appropriate to the discipline) for citations and referencing throughout the thesis. However, it is recognised that different disciplines have different conventions. A Guide to the Harvard System of Referencing is available at the following web address:  
<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>.

#### Presentation of Collaborative Research

- 8.6 Where a candidate's research programme is part of a collaborative group project, the thesis shall indicate clearly each candidate's individual contribution and the extent of the collaboration.

### Inclusion of Published Work

- 8.7 The candidate shall be free to publish material in advance of the thesis but reference shall be made in the thesis to any such work.<sup>1</sup>

### Copyright

- 8.8 Copyright in theses is normally held by the candidate unless an agreement has been made to transfer it, for example to a sponsor.
- 8.9 . When a candidate submits a thesis for examination they are required to complete a Thesis Deposit Agreement form. By signing this form they agree that a digital copy of the thesis will be lodged in ARRO (Anglia Ruskin Research Online), in the library of any collaborating institution and in the British Library's collection of UK theses, EthOS.
- 8.10 When a candidate submits a thesis they can request that it is placed under limited access. This may be because of the commercially sensitive or confidential material it contains, or because of the copyright material it contains.
- 8.11 If a candidate includes copyright material belonging to someone else (3rd party copyright material), in their thesis they will need to assess if permission to include this in the digital version of the thesis is necessary (see separate guidance provided by the Library/Doctoral School).
- 8.12 If a candidate intends to include material in their thesis they have already published they must check if the publisher will permit this.

### Maximum Word Limits

- 8.13 The text of the thesis should not exceed the following length:
- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| for an MPhil in Science, Engineering                        | 30,000 words |
| for an MPhil in Arts, Health, Social Sciences and Education | 60,000 words |
| for a PhD in Science, Engineering                           | 60,000 words |
| for a PhD in Arts, Health, Social Sciences and Education    | 80,000 words |
| for an MD by Research                                       | 50,000 words |
| for a Professional Masters                                  | 40,000 words |
| for a Professional Doctorate                                | 60,000 words |

The word lengths shown here for Professional Masters and Professional Doctorate are for those programmes operating under the regulations approved by Senate in June 2016 (see Section C (a)). Students on programmes operating under the regulations agreed by Senate prior to June 2016 should consult Section C (b) for the relevant word lengths.

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<sup>1</sup> It is acceptable to self-reference elsewhere in the thesis if a published article explores a topic in more detail than is shown in the thesis and it is acceptable to provide a list of published work. It is only the justification of one's own methods using publications that contain one's own methods that we will not accept.

- 8.14 The abstract, main text, tables and quotations should be included in the maximum word length. Appendices, reference lists and footnotes should not be included in the maximum word length.
- 8.15 If appropriate to the field of study, and subject to approval by the Faculty Director of Postgraduate Research Students at the start of the Programme, a candidate may submit, for practice based research a portfolio (the creative work) of original artistic or technological work undertaken during his/her period of registration as part of a thesis. The creative work may take the form of, for example, objects, images, films, creative writing, performances, musical compositions, webpages or software, but must be documented or recorded in the portfolio by means appropriate for the purposes of examination. Data not stored in a digital format will be housed by the faculty in a secure location and available to be shared on request and in a timely manner. The submission must include written commentary on the creative work that sets it in its relevant theoretical, historical, critical, or technical context. For such creative work, the written commentary must be no longer than:
- for an MPhil      20,000 words
- for a PhD         40,000 words.
- 8.16 The nature of the submission (whether written thesis or creative work accompanied by a commentary) should be specified in the research proposal and also in the application for upgrade/confirmation of registration.

#### Formal Requirements for the Thesis

- 8.17 Two copies of the thesis shall normally be submitted in digital form – one in Word and one in PDF/A<sup>2</sup> format. These copies must be identical. The PDF/A version is considered to be the final submitted version of the thesis. If the thesis falls under regulation 8.15, the creative element may be submitted in portfolio or in digital format, as befits the material. The critical commentary must be submitted in digital format.
- 8.18 The examiners may request a printed copy of the thesis, which must comply with the requirements detailed in 8.19 and 8.20. The printed copy of the theses should be submitted for examination in a temporary bound form such as perfect-binding (perfect-binding is a method of binding single pages by gluing them together on the spine of the document), which is sufficiently secure to ensure that pages cannot be added or removed. A printed thesis submitted for examination in perfect-binding format must be identical in content to the digital version.

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<sup>2</sup> PDF/A is a version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) specialised for the digital preservation of electronic documents. PDF/A differs from standard PDF in that it removes from the document those features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.19 The following requirements shall be adhered to in the format of all submitted thesis.

- (a) The thesis shall normally be in A4 format; the Research Degrees Subcommittee may give permission for a thesis to be submitted in another format where it is satisfied that the contents of the thesis can be better expressed in that format. Special arrangements may be needed for those candidates with a declared disability and may be made in accordance with the Summary of Reasonable Adjustments.
- (b) The size of character used in the main text, including displayed matter and notes, shall be Arial 11 or Times New Roman 12 font unless Research Degrees Subcommittee has given permission for another font to be used.
- (c) Double or one-and-a-half spacing shall be used in the typescript except for the abstract, indented quotations and footnotes where single spacing may be used
- (d) Pages shall be numbered consecutively through the main text including photographs and/or diagrams included as whole pages
- (e) The title page shall follow both the content and layout given in the specimen title page in Annex 2
- (f) Between the title page and the first page of text a candidate must include
  1. an acknowledgements page, numbered with Roman numerals as (i)
  2. the abstract, numbered page as (ii)
  3. a Table of Contents, whose pages are numbered with Roman numerals sequentially from (iii)
  4. the Table of Contents should show those parts and/or chapters and sections into which the work is divided. This should be followed by lists, with their respective page numbers, of tables and other appropriate supporting details in the order shown below:

List of Diagrams	)	
List of Figures	)	
List of Tables	)	Numbered
Notation	)	sequentially
Chronology of Events	)	in Roman
Supplementary materials	)	numerals
References	)	
List of Appendices	)	
  5. copyright declaration
- (g) start of main text
- (h) following the main text - references, bibliography and appendices.

- 8.20 Where a printed copy is requested by the examiners, the following additional requirements shall be adhered to in the format of the submitted thesis:
- (a) Copies of the thesis shall be presented in a permanent and legible form either in typescript or print.
  - (b) The thesis shall be printed on one side of the page only; the paper shall be white and within the range 70 g/m<sup>2</sup> to 100 g/m<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) The margin at the left-hand edge of the page shall not be less than 40mm; other margins shall not be less than 15mm.

Dissemination of Research Findings

- 8.21 Following examination and the incorporation of any amendments which the examiners require, the Anglia Ruskin University Institutional Repository copy shall be as follows:
- (a) Submitted in a digital format, within one month of confirmation of the award.
  - (b) Accompanied by the completed Thesis Deposit Agreement Form which confirms your agreement to have your thesis published with the Institutional Repository (ARRO) and for the thesis to be harvested from ARRO by the British Library for inclusion in their British universities theses database, EThOS (Electronic Theses Online Service)
- 8.22 Once the thesis is deposited digitally the copyright agreement in the Thesis Deposit Agreement Form will come into effect.

## **SECTION 9**

### **THE CANDIDATE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE EXAMINATION**

#### General

- 9.1 The Doctoral School of Anglia Ruskin University will make known to the candidate the procedure to be followed for the submission of the thesis (including the number of copies to be submitted for the examination) and any conditions to be satisfied before the candidate may be considered eligible for the examination.
- 9.2 Where the external examiner has requested a hard copy of the thesis, the candidate shall ensure that copies of the thesis are submitted for each examiner and the chair of the oral examination to the Doctoral School before the expiry of the registration period.

#### Candidate's Exclusion from the Examination Arrangements

- 9.3 The candidate shall take no part in the arrangement of the examination and shall have no formal contact with the external examiner(s) between the appointment of the examiners and the submission of the final version of the thesis following examination.

#### Eligibility for Examination

- 9.4 The candidate shall satisfy any conditions of eligibility for examination required by the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

#### Required Format for the Thesis at Examination

- 9.5 The candidate shall ensure that the format and presentation of the thesis, as submitted for examination, is in accordance with the requirements of Anglia Ruskin University's regulations.

#### Creative Work

- 9.6 In cases where the research degree involves creative work in addition to the written commentary, the application for approval of the examination arrangements shall contain a statement from the candidate of the scope and nature of the creative work and advice of the proposed method of assessment. All candidates are required to have a *viva voce* examination in addition to an examination of their creative work.

#### Declaration by Candidate

- 9.7 The candidate shall confirm, through the completion of a declaration form, that the thesis has not been submitted for a comparable academic award. The candidate shall not be precluded from incorporating in the thesis, covering a wider field, work which has already been submitted for a degree or comparable award, provided that it is indicated, on the declaration form and also in the thesis, which work has been so incorporated. Candidates for the degree of PhD by Published Work may incorporate publications which have already been submitted for a degree or comparable award, provided they are listed on the declaration form and there is evidence within the thesis of additional work.

### Submission of Thesis

- 9.8 Candidates shall be responsible for deciding whether to submit the thesis for examination. This decision should take account of the opinion of the supervisory team. The supervisory team's opinion is advisory only. An opinion that the thesis is ready for submission must not be taken as a guarantee that a degree will be awarded and a decision to award a degree rests wholly with the examining team. The supervisor has the right to record onto the RD9 form that they do not support submission of the thesis in its current form.

### Mitigating Circumstances

- 9.9 The candidate shall bring any mitigating circumstances which may have affected his/her research work to the attention of the examiners by writing to the Secretary of the Research Degrees Subcommittee prior to the oral examination. A statement of mitigating circumstances shall be supported by appropriate evidence. Mitigating circumstances which could have been brought to the attention of the examiners prior to the oral examination will only very exceptionally be admitted later as grounds for a review.

### Where the Thesis is Confidential (see also paragraphs 3.33-3.35)

- 9.10 Where Anglia Ruskin University's Research Degrees Subcommittee has approved a candidate's request for confidentiality of the thesis, the examiners and the chair are required to sign a Confidentiality Agreement and to return copies of the thesis to the candidate at the conclusion of the examination. These obligations do not apply to any information which is public knowledge at the time of its disclosure.

### The Viva Voce Examination

- 9.11 Candidates are required to attend the *viva voce* examination on the agreed date unless there are exceptional and unforeseen circumstances which prevent attendance.
- 9.12 The *viva voce* examination must take place within 3 calendar months of the examiners receiving the thesis.
- 9.13 Candidates are permitted to give a presentation as part of their *viva voce* examination by prior agreement with the examiners. Candidates must make this request to the Doctoral School at least 10 working days' before the scheduled date for the *viva*.

## **SECTION 10**

### **THE EXAMINERS**

#### Appointment of the Examiners

- 10.1 Following a candidate's successful progression or confirmation of candidature, the examiners should be proposed by the supervisory team, in consultation with the candidate.

#### Size and Composition of Examining Team

- 10.2 A candidate shall normally be examined by one external and one internal examiner or two external examiners where no suitable internal examiner is available. Where more than two examiners are appointed, the majority are generally from outside Anglia Ruskin University.
- 10.3 Where the candidate is a member of staff of Anglia Ruskin University, or an associate college, there shall be two external examiners and no internal examiner.
- 10.4 A student employed on an hourly-paid, fixed term, contract will not be regarded as a member of staff in this respect. However, a student employed on a fractional FTE, fixed term, contract will be regarded as a member of staff. In the latter case the student will continue to be considered a member of staff in this regard for 12 months after the end of the contract.
- 10.5 Where the candidate is being examined for a Doctor of Medicine by Research, one examiner must be an appropriately qualified medical practitioner.

#### External Examiners

- 10.6 An external examiner shall be independent of Anglia Ruskin University, an Associate College and of the collaborating establishment and shall not have acted previously as the candidate's supervisor or adviser. Former members of staff and former doctoral candidates of Anglia Ruskin University shall not be approved as external examiners until three years after the termination of their employment or date of their award with Anglia Ruskin University.
- 10.7 A research student's external supervisor is not eligible to act as an external examiner for any research students during the term of their appointment as external supervisor or for three years after the end of their period of appointment.
- 10.8 As a minimum, one of the external examiners shall previously have examined at least one postgraduate research degree candidate.

#### Internal Examiners

- 10.9 An internal examiner shall be defined as an examiner who is:
- (a) a member of staff of Anglia Ruskin University or Associate College or
  - (b) a member of staff of the candidate's collaborating establishment



### Examiners' Experience

- 10.10 Examiners shall normally possess a doctorate, be experienced in research in the general area of the candidate's thesis and, where practicable, have experience as a specialist in the topic(s) to be examined.
- 10.11 The examining team shall have substantial experience of examining research degree candidates at, or above, the level of the award for which they have been appointed to examine (i.e. normally have examined at least three research degree candidates, one of which must have been for a UK Higher Education Institution). In addition each examiner shall normally have supervisory experience and normally one examiner will have supervised to completion at, or above, the level of award for which they have been appointed to examine.
- 10.12 In an examination for a Professional Doctorate normally at least one member of the examining team shall have experience of examining Professional Doctorate candidates.
- 10.13 In an examination for a Doctor of Medicine by Research the examining team shall have experience of examining Doctor of Medicine candidates (i.e. normally have examined at least one Doctor of Medicine candidate), and one examiner must be an appropriately qualified medical practitioner.

### Exclusion from Examining Teams

- 10.14 No candidate for a research degree within Anglia Ruskin University or Associate Colleges shall act as an examiner.
- 10.15 No current or past supervisor can be appointed as an examiner for that candidate.
- 10.16 No relative of the candidate or of the members of the supervisory team can be appointed as an examiner for that candidate.
- 10.17 The Research Degrees Subcommittee shall ensure that the same external examiner is not approved so frequently that the examiner's familiarity with the department might prejudice objective judgement. Normally, an external examiner shall examine no more than three research degree candidates over a period of three years at Anglia Ruskin University.
- 10.18 Where two external examiners are required to be appointed for an individual candidate they may not be employed by the same institution.

### Approval of Appointment of Examiners

- 10.19 The appointment of examiners shall be approved by the Research Degrees Subcommittee, or, in exceptional circumstances, the Chair acting on behalf of the Research Degrees Subcommittee.
- 10.20 Once approved the examiners are appointed for a period of 12 calendar months. If the viva has not taken place by the end of this period the examiners must be re-appointed.

### Fees and Expenses for External Examiners

- 10.21 Anglia Ruskin University shall determine and pay the fees and reasonable expenses of the examiners.

## **SECTION 11**

### **FIRST EXAMINATION**

#### General

- 11.1 The examination for the MPhil, PhD and MD (Res) shall have two stages: firstly the submission and preliminary assessment of the thesis and secondly its defence by oral or approved alternative examination.
- 11.2 The examination for a Professional Doctorate or Professional Masters shall have three stages: first passing the taught modules which constitute Stage 1 of this award and which have to be passed before a candidate may progress to Stage 2; secondly in Stage 2, the submission and preliminary assessment of the thesis and, thirdly, its defence by oral examination or other approved alternative examination.
- 11.3 The Research Degrees Subcommittee shall ensure that all examinations are conducted, and the recommendations of the examiners are presented, wholly in accordance with Anglia Ruskin University's regulations. In any instance where the Research Degrees Subcommittee is made aware of failure to comply with all the procedures of the examination process, it may declare the examination null and void and appoint new examiners.
- 11.4 The Research Degrees Subcommittee (or its Chair, acting on behalf of the Committee) shall make a decision on the reports and recommendation(s) of the examiners in respect of the candidate. The power to confer the degree shall rest with the Research Degrees Subcommittee, acting on behalf of the Senate of Anglia Ruskin University.

#### Disability

- 11.5 Special arrangements may be needed for those candidates with a declared disability and may be made in accordance with the Summary of Reasonable Adjustments.

#### Posthumous Awards

- 11.6 The degree of Professional Masters, MPhil, PhD, MD (Res) or a Professional Doctorate may be awarded posthumously on the basis of a thesis completed by a candidate who is ready for submission for examination. In such cases the Research Degrees Subcommittee shall seek evidence that the candidate would have been likely to have been successful had the oral examination taken place.

### Assessment Criteria for Research Degrees

- 11.7 The following criteria are normally used in assessing research degrees candidates and their research and examiners will need to be satisfied that:
- (a) the candidate has identified a suitable postgraduate research topic and successfully completed a programme of training in research techniques and methodology (including, where appropriate, conformity with the ethics, legal and safety requirements, as set out by Anglia Ruskin University);
  - (b) the candidate has a satisfactory knowledge of the background literature and is able to relate the project to existing scholarship and research in the field;
  - (c) the thesis is the candidate's own work and is presented in a satisfactory manner (grammar, punctuation, spelling, clarity of expression, logical argument and appropriate language);
  - (d) the thesis contains technical apparatus (abstract, preface and acknowledgements, footnotes, references, appendices, statistical tables, diagrams, illustrations, bibliography) set out according to the conventions of the field of study;
  - (e) the **MPhil thesis** displays appropriate evidence of:
    - originality and independent critical judgement
    - and
    - demonstrates an understanding of research methods appropriate to the chosen field
  - (f) the **PhD thesis** displays appropriate evidence of:
    - originality and independent critical judgement
    - and
    - constitutes a contribution to subject knowledge in the research field
  - (g) the detailed assessment criteria for the award of the Doctor of Medicine by Research are set out in Part E of these Regulations.
  - (h) the detailed assessment criteria for the awards of the Professional Doctorate, Professional Masters and Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research are set out in Part C of these Regulations.

### Preliminary Assessment of the Thesis

- 11.8 The Doctoral School, shall send a copy of the thesis to each examiner normally one to three months prior to the date of the viva, together with the examiner's preliminary report form (Form RD6 or RD7) and Anglia Ruskin University's Research Degrees Regulations and the Notes of Guidance for Examiners, and ensure that the examiners are properly briefed as to their duties.

- 11.9 Each examiner will read the thesis and provide an independent preliminary report on it to the Research Degrees Subcommittee before any oral or alternative form of examination is held. In completing the preliminary report, each examiner shall consider whether the thesis provisionally satisfies the requirements of the degree (as set out in paragraph 11.7) and where possible shall make an appropriate provisional recommendation subject to the outcome of an oral examination.
- 11.10 The Doctoral School shall ensure that normally all examiners have completed and returned their preliminary reports to Anglia Ruskin University at least ten working days before the oral examination takes place.
- 11.11 The Doctoral School shall send each examiner a copy of the examiners' preliminary reports before the examination date. Examiners are required to keep the preliminary reports confidential and any breach of confidentiality will invalidate the examination.

#### Dispensing with the Oral Examination

- 11.12 Where all the examiners are independently of the opinion that the thesis is so unsatisfactory that no useful purpose would be served by conducting an oral examination the Research Degrees Subcommittee shall dispense with the oral examination and refer the thesis for further work. In such cases the examiners shall provide the Research Degrees Subcommittee with written guidance for the candidate concerning the deficiencies of the thesis.
- 11.13 The resubmission will count as a re-examination and be treated under the provisions of Section 14.
- 11.14 The examiners shall not recommend that a candidate fail outright (see paragraph 11.26 (k)) without holding an oral examination.
- 11.15 The Research Degrees Subcommittee will normally agree that the resubmitted thesis should be submitted within twelve months.

#### Outright Failure

- 11.16 Where the Research Degrees Subcommittee decides at the oral examination that the degree be not awarded and that no re-examination be permitted, the examiners shall prepare an agreed statement of the deficiencies of the thesis and the reason for their recommendation, which shall be forwarded to the candidate by the Secretary to the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

#### The Oral Examination

- 11.17 It is the responsibility of the Doctoral School to make all the necessary arrangements for the oral examination. This will include agreeing the date of the oral examination and notifying the candidate, examiners, supervisors and independent Chair in writing of the date and the arrangements for the oral examination.
- 11.18 The oral examination shall normally be conducted within three months from the date of receipt of the thesis by the examiners. The oral examination shall not normally be arranged less than one month from the date of receipt of the thesis by the examiners in order to give the examiners a reasonable period in which to assess the work.

- 11.19 The oral examination shall normally be held in the UK (on University or Associate College premises). In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances the Research Degrees Subcommittee may give approval for the examination to take place elsewhere or abroad or by video conference.
- 11.20 Up to two members of the supervisory team (possibly for training purposes) and the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee may, with the consent of the candidate, attend the oral examination as observers, but shall withdraw prior to the deliberations of the examiners on the outcome of the examination. It is not permissible for any other persons to be present in the examination room, subject to the provisions of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001.
- 11.21 At the end of the examination the candidate and supervisors will leave the room. The examiners or the Chair may however invite them back to clarify any outstanding issues arising from the examination.

#### The Role of the Chair

- 11.22 Each examination shall be chaired by an independent Chair who has attended the appropriate training. This training is provided to ensure that Chairs carry out their role rigorously, fairly, reliably and consistently. The Chair shall have a neutral role in the assessment process and take no part in the actual assessment of the thesis. The Chair will advise the examiners and/or the candidate on Anglia Ruskin University's regulations, procedures, policy and practice.

#### Examiners' Pre Meeting

- 11.23 Prior to the examination the examiners will meet with the independent Chair to consider their preliminary reports and the candidate's thesis. The examiners will also clarify the issues which they collectively, or independently, wish to raise with the candidate. The examiners should also agree the structure of their questioning and the time frame in which they hope to complete the oral examination.

#### Examiners' Action following the Examination

- 11.24 Following the oral examination the examiners shall, where they are in agreement, submit to the Doctoral School a joint report and recommendation relating to the award of the degree within 10 working days.
- 11.25 The preliminary reports and joint recommendation of the examiners shall together provide sufficiently detailed comments on the scope and quality of the work to enable the Research Degrees Subcommittee to satisfy itself that the recommendation chosen in paragraph 11.26 is correct. Where the examiners are not in agreement, separate reports and recommendations shall be submitted.

### Recommendations Available to the Examiners

11.26 Following the completion of the oral or approved alternative examination the examiners may recommend that:

- (a) the candidate be awarded the degree
- (b) the candidate be awarded the degree subject to minor amendments being made to the thesis (see paragraphs 11.28 to 11.30)
- (c) the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree and be re-examined with an oral examination
- (d) the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree and be re-examined without an oral examination
- (e) in the case of a PhD examination, the candidate be awarded the degree of MPhil subject to the presentation of the thesis amended to the satisfaction of the examiners and which must meet the criteria for the award of MPhil as set out in paragraph 11.7(e)
- (f) in the case of a DProf examination, the candidate be awarded the degree of MProf subject to the presentation of the thesis amended to the satisfaction of the examiners and which must meet the criteria for the award of MProf as set out in section C(b), paragraphs 10.9 to 10.17
- (g) in the case of a PhD examination, the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree of MPhil with an oral examination
- (h) in the case of a DProf examination, the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree of MProf with an oral examination
- (i) in the case of a PhD examination, the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree of MPhil without an oral examination
- (j) in the case of a DProf examination, the candidate be permitted to re-submit for the degree of MProf without an oral examination
- (k) the candidate be not awarded the degree and be not permitted to be re-examined (see paragraph 11.32).

11.27 The examiners shall inform the candidate of their recommendations to the Research Degrees Subcommittee but must make it clear that the final decision rests with the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

### Minor Amendments to the Thesis

11.28 Where the examiners are satisfied that the candidate has in general reached the standard required for the degree, but consider that the candidate's thesis requires additional explanatory information or some minor amendments and corrections not so substantial as to call for the submission of a revised thesis, they may recommend that the degree be awarded subject to the candidate amending the thesis to the satisfaction of the internal and/or the external examiner(s) (paragraph 11.26(b)). They shall indicate to the candidate in writing what amendments and corrections are required within ten working days of the oral examination.

- 11.29 The candidate should be able to undertake minor amendments with minimal supervision. Minor corrections that are permissible include typographical errors, minor amendments and/or replacement of, or additions to the text, references or diagrams. Other more extensive corrections may be made as long as they do not require significant (as defined by the examiners) re-working or re-interpretation of the intellectual content of the thesis.
- 11.30 Where minor amendments are required (as in paragraph 11.26(b), (e) and (f) above) the candidate must normally submit the corrected thesis within a maximum of six months from the date the examiners' feedback is sent to the candidate. The Research Degrees Subcommittee may, where there are exceptional reasons, approve an extension of this period. When candidates submit the corrected thesis they shall attach a summary of the changes they have made identifying where the changes can be found in the corrected thesis.

#### Other Amendments to the Thesis

- 11.31 For outcomes (c) – (j) the candidate must submit the amended thesis within a maximum of twelve months from the date the examiners' feedback is sent to them.

#### Failure at First Examination

- 11.32 Where the Research Degrees Subcommittee decides that the degree be not awarded and that no re-examination be permitted, the examiners shall prepare an agreed statement of the deficiencies of the thesis and the reason for their recommendation, which shall be forwarded to the candidate by the Secretary to the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

#### Where Recommendations are not Unanimous

- 11.33 Where the examiners' recommendations are not unanimous, the Faculty is invited to nominate an additional external examiner to consider the thesis. This nomination is considered by the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee for approval by Chair's action.
- 11.34 Where an additional external examiner is appointed under paragraph 11.33, they shall prepare an independent report on the basis of the thesis and a further oral examination. That examiner will not be informed of the recommendations of the other examiners. The report from the additional examiner is considered by the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee or the full Committee itself.

#### Conferment of the Award

- 11.35 The Research Degrees Subcommittee (or the Chair acting on behalf of the Subcommittee) shall receive the recommendations of the examiners and shall, if appropriate, endorse the decision to confer the award. The power to confer or not confer the award shall rest with the Research Degrees Subcommittee acting on behalf of the Research Committee and the Senate of Anglia Ruskin University.

#### Research Degree Certificates

- 11.36 Conferment of an award is withheld from any student who has not fulfilled a legitimate requirement of Anglia Ruskin University, including the settlement of any outstanding debt to Anglia Ruskin University or to an Associate College at which the student has studied in partial or complete fulfilment of the academic requirements of the course for which the student is registered.

11.37 Anglia Ruskin University provides an award certificate to each student on whom it confers an award.

11.38 Such certificates record:

- the name of Anglia Ruskin University;
- the full name of the student as entered on Anglia Ruskin University's Student Record System. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that his/her name is correctly entered;
- the award title as defined in the Research Degrees Regulations;
- the month and year that the Research Degrees Subcommittee, or Chair, endorses the recommendation to confer the award;
- subject to the prior approval of the Senate, the name of any Associate College with whom Anglia Ruskin University has collaborated in relation to the named award; *[NB: this currently does not apply to any Associate College].*

11.39 The certificate bears the signature of the Vice-Chancellor.

11.40 The Director of the Academic Office (or nominee) is responsible for the provision of all award certificates, prepared in secure conditions and in a format designed to minimise the risk of forgery.

11.41 The Director of the Academic Office (or nominee) is also responsible for maintaining a record of the names of all recipients of an academic award conferred by Anglia Ruskin University.

11.42 Following the conferment of the award the candidate is invited by the Assessment Unit in the Academic Office to attend a graduation ceremony. Certificates are sent out to candidates from the Assessment Unit in the Academic Office by Recorded Delivery.

#### Retracting an Anglia Ruskin Award after Conferment

11.43 On rare occasions, it may become apparent that an Anglia Ruskin award has been conferred on a student who was admitted to Anglia Ruskin University on the basis of forged documents, or who has gained an unfair advantage in some other way. Alternatively, some other form of deception has occurred.

11.44 In the event that such evidence comes to light, the matter is referred to the Secretary and Clerk who considers the evidence and is responsible for determining whether a case exists against the holder of the award. Where the Secretary and Clerk considers there to be insufficient evidence, the matter is dropped and no further action is taken.

11.45 If the Secretary and Clerk considers that a case does exist, he/she discusses the matter with the Vice-Chancellor who together determine the most appropriate action to take. In reaching this decision, the Vice-Chancellor and Secretary & Clerk consider the need to maintain the integrity and reputation of Anglia Ruskin's awards and academic standards. Such action can include the retraction of any or all awards already conferred by Anglia Ruskin and formal notification of such action to relevant Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies. The Director of the Academic Office maintains a record of such decisions and these are reported to the next scheduled meeting of the Senate.



## SECTION 12

### RE-EXAMINATION

#### Requirements for Re-examination

- 12.1 One re-examination may be permitted by the Research Degrees Subcommittee, subject to the following requirements:
- (a) a candidate who fails to satisfy the examiners at the first examination may, on the recommendation of the examiners and with the approval of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, be permitted to revise the thesis and be re-examined.
  - (b) the examiners shall provide the candidate, through the Research Degrees Subcommittee, with written guidance on the deficiencies of the first submission. It is important that the examiners in their written guidance explicitly identify:
    - i. the deficiencies of the thesis
    - ii. the remedial action required (including any additional research or experimental work)
    - iii. the agreed timescale to carry out this work (up to 12 months)
- Examiners cannot require candidates to undertake any additional work which was not specified in their written guidance. Anglia Ruskin University reserves the right to seek further details on the remedial action, if this is deemed necessary.
- (c) the candidate shall submit for re-examination within the period of one calendar year from the date the examiners' feedback is sent to the candidate. Where the Research Degrees Subcommittee has dispensed with the oral examination the resubmission of the thesis shall take place within one calendar year of the date of this dispensation (see paragraph 11.12). The Research Degrees Subcommittee may, where there are good reasons, approve an extension of the resubmission period.
  - (d) When candidates resubmit their thesis they shall attach a summary of the changes they have made identifying where the changes can be found in the resubmitted thesis.
- 12.2 Candidates who are required to resubmit their thesis must produce an action plan to address the issues raised by the examiners.
- 12.3 The Research Degrees Subcommittee may require that an additional external examiner be appointed for the re-examination.
- 12.4 The submission of the revised thesis, the re-examination process and the approval of the examiners recommendations shall be conducted in accordance with the timescales and requirements of the first examination (section 13).
- 12.5 Examiners are required to submit their recommendations on the resubmitted thesis within four to six weeks of receiving it.
- 12.6 Where the examiners' recommendations are not unanimous at the resubmission stage, the reports are shared with each examiner and the examining team is asked to consult and to make every effort to provide a joint recommendation to the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

### Where the Examiners are unable to reach a Joint Recommendation

- 12.7 Where the examiners' recommendations are not unanimous, the Faculty is invited to nominate an additional external examiner to consider the thesis. This nomination is considered by the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee for approval by Chair's action.
- 12.8 Where an additional external examiner is appointed under paragraph 12.7, they shall prepare an independent report on the basis of the resubmitted thesis and a further oral examination. That examiner will not be informed of the recommendations of the other examiners. The report from the additional examiner is considered by the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee or the full Subcommittee.

### Forms of Re-examination

- 12.9 There are six forms of re-examination:
- (a) where the candidate's performance in the first oral or approved alternative examination was satisfactory but the thesis was unsatisfactory and the examiners on re-examination certify that the thesis as revised is satisfactory, the Research Degrees Subcommittee may exempt the candidate from further examination, oral or otherwise
  - (b) where the candidate's performance in the first oral or approved alternative examination was satisfactory but the thesis was unsatisfactory, any re-examination shall include a re-examination of the thesis and may, on the recommendation of the examiners include an oral examination
  - (c) where the candidate's performance in the first oral or approved alternative examination was unsatisfactory and the thesis was also unsatisfactory, any re-examination shall include a re-examination of the thesis.
  - (d) where on the first examination the candidate's thesis was so unsatisfactory that the Research Degrees Subcommittee dispensed with the oral examination, any re-examination shall include a re-examination of the thesis and an oral examination
  - (e) where on the first examination the candidate's thesis was satisfactory but the performance in the oral and/or other examination(s) was not satisfactory the candidate shall be re-examined in the oral and/or other examination(s), subject to the time limits prescribed in paragraph 12.1(c), without being requested to revise and re-submit the thesis
  - (f) where on the first examination the thesis was satisfactory but the candidate's performance in relation to the other requirements for the award of the degree was not satisfactory, the examiners may propose instead a different form of re-examination to test the candidate's abilities; such examination may take place only with the approval of the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

### Outcomes on Re-examination

12.10 Following completion of the re-examination the examiners may recommend that:

- (a) the candidate be awarded the degree
- (b) the candidate be awarded the degree subject to minor amendments being made to the thesis (see paragraphs 11.28-11.30)
- (c) In the case of a PhD examination, the candidate be awarded the degree of MPhil with or without minor amendments and which must meet the criteria for the award of MPhil as set out in paragraph 11.7(e)
- (d) In the case of a DProf examination, the candidate be awarded the degree of MProf with or without minor amendments and which must meet the criteria for the award of MProf as set out in Section C (b), paras 10.9-10.17

12.11 For outcomes (c) and (d) the candidate must submit the amended thesis within a maximum of twelve months from the date the examiners' feedback is sent to them.

### Failure on Resubmission

12.12 The Research Degrees Subcommittee may decide, on the recommendation of the examiners, that the degree be not awarded and that no re-examination be permitted. In such cases, the examiners shall prepare an agreed statement of the deficiencies of the thesis and the reason for their recommendation, which shall be forwarded to the candidate by the Secretary to the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

12.13 Normally a candidate shall have only one opportunity to resubmit their thesis and to be re-examined. In exceptional circumstances only and, on the recommendation of the examiners, a candidate may be permitted a second resubmission. The case shall require the approval of the Research Degrees Subcommittee (i.e. not by Chair's action).

## SECTION 13

### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

13.1 All candidates are expected to produce and submit a Turnitin report for their:

- a) research proposal
- b) submissions for upgrade/confirmation of registration
- c) their thesis
- d) resubmitted thesis, where resubmission is required

First Supervisors are required to confirm on the form which is completed at the time of formal submission of work that the Turnitin report has been discussed with the candidate and that any issues arising have been addressed.

13.2 Plagiarism and collusion are common forms of assessment offence. They are defined as follows:

#### “Plagiarism”

Plagiarism is the submission of an item of assessment containing elements of work produced by another person(s) in such a way that it could be assumed to be the candidate’s own work. Examples of plagiarism are:

- a) the verbatim copying of another person’s work without acknowledgement
- b) the close paraphrasing of another person’s work by simply changing a few words or altering the order of presentation without acknowledgement
- c) the unacknowledged quotation of phrases from another person’s work and/or the presentation of another person’s idea(s) as one’s own.

Copying or close paraphrasing with occasional acknowledgement of the source may also be deemed to be plagiarism if the absence of quotation marks implies the phraseology is the candidate’s own.

Plagiarised work may belong to another candidate or be (purchased) from a published source such as a book, report, journal or material available on the internet.

#### “Collusion”

Collusion occurs when two or more individuals collaborate to produce a piece of work submitted (in whole or in part) for assessment and the work is presented as the work of one candidate alone.

13.3 Where a Supervisor, upgrade/confirmation of registration panel chair or Examiner is concerned that an assessment offence has been committed, they will refer their concerns to the Faculty Director of Research Students. If the Faculty Director of Research Students believes that there is a case to answer they will refer the matter to the Academic Office for further investigation as detailed in regulations 13.4-13.14.

13.4 The investigation into any suspected cases of academic misconduct by research degree candidates is undertaken by the Research Degrees Subcommittee which will nominate an Investigating Officer from amongst its membership, who is independent of the Faculty in which the candidate is registered.

- 13.5 The Investigating Officer is responsible for determining if there is sufficient evidence that an assessment offence has occurred and in so doing, determines the nature of the formal allegation to be put to the student (e.g.: plagiarism, collusion etc.). In reaching this conclusion, the Investigating Officer will present their findings to the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, within one month of being nominated to investigate the case.
- 13.6 If the Investigating Officer believes that no assessment offence of any nature has occurred, no formal allegation is made against the student and no further action is taken. If the Investigating Officer confirms that there is a case to answer, the allegation will be put to the candidate by a relevant officer in the Academic Office.
- 13.7 If a candidate denies the alleged assessment offence, the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee will convene a panel to hear the allegation and to give the candidate an opportunity to demonstrate that cheating has not occurred. Membership of the Panel will comprise:
- a) two members of the Research Degrees Subcommittee who are not members of the Faculty in which the candidate is registered, and have not acted as the Investigating Officer (one of whom may act as chair)
  - b) a member of Anglia Ruskin University's Academic Regulations Subcommittee
  - c) a postgraduate research student from another Faculty nominated by the president of the Students' Union, in consultation with the Executive Secretary
  - d) the Director of the Academic Office (or nominee) who is a full member and acts as Executive Secretary

In addition, the following have the right to be in attendance:

- e) the President of the Students' Union (or an elected representative of the Students' Union)
- f) the presenter of the case (Dean of Faculty or nominee)
- g) the student whose case is being heard and his/her friend or a representative of the Students' Union

In addition, a Report Secretary shall be appointed by the Academic Office.

- 13.8 Neither Anglia Ruskin University nor the student whose case is being heard is legally represented during the conduct of a hearing.
- 13.9 The Hearing is formal and shall operate in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 10(E) of the Academic Regulations. The Hearing will take place as soon as possible and normally no later than three months after the formal allegation is made. The Panel will reach a decision based on the 'balance of probabilities' and will submit their recommendations to the Research Degrees Subcommittee for consideration.
- 13.10 Alleged academic offences, which threaten the integrity of Anglia Ruskin University's awards and the maintenance of academic standards, will be investigated thoroughly.
- 13.11 Students registered on the taught modules of a Professional Doctorate Programme are also subject to Anglia Ruskin University's procedures for handling allegations of plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct, published separately as part of Anglia Ruskin University's Academic Regulations (Section 10) published on My.Anglia.

- 13.12 Where an allegation of plagiarism or other assessment offence has been proved or admitted, the Chair of Research Degrees Subcommittee is required to recommend to the Vice Chancellor that the student be expelled from Anglia Ruskin University.
- 13.13 If during the process the candidate provides evidence of mitigating circumstances that he/she asserts directly led to the assessment offence being committed, such information does NOT impact on the Investigating Officer's findings or the Panel's decision as to whether or not the assessment offence has occurred. However, if the Investigating Officer or the Panel believes that, as a result of the mitigating circumstances, the prescribed penalty is exceptionally inappropriate they can, at their discretion, refer the matter to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation), to review the appropriateness of the penalty. The Investigating Officer and the Panel are not authorised to amend the penalty themselves.
- 13.14 The referral must be supported by relevant documentary evidence. The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) will consider the case within ten working days of receiving the request to review the penalty and is authorised to impose an alternative penalty.

## SECTION 14

### ACADEMIC APPEALS

**N.B. In this section of the Regulations all references to ‘the Director of the Academic Office’ should be taken to include ‘or nominee’, and all references to ‘Director of Research Students’ should be taken to include ‘or equivalent’.**

- 14.1 This section of the Research Degrees Regulations describes the academic appeals process for all candidates registered on a research degree award conferred by Anglia Ruskin University. It is based on the process for taught students described in Section 9 of the Academic Regulations.

#### Grounds for an Appeal

- 14.2 A candidate registered for a research degree has the right to appeal against a decision made at any of the three key assessment points:
- a) Assessment of the research proposal
  - b) Upgrade/confirmation of registration
  - c) Examination of the thesis (see Section 15 of these regulations).
- 14.3 In addition candidates may also appeal against decisions made relating to:
- a) The decision that there is no *prima facie* case for the award of a PhD by Published Work
  - b) Discontinuation by the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee due to lack of academic progress
- 14.4 A candidate may appeal against the outcome of assessment for any taught module by using the procedure in Section 9 of the Academic Regulations.

14.5 Any appeal must be based on either or both of the following grounds:

- that his/her performance in the assessment was adversely affected by illness or other factors which s/he was unable, or for valid reasons unwilling, to divulge before the decision was made. The candidate's request must be supported by medical certificates or other documentary evidence acceptable to the Appeals Panel, indicating clearly why such evidence was not previously presented
- that there has been a material administrative error, or that the assessment(s) was not conducted in accordance with the Research Degrees Regulations, or that some procedural irregularity has occurred.

Candidates may not appeal on any ground which:

- has already been considered and rejected unless additional evidence in support of the appeal is provided and there is a valid reason (supported by evidence) why the additional evidence was not submitted originally
- claims that academic performance was adversely affected by ill health, where there is no medical evidence certified by a recognised medical practitioner, GP or hospital consultant or other evidence deemed appropriate to support the application.
- disputes only the academic judgement concerning the candidate's performance in any academic work.

#### Submitting an Appeal

- 14.6 Candidates wishing to submit an appeal covered by this section of the regulations should go here: <http://web.anglia.ac.uk/onet/academic/appeals/index.phtml>. [A separate form is available for appeals against the examination outcome \(see Section 15\).](#)
- 14.7 Only in very exceptional circumstances and with the explicit agreement of the Chair of the Senate, acting on the advice of the Director of the Academic Office, will an appeal outside the normal time limits be considered.
- 14.8 A candidate wishing to appeal on grounds of illness is required to send to the Director of the Academic Office supporting documented medical evidence, explaining the reasons why the evidence was not originally presented.
- 14.9 A candidate wishing to appeal on the grounds that there has been a material administrative error or that the assessments were not conducted in accordance with the Research Degrees Regulations is required to send to the Director of the Academic Office such documentary evidence as is appropriate to support the appeal. Such evidence must be sent to the Director of the Academic Office at the same time as the proforma is completed. The Director of the Academic Office will notify the candidate's Director of Research Students that an appeal has been submitted.
- 14.10 The Director of the Academic Office has the right to call for additional written evidence from the candidate and/or Anglia Ruskin University staff and to include any such additional evidence as s/he thinks is conducive to a better informed judgement.



### Investigating an Appeal

14.11 The Director of the Academic Office acknowledges receipt of the formal notice of appeal. Two staff from a pool of the Director of the Academic Office, the Assistant Director of the Academic Office and the Examinations and Academic Appeals Manager in the Academic Office, will review all academic appeals within 15 working days of receipt to establish if there is a *prima facie* case. The following appeals are dismissed without a referral to an Appeals Panel:

- where the criteria for grounds for an academic appeal are not satisfied
- where there is no evidence provided to support the appeal, or that evidence is not timely.

14.12 All other academic appeals are sent for review by an Appeals Panel.

### Appeals Panel

14.13 The membership of the Appeals Panel comprises:

- three academic members of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, one of whom acts as Chair. None may be members of the Faculty in which the appellant is registered nor have supervised the appellant
- a postgraduate research student, nominated by the President of the Students' Union, who may not come from the same Faculty as the appellant

14.14 The Examinations and Academic Appeals Manager in the Academic Office acts as Executive Secretary to the Appeals Panel, but is not a Panel member.

In addition, a Report Secretary shall be appointed by the Academic Office.

The following have the right to be present and to speak at sittings of the Appeals Panel:

- the Director of Research Students from the appellant's Faculty
- the President of the Students' Union (or an elected representative of the Students' Union)
- the appellant and his/her friend or a representative of the Students' Union.

14.15 Neither Anglia Ruskin University nor the student whose case is being heard is legally represented during the conduct of a hearing of the Appeals Panel.

## Procedure

14.16 On receiving the request from the Director of the Academic Office to convene an Appeals Panel, the Report Secretary to the Panel will, within 30 working days convene a meeting of the Appeals Panel. Prior to the panel meeting they will:

- ascertain from the appellant whether s/he objects to the attendance of the President of the Students' Union at the Appeals Panel
- give notice to the appropriate Director of Research Students and the President of the Students' Union of the date, time and place of the meeting
- give notice in writing to the appellant by way of personal delivery or if this is not possible by recorded postal delivery to the appellant's last known address, such notice stating:
  - i) the nature of the appeal
  - ii) the date, time and place of the hearing of the Appeals' Panel and its membership
  - iii) that s/he has a right to be heard at the hearing accompanied, if s/he so wishes by a friend
  - iv) that in his/her unavoidable absence s/he may, in writing, appoint a proxy (who may be a member of the Students' Union) to represent him/her at the hearing
  - v) that s/he has a right to submit a written statement or written evidence for consideration by the Appeals Panel and that evidence may be presented by the Secretary
  - vi) that s/he is responsible for informing witnesses in support of his/her case of the details of the hearing of the Appeals Panel and for securing their attendance at the hearing
  - vii) that s/he is responsible for informing the Report Secretary of the Appeals Panel as soon as possible of the names of witnesses s/he proposes to call and whether s/he wishes to be accompanied by a friend and if so the name of the friend.
- provide members of the Appeals Panel, the appellant, the Director of Research Students and the President of the Students' Union (or elected representative) with copies of all relevant documentation.

## Conduct of a Formal Hearing

14.17 Anglia Ruskin University reserves the right to involve such other individuals as it thinks appropriate to the presentation of the case.

14.18 Minutes are taken of all hearings. The minutes are kept by the Director of the Academic Office.

14.19 The hearing is conducted in the following sequence:

- the appellant or his/her friend in support of the case. The evidence may be in writing and/or witnesses may be called.
- witnesses in support of the appellant
- the Director of Research Students with a view to demonstrating that the appeal should not be upheld. The evidence may be in writing and/or witnesses may be called.
- witnesses in support of the Director of Research Students
- final statement by the appellant or his/her friend or representative of the Students' Union
- final statement by the Director of Research Students.

- 14.20 The Director of Research Students and witnesses, the appellant and his/her friend have the right to be present during the taking of evidence. All have the right to put questions to the witnesses and to each other, except that none has the right to put questions on the other's final statements.
- 14.21 If the appellant does not appear at the hearing, the Appeal Panel may proceed to deal with the appeal in his/her absence provided the Panel is satisfied that the Secretary has properly notified the appellant of the hearing.
- 14.22 The Secretary will inform the appellant of the decision normally within 10 working days, stating that s/he has the right of appeal against the Panel's recommendations.

#### Hearing Outcomes

- 14.23 The Appeals Panel sits in private and having heard the appeal decides:
- whether the appeal can be upheld
  - if so, the recommendation to make
  - if not, to dismiss the appeal

#### Decisions Available to the Panel (excluding appeals against examination decisions which are covered in Section 15)

- 14.24 The Appeals Panel, having heard the appeal, may, if satisfied:

##### *For cases involving material administrative error or irregularity*

- refer the matter to the relevant university committee with an instruction to reconsider its decision in the light of the findings of the Appeal Panel. The normal expectation is that the committee acts accordingly. If the committee is not prepared to reconsider its original decision, a formal written statement with its reasons for not doing so, must be submitted to the Director of the Academic Office by the chair of the committee.

##### *For cases involving illness or Other Factors*

- if it is satisfied that the appellant's performance in the assessment was adversely affected by illness or other factors which s/he was unable, or unwilling for valid reason to divulge before the assessment, the Appeals Panel will refer the matter to the relevant university committee with an instruction to reconsider its decision. The normal expectation is that the committee will act accordingly. If the committee is not prepared to reconsider its original decision, a formal written statement of its reasons for not doing so must be submitted to the Director of the Academic Office by the chair of the committee.

##### *Where there are no Grounds or Grounds of Insufficient Weight*

- dismiss the appeal, if it is satisfied that the appellant has failed to establish the ground of the appeal.

- 14.25 The time between completion of the hearing and formal notification to the appellant of the Panel's recommendation to the relevant university committee is normally no more than 10 working days. If the appellant is present, s/he is normally informed of the Panel's recommendation at the conclusion of the hearing.

#### Appeals arising from a Hearing

- 14.25 The only ground for appeal against a decision of an Appeals Panel not to uphold an appeal is that the appeals procedures set out in these Research Degrees Regulations were not followed. This further appeal will be to the Board of Governors.

14.26 There are no grounds for appeal on the basis of the following:

- new evidence not disclosed at the hearing
- disputing the academic judgement of the Panel
- disputing the competence of panel members

Procedures for Appeal to the Board of Governors

14.27 An appellant may submit a further appeal to the Board of Governors either:

- if an appeal has not been upheld by an Appeal Panel and there is evidence that the procedures for considering the appeal were not followed

OR

- if an appeal has been upheld by an Appeals Panel and referred to the relevant university committee for reconsideration but the original decision has not been modified.

14.28 Any further appeal must be submitted by the appellant to the Clerk to the Board of Governors for receipt within 10 working days of the formal notification to the appellant of the conclusion of the appeal process. The further appeal to Governors must specify in writing precisely what aspect(s) of the appeal procedure was not followed.

## **SECTION 15**

### **APPEAL AGAINST AN EXAMINATION DECISION**

- 15.1 A candidate may, in the circumstances set out in Section 6, request a review of an examination decision, whether at the first examination or re-examination.
- 15.2 A request for a review may only be made in relation to a decision of the Research Degrees Subcommittee made on the recommendation of the examiners. Given the existence of procedures for complaint and grievance during the study period (Section 16), alleged inadequacy of supervisory or other arrangements during the period of study shall not constitute grounds for requesting a review of the examination decision.
- 15.3 Candidates wishing to appeal against an examination decision should submit the relevant form which can be found here:  
<http://web.anglia.ac.uk/onet/rdcs/docschl/info/guidance.phtml>

#### Time Limit for submitting an Appeal against an Examination Decision

- 15.4 The candidate shall submit the relevant form to the Director of the Academic Office (or nominee) within 25 working days from the date of formal notification of the result of the examination.

#### Procedure for Considering an Appeal against an Examination Decision

- 15.5 The procedure to be followed is that specified in Section 6 of these regulations.

#### Outcomes available to the Appeal Panel

- 15.6 If the Appeal Panel decides that a candidate has valid grounds for an appeal, then it shall recommend to the next meeting of the Research Degrees Subcommittee one of the following:
- that the candidate be given the opportunity to be examined as a first attempt. This may be with or without a viva voce examination
  - that the candidate be given the opportunity to resubmit. This may be with or without a viva voce examination
- 15.7 The Research Degrees Subcommittee will receive the recommendation of the Appeal Panel and accept or reject it.
- 15.8 If relevant, the decision of the Research Degrees Subcommittee will be communicated to the examiners by the Secretary to the committee within 10 working days of the meeting.
- 15.9 The examiners will respond to the communication from the Secretary to the Research Degrees Subcommittee within 10 working days.
- 15.10 If the examiners are not willing to accept the recommendation of the Research Degrees Subcommittee the Subcommittee will, as soon as practicable, appoint new examiners to consider the (re)submitted thesis.

- 15.11 If the Appeal Panel decides that a candidate does not have valid grounds for an appeal the original decision of the examiners is upheld.
- 15.12 An Appeal Panel may not set aside the decision of the Research Degrees Subcommittee and recommend an award is made.

## **SECTION 16**

### **COMPLAINTS**

- 16.1 Anglia Ruskin University has a formal Student Complaints Procedure (Annex 8) which is published in the 'Rules, Regulations and Procedures for Students' document published at [http://web.anqlia.ac.uk/anet/staff/sec\\_clerk/rul\\_regs.phtml](http://web.anqlia.ac.uk/anet/staff/sec_clerk/rul_regs.phtml).

## **PART B**

### **Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's Degree of Doctor of Philosophy on the basis of Published Work**



## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Candidates must ensure they have all relevant copyright permissions before they submit their work for examination.

## **2. PRINCIPLES**

### Principle of Award

- 2.1 A PhD by Published Work is awarded to a candidate who, having already published work which has demonstrated an understanding of research methods appropriate to the field and an independent and original contribution to knowledge, defends that same published work and its critical appraisal, to the satisfaction of the examiners.

### Definition of Published Work

- 2.2 For the purpose of these Regulations “published work” shall refer to research papers, chapters, monographs, books, scholarly editions of a text, edited collections of essays or other materials, software and creative work (which may be in any field including fine art, design, architecture, music, composition, dance or performance) or other original artefacts. The precise selection of work undertaken by the candidate will depend upon the discipline concerned.
- 2.3 For the purpose of these Regulations, a work shall be regarded as published only if it is traceable through ordinary catalogues, abstracts or citation indices and copies are available to the general public. Proofs of works not yet accepted for publication are notmissible. Candidates may refer to other works in their critical appraisal that were not published at the time of the *prima facie* case. Only the publications submitted for the *prima facie* case may form the submission. Memoranda and reports to Government Departments, local or industrial organisations are notmissible unless they have been published and are publicly available.

### Research Collaboration

- 2.4 Where any work submitted for the degree has been written in collaboration with others, a statement clearly indicating the intellectual and practical input by such persons must be submitted with the candidate’s application for registration and collaborators are asked to endorse this statement.

### Currency of Publications

- 2.5 The publications submitted for the degree shall normally have been published within the last ten years and should demonstrate a continuing record of publication normally within the last two years.

### Declaration by Candidate

- 2.6 The publications shall not have been submitted by the candidate for a research degree of any other institution and a declaration to this effect must be submitted by the candidate at the time of application for registration (subject to Part A, paragraph 9.7).

### Submission in English

- 2.7 Candidates must present and defend the submitted work in English unless the prior permission of the Research Degrees Subcommittee has been given. Permission to present and defend a thesis in a language other than English shall normally only be given if the subject matter of the thesis involves language and related studies. Where the published works are in a language other than English, the Research Degrees Subcommittee may require a certified translation to be provided at the candidate's expense.

### Period of Registration

- 2.8 The procedures for considering an application and awarding the degree of PhD by published work will normally be completed within one year. In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances a request for an extension to the period of registration may be considered by the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee where evidence is submitted to support the request. The maximum period of extension which may be granted by the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee is six months in total. No extensions of registration beyond six months will be permitted.

## **3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

- 3.1 A candidate for the degree of PhD based on published work shall normally:
- (a) hold a first or upper second class honours degree of a UK University or a qualification which is regarded by the Research Degrees Subcommittee as equivalent to such an honours degree
- or
- (b) hold any other appropriate equivalent qualification, other than those in paragraph 3.1(a)

## 4. REGISTRATION STAGE

### Application for Registration

- 4.1 In order to establish a *prima facie* case the candidate shall submit an application in writing to the Secretary of the relevant Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee which shall include the following:
- (a) A list of the published works on which the application for registration is based (see paragraph 2.6)
  - (b) A summary, not normally exceeding 1,000 words, summarising the contribution to knowledge and the significance of the contribution to knowledge represented by the published work and establishing how the work constitutes a coherent study
  - (c) A statement by the applicant identifying where, when and over what period the research contributing to the published works was undertaken
  - (d) A signed statement by the applicant indicating the extent of the contribution by other collaborating researchers with reference to the contribution to design, analysis, conduct of the research and writing up of the publication. Collaborators are asked to endorse this statement
  - (e) A signed declaration by the applicant that the work submitted in whole or in part has not been accepted for a research degree at any other university (subject to Part A, paragraph 9.7)
  - (f) A signed declaration by the applicant indicating that the work received ethical approval, where required, at the time the research was undertaken
  - (g) Payment of the appropriate fee

### Determination of *Prima Facie* Case for the Award

- 4.2 A Panel convened by the Faculty Director of Research Students, to include a minimum of four members, two of whom are members of the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee, will determine whether the candidate has established a *prima facie* case for the award of the degree.
- 4.3 A subject specialist is required to provide written feedback on the application which is considered by the Panel.

- 4.4 The Panel will consider:
- (a) The application as detailed in paragraph 4.1
  - (b) The registration status of the candidate
  - (c) Adequate supervision, in the form of an academic adviser, is available which is likely to be sustainable
  - (d) The proposed supervisor(s) meet the regulations as detailed in section 5.
  - (e) The feedback from the subject specialist
- 4.5 In considering the application, the Panel will ensure that the candidate's published work shows evidence of
- (a) An independent and original contribution to knowledge in a particular field
  - (b) A sustained level of coherent research which has currency in the academic community
  - (c) A coherent contribution to research in a given field at a level and scope equivalent to that of a conventional PhD thesis
  - (d) A critical investigation and evaluation
  - (e) A thorough understanding of research methods

The material should also be presented to a professional standard.

#### Researcher Development

- 4.6 All candidates for PhD by Published Work are required to attend Stage 3 of Anglia Ruskin University's Researcher Development Programme.

## **5. APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF THE SUPERVISOR(S)**

- 5.1 Upon the establishment of a *prima facie* case, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will appoint a Supervisor(s). The Supervisor(s) will normally have had experience of supervising candidates to successful completion of a PhD and must meet the criteria for appointment outlined in Part A – Section 7. The role of the Supervisor(s) is to assist the candidate and s/he is required to:
- (a) guide and support the candidate through the various stages of the process
  - (b) evaluate their publications against developmental and/or conceptual criteria
  - (c) provide advice to the candidate in writing the critical appraisal
  - (d) offer advice on preparing for the oral examination
  - (e) nominate potential examiners to the Research Degrees Subcommittee
  - (f) be present at the oral examination, subject to the agreement of the candidate

- 5.2 The Supervisor is required to produce a report on the candidate's progress for consideration by the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee 6 months after the candidate's initial registration.

## **6. APPOINTMENT OF EXAMINERS**

### Number of Examiners

- 6.1 Following the establishment of the *prima facie* case the Research Degrees Subcommittee shall appoint at least two examiners, of whom at least one shall be an external to Anglia Ruskin University or any Associate College. Where more than two examiners are appointed, the majority are generally from outside Anglia Ruskin University or any Associate College. Where the candidate is a member of staff of Anglia Ruskin University or any Associate College there shall be two external examiners and no internal examiner.

### Arrangements for the Appointment of Examiners

- 6.2 The arrangements for the appointment of the examiners shall be as set out in the Research Degrees Regulations (Part A, section 12).

### Exclusion from Examining Teams

- 6.3 The candidate's Supervisor(s) cannot be appointed as an examiner and only in exceptional circumstances, and after approval by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation), will co-author(s) be eligible for appointment as an examiner. Former members of staff and former doctoral candidates of Anglia Ruskin University, its Associate Colleges or a collaborative organisation which contributes to the work of Anglia Ruskin University shall normally not be approved as external examiners until three years after the termination of their employment or date of award with Anglia Ruskin University.
- 6.4 Where two external examiners are required to be appointed for an individual candidate they may not be employed by the same institution.

## 7. EXAMINATION

- 7.1 Following the establishment of a *prima facie* case and the appointment of examiners, the candidate shall submit to the Secretary of the Research Degrees Subcommittee one set of documentation (hereafter referred to as the thesis) for each of the appointed examiners and the chair of the oral examination. Each copy of the thesis shall include:
- (a) a proposed focal theme for the collected works which will be included on the Certificate and form the title of the thesis
  - (b) an abstract, not normally exceeding 300 words, providing a statement of the nature and scope of the work presented and the contribution made to the knowledge of the subject
  - (c) a *critical appraisal*, not normally exceeding 10,000 words and not less than 7,000 words, of the cited published works, which should include the following:
    - their respective main aims
    - an acknowledgement of sole authorship for the collective works and a detailed explanation of research/written contribution within any jointly authored works [Anglia Ruskin University reserves the right to verify the nature of such contribution(s)]
    - an outline of the overall thematic and methodological interrelationships among the works
    - a synthesis of them as a coherent study
    - their genesis and chronology as part of the candidate's curriculum vitae
    - a critical review evaluating their originality, depth of scholarship achieved and the significance of their contribution to knowledge of the subject

Candidates should comment on the public reception as indicated by any citations and reviews.

- (d) a digital copy, where possible, of all the published creative or scholarly works cited in the application giving proof of authenticity. Where a digital copy is not available, an off print or high quality photocopy is acceptable. In the case of creative work, the representation may be in other than written form (for example, video, photographic record, musical score etc.). The works shall be numbered and correspond with the list cited in the application and may be submitted as separate documents. No additional works shall normally be included
  - (e) the statements and declaration referred to in paragraph 4.1.
- 7.2 The thesis, excluding books, shall be presented in digital format in accordance with the procedures set out in the Research Degrees Regulations (Part A, Section 10).
- 7.3 A candidate will make available to the examiners the entire body of work on which the application for the award is based.

## 8. EXAMINATION ARRANGEMENTS

- 8.1 The arrangements for the conduct of the examination, including the outcome and notification to the candidate, shall be in accordance with the procedures set out in Anglia Ruskin University's Research Degrees Regulations (Part A, Section 13).

### Assessment Criteria

- 8.2 An examination for a PhD by Published Work should reflect the same standards as those that operate for the traditional PhD based on supervised work. This requirement for comparability presents challenges to the examiners for the award of PhD by Published Work. In this case the main tasks are to:-
- (a) consider and explore the nature of the critical appraisal
  - (b) evaluate the quality of the candidate's cited publications
  - (c) establish the level or pattern of coherence between the publications
  - (d) assess progression through the papers submitted by the candidate
  - (e) evaluate their originality, depth of scholarship achieved and the significance of their contribution to knowledge of the subject
  - (f) evaluate the methodologies by which the research was conducted
  - (g) place the publications within the time-frame and facilities within which the publications first appeared
  - (h) assess the candidate's contribution to the various phases of the research embodied in multi-authored works
  - (i) establish the candidate's 'ownership' of the published work and appreciation of the state of knowledge within the candidate's research area
  - (j) assess the candidate's interpersonal skills through his/her ability to defend the submission

In assessing the above the examiners should take into account the standing of the journals in line with the statement from the candidate.

- 8.3 Examiners of a PhD by Published Work are asked to comment on all the above points and to include on form RD8b, a statement that the body of published works submitted:-
- shows evidence of originality and independent critical judgement
  - and
  - constitutes an addition to subject knowledge

### Failure and Resubmission

- 8.4 Where the examiners recommend that a degree of PhD by Published Work be not awarded, the candidate may not resubmit for a PhD by Published Work within a period of 12 months from the date of the original examination. Any further submission must include evidence of additional work.
- 8.5 The examiners may recommend minor amendments to the critical appraisal in accordance with paragraphs 11.28 to 11.30 in Part A.

### Recommendation of award of MPhil instead of PhD

- 8.6 Where the examiners are unable to recommend the award of a PhD by Published Work a candidate may be eligible to receive an MPhil by Published work subject to the presentation of the critical appraisal amended to the satisfaction of the examiners. To achieve the award of MPhil by Published Work the work must meet the criteria for the award of MPhil as set out in paragraph 1.6 in Part A.

### Conferment of the Award

- 8.7 The Research Degrees Subcommittee (or the Chair acting on behalf of the Subcommittee) shall receive the recommendations of the examiners and shall, if appropriate, endorse the decision to confer the award. The power to confer the award shall rest with the Research Degrees Subcommittee acting on behalf of the Research Committee and the Senate of Anglia Ruskin University.
- 8.8 On rare occasions, it may become apparent that an Anglia Ruskin award has been conferred on a student who was admitted to Anglia Ruskin University on the basis of forged documents, or who has gained an unfair advantage in some other way. Alternatively, some other form of deception has occurred. Please refer to regulations 11.43-11.45 in Part A of the Research Degrees Regulations for further information.

### Research Degree Certificates

- 8.9 Following the conferment of the award the candidate is invited by the Assessment Unit in the Academic Office to attend a graduation ceremony. Certificates are sent out to candidates from the Assessment Unit in the Academic Office by Recorded Delivery.



**PART C (a)**

**For students recruited to Professional Doctorates operating under the  
Regulations approved by Senate in June 2016**

**Specific Regulations for the Award of  
Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research  
Professional Masters  
Professional Doctorate**

## **PART C (a)**

### **For students recruited to Professional Doctorates operating under the Regulations approved by Senate in June 2016**

The Research Degrees Regulations apply equally to Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorate candidates. The specific additional requirements for these awards are set out below.

#### **1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

1.1 An applicant seeking entry to the Professional Doctorate shall normally as a minimum entry requirement:

- hold a first or upper second class honours degree of a university or any other institution of higher education in the UK with degree-awarding powers, provided that the degree included training in research and the execution of a research project or dissertation, or a qualification which is regarded by Anglia Ruskin University as equivalent to a first or upper second class honours degree.

AND

- have appropriate professional experience

1.2 Any DProf programme that wishes to propose that the minimum entry requirement must be a Masters degree, in an appropriate cognate area awarded by a UK University or an overseas Masters degree of equivalent standard is required to submit a case to Research Degrees Subcommittee for consideration.

1.3 An applicant who does not have appropriate research methods knowledge will be required to pass a programme of researcher development identified by the Programme Director, prior to registering.

1.4 Applicants who have been awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research may seek admission, within a period of five years of gaining that award, for entry onto the Professional Masters or Professional Doctorate.

1.5 Anglia Ruskin University is not responsible for finding work placements for candidates registered on the Professional Doctorate, Professional Masters or Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research. Applicants must, therefore, have access to relevant employment or practice.

#### **2 NON-STANDARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

2.1 Applicants holding qualifications other than those in paragraph 1.1 shall be considered on their merits and in relation to the nature and scope of the programme of proposed work. In considering an applicant in this category the Faculty shall look for evidence of the candidate's ability and background knowledge in relation to the proposed research. Professional experience, publications, written reports or other appropriate evidence of achievement shall be taken into consideration.

### 3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE

- 3.1 Where English is not an applicant's first language, they must demonstrate evidence of English language ability by holding an IELTS score of 6.5 (or equivalent) and have achieved a minimum of English language competence of at least IELTS 5.5 (or equivalent) across all four disciplines – writing, reading, speaking and listening.
- 3.2 These minimum requirements may be supplemented by additional requirements as determined by individual Faculties. This may include a requirement to complete Anglia Ruskin University's Postgraduate English Support Programme.

### 4 PERIODS OF REGISTRATION

- 4.1 The minimum and maximum periods of registration are calculated from the initial date of registration. Entry onto the Writing Up Stage must take into account the following minimum and maximum periods of registration within which students must submit their thesis for oral examination:

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	16 months	30 months
<i>Full-time</i>	12 months	18 months
<b>Professional Masters</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	30 months	48 months
<i>Part-time (following full-time taught stage)</i>	26 months	36 months
<b>Professional Doctorate</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	36 months	72 months
<i>Part-time (following full-time taught stage)</i>	32 months	60 months

#### Shortening the Period of Registration

- 4.2 Where there is evidence that the research is proceeding exceptionally well, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may approve a shorter minimum period of registration. An application for such shortening should be submitted before the application for approval of examination arrangements.

#### Extending the Period of Registration

- 4.3 A candidate is expected to submit their thesis before the expiry of the maximum period of registration. The Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may extend a candidate's period of registration where evidence is submitted to support the request, normally for not more than 6 months at a time up to a maximum of 12 months.
- 4.4 Only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances will a further and final period of 6 months be permitted.
- 4.5 A candidate seeking an extension shall apply to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee on the appropriate form. In all cases an action plan demonstrating how the extension will enable the successful completion of the thesis must be submitted at the time of requesting the extension. This action plan must be agreed by the First Supervisor. In making their decision the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will take into account the progress made by the candidate and any previous requests for intermission or extensions.

## Transferring Course

- 4.6 A candidate registered for a Professional Doctorate who wishes to transfer their registration to MPhil or PhD, or vice versa, is required to first seek the support of their First Supervisor and discuss the proposed transfer with the Professional Doctorate Programme Director, before applying in writing to the FRDSC for approval. The relevant form can be obtained from the appropriate FRDSC Secretary.

## **5 ATTENDANCE AT WORKSHOPS**

- 5.1 Candidates are expected to attend all workshops designed for the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research / Professional Masters / Professional Doctorate programmes.
- 5.2 Candidates are also required to attend the compulsory three-stage University-wide Researcher Development Programme.
- 5.3 Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the annual Research Student Conference.
- 5.4 Candidates are encouraged to take advantage of the further training offered through the Doctoral School, Human Resources and the Faculties. In addition, candidates are advised to take advantage of national training events and training opportunities external to our University.

## **6. NATURE OF THE PROGRAMME**

- 6.1 Professional doctorates are credit rated and modular, and offer professionally relevant and practice-based learning and research.
- 6.2 Professional doctorates are named awards linked to disciplinary areas (e.g. Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care).
- 6.3 Completion of a professional doctorate will require the award of 540 credits, of which:
- a minimum of 60 credits, and a maximum of 180, will be at Level 7
  - a minimum of 30 level 7 credits will be devoted to advanced research methods
  - a minimum of 30 level 7 credits will be devoted to advanced professional practice
  - a minimum of 360 credits will be at Level 8
- 6.4 The level 8 credits are notional only. The thesis is governed by the research regulations.
- 6.5 All professional doctorates will include a research thesis. The outcome of the research will be presented as a written thesis, portfolio etc. and may include other material such as a performance or presentation supported by a written commentary.
- 6.6 The taught elements of a professional doctorate programme will draw on a variety of teaching and learning methods appropriate to the discipline. The pattern of contact hours within a module may also vary according to the subject area covered by the professional doctorate.

6.7 An applicant may seek admission to study for any of the following awards:

Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research  
Professional Masters  
Professional Doctorate

6.8 The taught stage of the professional doctorate may be studied on a full-time basis where this has been validated.

6.9 Accreditation of prior certified and/or experiential learning can be claimed against the taught modules only. Students should refer to our University policy regarding prior learning for details of the procedure.

6.10 For those professional doctorates accredited by professional bodies or associations, students must hold qualifications recognised by the professional body or association as providing eligibility for entry on to the programme and may have to provide evidence of either relevant clinical experience or have secured a suitable placement.

6.11 To qualify for the award of Professional Masters or Professional Doctorate a candidate must submit and defend a thesis to the satisfaction of the examiners **and** pass all taught modules of the programme.

6.12 Any student leaving the programme before they gain their intended degree will be given the relevant intermediate award.

6.13 Examiners for the research thesis module will be appointed for each student individually, rather than for a cohort, though it is recognised that there will be occasions where the same examiner will be appropriate for more than one student. However, our university will ensure that the same external examiner is not approved so frequently that his/her familiarity with the programme team might prejudice objective judgement.

## **7 THE TAUGHT STAGE**

7.1 Assessment of the Level 7 modules of a professional doctorate will be undertaken in accordance with our University's Academic Regulations.

7.2 External examiners for the Level 7 modules of a professional doctorate will be appointed in accordance with our University's procedures for appointing external examiners for taught provision.

7.3 All modular assessments within the professional doctorate are subject to the University's policy on second marking.

## **8. UPGRADE/CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION**

8.1 Assessment of a candidate's research ability to determine whether registration for the professional doctorate can continue is determined through the confirmation of registration process (see Section 8 of these Regulations).

- 8.2 MProf candidates are required to apply for upgrade of registration to professional doctorate no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.
- 8.3 Professional doctorate candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.

## **9 THE RESEARCH THESIS**

- 9.1 The notional credits at level 8 is that part of the professional doctorate devoted to conducting research and the production of the thesis for viva.
- 9.2 The research thesis is governed by our Research Degrees Regulations.
- 9.3 The assessment for this stage will include a viva voce examination.
- 9.4 Research may be proposed in any topic appropriate to the overall subject matter of the professional doctorate provided that:
- appropriate supervision expertise is available to support the proposed project
  - an environment exists to support high quality research at doctorate level
  - appropriate examiners can be identified.
- 9.5 The research thesis will normally be the last stage of the programme to be taken but programmes can be structured where this runs concurrently with the taught modules. The sequence of study will be specified and agreed at approval.

## **10 CHANGE OF PROGRAMME REGISTRATION**

- 10.1 Candidates may request to change the programme on which they are registered, subject to the approval of the relevant Programme Directors.



## **PART C (b)**

**For students recruited to Professional Doctorates operating under the Regulations approved by Senate prior to June 2016**

**Specific Regulations for the Award of  
Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research  
Professional Masters  
Professional Doctorate**



## **PART C (b)**

### **For students recruited to Professional Doctorates operating under the Regulations approved by Senate prior to June 2016**

The Research Degrees Regulations apply equally to Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorate candidates. The specific additional requirements for these awards are set out below.

#### **1. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

- 1.1 An applicant may seek admission to study for any of the following awards which are offered on a part-time basis:
- Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research
  - Professional Masters
  - Professional Doctorate

Stage 1 of the Professional Doctorate may be studied on a full-time basis in specific disciplines where this has been validated.

- 1.2 An applicant seeking entry to the Professional Doctorate shall normally as a minimum entry requirement:
- hold a first or upper second class honours degree of a university or any other institution of higher education in the UK with degree-awarding powers, provided that the degree included training in research and the execution of a research project or dissertation, or a qualification which is regarded by Anglia Ruskin University as equivalent to a first or upper second class honours degree.

AND

- have appropriate professional experience
- 1.3 Any DProf programme that wishes to propose that the minimum entry requirement must be a Master's degree, in an appropriate cognate area awarded by a UK University or an overseas Master's degree of equivalent standard will be required to submit a case to Research Degrees Subcommittee for consideration.
- 1.4 Applicants who have achieved the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research may seek admission, within a period of five years of achieving that award, for entry onto the Professional Masters or Professional Doctorate.
- 1.5 Anglia Ruskin University is not responsible for finding work placements for candidates registered on the Professional Doctorate, Professional Masters and Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research. Candidates entering Stage 2 of the Professional Doctorate and Professional Masters programmes must, therefore, have access to employment or practice.

## 2. NON-STANDARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Applicants holding qualifications other than those in paragraph 1.2 shall be considered on their merits and in relation to the nature and scope of the programme of proposed work. In considering an applicant in this category the Faculty shall look for evidence of the candidate's ability and background knowledge in relation to the proposed research. Professional experience, publications, written reports or other appropriate evidence of achievement shall be taken into consideration.
- 2.2 An applicant who does not have appropriate research experience will be required to demonstrate depth of understanding of research methods by completing a programme of research training.

## 3. ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE

- 3.1 Where English is not an applicant's first language, they must demonstrate evidence of English language ability by holding an IELTS score of 6.5 (or equivalent) and have achieved a minimum of English language competence of at least IELTS 5.5 (or equivalent) across all four disciplines – writing, reading, speaking and listening.
- 3.2 If necessary, an offer of a place to read for a research degree may be subject to completion of Anglia Ruskin University's Postgraduate English Language Support Programme.
- 3.3 These minimum requirements may be supplemented by additional requirements as determined by individual Faculties.
- 3.4 An offer of a place on the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research, Professional Masters or Professional Doctorate may be subject to completion of Anglia Ruskin University's Postgraduate English Language Support Programme.

## 4. PERIODS OF REGISTRATION

- 4.1 The standard periods of registration are normally:

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	16 months	30 months
<i>Full-time</i>	12 months	18 months
<b>Professional Masters</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	30 months	48 months
<i>Part-time (following full-time Stage 1)</i>	26 months	36 months
<b>Professional Doctorate</b>		
<i>Part-time</i>	36 months	72 months
<i>Part-time (following full-time Stage 1)</i>	32 months	60 months

### Shortening the Period of Registration

- 4.2 Where there is evidence that a candidate is making exceptional progress, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may approve a shorter minimum period of registration.

#### Extending the Period of Registration

- 4.3 A candidate is expected to submit their thesis before the expiry of the maximum period of registration. The Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee may extend a candidate's period of registration where evidence is submitted to support the request, normally for not more than 6 months at a time up to a maximum of 12 months.
- 4.4 Only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances will a further and final period of 6 months be permitted.
- 4.5 A candidate seeking an extension shall apply to the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee on the appropriate form. In all cases an action plan demonstrating how the extension will enable the successful completion of the thesis must be submitted at the time of requesting the extension. This action plan must be agreed by the First Supervisor. In making their decision the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will take into account the progress made by the candidate and any previous requests for intermission or extensions.

#### Transferring Course

- 4.6 A candidate registered for a Professional Doctorate who wishes to transfer their registration to MPhil or PhD, or vice versa, will be required to first seek the support of their First Supervisor and discuss the proposed transfer with the Professional Doctorate Programme Director, before applying in writing to the FRDSC for approval. The relevant form can be obtained from the appropriate FRDSC Secretary.

### **5. ATTENDANCE AT WORKSHOPS**

- 5.1 Candidates are expected to attend all workshops designed for the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research / Professional Masters / Professional Doctorate programmes.
- 5.2 Candidates are also required to attend the compulsory three-stage University-wide Research Training, unless the Faculty Director of Research grants exemption from all or part of this training.
- 5.3 All research degree candidates must either attend Introduction to Research Ethics and Integrity (in Human Research) training offered by the Doctoral School or pass the online Epigeum course Ethics 1 – Good Research Practice.
- 5.4 All research degree candidates whose research proposal requires ethical approval (e.g. falls into the amber or red categories) are also required to pass the online Epigeum course Ethics 2 – Research with Human Subjects in the Health and Social Sciences or an equivalent course approved by the Chair of the appropriate Faculty Research Ethics Panel
- 5.5 Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the annual Research Student Conference.
- 5.6 Candidates are encouraged to take advantage of the further training offered through the Doctoral School, Human Resources and the Faculties. In addition, candidates are advised to take advantage of national training events and training opportunities external to our University.

## **6. STAGE 1**

### Advisers

6.1 Stage 1 Professional Doctorate candidates will be allocated an Adviser.

### Stage 1 Papers

6.2 All registered candidates for a Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research, Professional Masters or Professional Doctorate are required to submit papers totalling a maximum of 21,000 words.

6.3 At least the greater of 2 or 50% of marked Stage 1 papers for each candidate shall be sent to an external moderator for moderation. For a new Professional Doctorate programme, all marked Stage 1 papers for the first intake of students shall be sent to the external moderator for moderation. Where the first intake comprises fewer than ten students then all marked Stage 1 papers for the second intake must also be sent for external moderation. Sampling of Stage 1 papers for moderation may occur for the next intake when there are more than ten students on the programme.

6.4 Upon successful completion of Stage 1 candidates may progress to Stage 2 of the programme or be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research.

### Resubmission of Stage 1 Papers

6.5 If the assessment requirements for a Stage 1 paper are not met on first submission the candidate will normally be allowed the opportunity to revise and resubmit the Stage 1 paper within a period of 3 months.

6.6 Where the candidate has failed any of the Stage 1 papers on resubmission, the Faculty Research Degrees Subcommittee will normally terminate the candidate's registration.

### Criteria for Appointment as an External Moderator

6.7 External moderators should:

- Hold a doctoral level qualification or have equivalent professional and/or academic recognition
- Normally have experience in the assessment of Professional Doctorate or similar programmes or equivalent experience
- Have knowledge of the broad subject area that they will be moderating
- Be external to Anglia Ruskin University and be independent of the programme team

6.8 External moderators should not hold more than a maximum of three appointments as an external examiner (for taught courses)/external moderator (for Professional Doctorate programmes).

### Terms of Reference for External Moderators

6.9 External moderators shall be appointed in accordance with the procedures of the Senate of the University. They must be prepared to work within the context of a professional doctorate.

6.10 The role of the external moderators approved by the appropriate body is to ensure that justice is done to students and that the standard of the Stage 1 papers is maintained. In order to carry out these responsibilities, the external moderators must:

- judge standards impartially on the basis of work submitted for assessment without being influenced by previous association with the programme, the staff, or any of the students
- compare the performance of students with that of their peers studying for comparable awards
- approve the form and content of assessments that count towards Stage 1, in order to ensure that all students will be assessed fairly in relation to the programme and regulations and in such a way that external moderators will be able to judge whether the objectives of Stage 1 have been fulfilled and whether students have reached the required standard
- see at least the greater of 2 or 50% of Stage 1 papers for each candidate in order to ensure that appropriate standards of assessment are being maintained by the Internal Assessors
- see all papers for at least the first 10 candidates of a new Professional Doctorate programme (see paragraph 6.3)
- ensure that the assessments are conducted in accordance with the approved regulations
- report back annually via the FRDSCs to the Research Degrees Subcommittee on the outcomes of the assessments, the effectiveness of the assessments and any lessons to be drawn from them, in accordance with policies determined by the Senate

In addition, external moderators have the right to:

- be consulted on any proposed changes to the approved progression and assessment regulations which will directly affect students currently studying for the award
- advise, if requested to do so by the Programme Directors, in cases of unresolvable internal disagreement
- moderate the outcome arrived at by the internal assessors, but not to change the outcome for individual students
- exceptionally, to conduct a *viva voce* examination of any candidate
- participate as required in any reviews of decisions about individual students taken during the external moderator's period of office.

6.11 The period of appointment for an external moderator will normally be four years.

## **7. CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION AS A CANDIDATE FOR PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE**

- 7.1 Assessment of a candidate's research ability to determine whether registration for the professional doctorate can continue is determined through the confirmation of registration process (see Section 8 of these Regulations).
- 7.2 MProf candidates are required to apply for upgrade of registration to professional doctorate no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.
- 7.3 Professional doctorate candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration no later than three years after starting their programme for part-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates studying the taught stage on a full-time basis.

## **8. ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

### Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research

- 8.1 In order to be eligible for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research candidates are required to achieve a pass in each of the written papers totalling 21,000 words. Where the papers are accompanied by material in other than written form, e.g. a portfolio of evidence, artefacts, DVD, performance, exhibition, a minimum of 2,000 words is required. Timeframes for the submission of each assignment will be set by the Programme Director. The assessment of the written papers by internal tutors will be recorded on the 'Unratified Result Sheet' and sent to the External Moderator for moderation as required under Part C (b), Paragraph 6.3. All papers will be assessed against the grade of 'pass' or 'fail'. Candidates who fail an assignment at the first attempt are permitted one further opportunity to pass the assignment within 3 months of receipt of the feedback.

### Professional Masters

- 8.2 All candidates for the award of a Professional Masters are required to seek approval of their research proposal normally within 24 months of initial registration.
- 8.3 In order to be eligible for the award of Professional Masters candidates are required to achieve a pass in each of the written papers totalling 21,000 words (as outlined in paragraph 8.1) and submit and defend by oral examination a thesis comprising of:
- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>either</b> | 29,000 words where Stage 1 papers in appendices to the thesis        |
| <b>or</b>     | 50,000 words where Stage 1 papers included in the body of the thesis |
- 8.4 Candidates may either attach their written papers to their thesis as separate appendices or incorporate material from the papers in the body of the thesis.
- 8.5 Where the thesis is accompanied by material in other than written form or the research involves the creative writing or the preparation of a scholarly edition, the thesis may be in the form of creative work accompanied by a commentary. In such cases the thesis or commentary for a Professional Masters should normally not exceed 15,000 words.

8.6 The Professional Masters thesis should display appropriate evidence of:

Originality and independent critical judgement

AND

Demonstrate an understanding of techniques and/or methodologies applicable to the candidate's own research

8.7 The abstract, main text, tables and quotations should be included in the maximum word length. Appendices, reference lists and footnotes should not be included in the maximum word length.

#### Professional Doctorate

8.8 All candidates for the award of a Professional Doctorate are required to seek approval of their research proposal normally within 24 months of initial registration.

8.9 Confirmation of approval as a candidate for a Professional Doctorate should occur no later than 4 years after registration for part-time candidates and no later than 3 years after registration for part-time candidates studying Stage 1 on a full-time basis.

8.10 In order to be eligible for the award of a Professional Doctorate candidates are required to achieve a pass in each of the written papers totalling 21,000 words (as outlined in paragraph 8.1) and submit and defend by oral examination a thesis comprising a maximum of:

**either** 59,000 words where Stage 1 papers in appendices to the thesis  
**or** 80,000 words where Stage 1 papers included in the body of the thesis

8.11 The abstract, main text, tables and quotations should be included in the maximum word length. Appendices, reference lists and footnotes should not be included in the maximum word length.

8.12 Where the thesis is accompanied by material in other than written form or the research involves the creative writing or the preparation of a scholarly edition, the thesis may be in the form of creative work accompanied by a commentary. In such cases the thesis or commentary for a Professional Doctorate should normally not exceed 40,000 words.

8.13 The Professional Doctorate thesis should display appropriate evidence of:

- Originality and independent critical judgment

AND

- Constitute a contribution to professional practice

AND

- Exhibit development of professional competencies

## **9. STAGE 1 PAPERS IN THE THESIS**

### Professional Doctorates

- 9.1 Candidates for Professional Doctorates may either attach their Stage 1 papers to their thesis as separate appendices or incorporate these materials in the body of their thesis. Examiners are expected to respect this choice which is available to candidates. The text for the thesis for a Professional Doctorate should normally not exceed 59,000 words (excluding Stage 1 papers) or 80,000 words where Stage 1 papers are included in the body of the thesis.

### Professional Masters

- 9.2 Candidates for Professional Masters may either attach their Stage 1 papers to their thesis as separate appendices or incorporate these materials in the body of their thesis. Examiners are expected to respect this choice which is available to candidates. The text for the thesis for a Professional Masters should normally not exceed 29,000 words (excluding the written papers) or 50,000 words where the written papers are included in the body of the thesis.

## **10. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

### Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research (Level 7)

Successful candidates for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research will be expected to demonstrate:

- 10.1 A systematic acquisition and critical understanding of knowledge, that is mostly at the forefront of the academic discipline and area of professional practice.
- 10.2 The ability to reflect on and examine critically their own professional activity.
- 10.3 The ability to conduct research in accordance with academic and professional ethical standards.
- 10.4 An understanding of techniques and/or methodologies applicable to practitioner research.
- 10.5 The ability to design a research project that is capable of generating new knowledge and understanding of professional practice.
- 10.6 The ability to conceptualise understanding so as to evaluate critically current research in the discipline and area of professional practice.
- 10.7 The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and, where appropriate, autonomous and/or collaborative initiative in planning tasks at a professional or equivalent level.
- 10.8 The ability to communicate findings clearly and effectively.



### Professional Masters (Level 7)

Successful candidates for the award of MProf will be expected to demonstrate:

- 10.9 A systematic acquisition and critical understanding of knowledge, that is mostly at the forefront of the academic discipline and area of professional practice.
- 10.10 The ability to reflect on and examine critically their own professional activity.
- 10.11 The ability to conduct research in accordance with academic and professional ethical standards.
- 10.12 A comprehensive and critical understanding of techniques and/or methodologies applicable to practitioner research.
- 10.13 A critical and contextually appropriate application of techniques for original research, effective communication, critical and independent reasoning appropriate to advanced academic enquiry.
- 10.14 Originality in the application of knowledge or methodology in the discipline and/or area of professional practice.
- 10.15 The ability to conceptualise understanding so as to evaluate critically current research in the discipline and area of professional practice.
- 10.16 The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and, where appropriate, autonomous and/or collaborative initiative in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.
- 10.17 The ability to communicate findings clearly and effectively.

### Professional Doctorate (Level 8)

Successful candidates for the award of Professional Doctorate will be expected to demonstrate:

- 10.18 The systematic acquisition and critical understanding of a substantial body of knowledge that is at the forefront of the academic discipline and area of professional practice.
- 10.19 The ability to reflect on and examine critically their own professional activity.
- 10.20 The ability to conduct research in accordance with academic and professional ethical standards.
- 10.21 The creation and interpretation of new knowledge through original research or other advanced scholarship which is of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication.
- 10.22 The ability to integrate theoretical and professional-practical perspectives, knowledge and understanding in such a way as to generate mutual critique, and reformulation of theory and of professional practice.
- 10.23 The ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding which are at the forefront of the discipline or area of professional practice, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems.
- 10.24 A critical and contextually appropriate application of techniques for original research, effective communication, critical and independent reasoning appropriate to advanced academic enquiry.
- 10.25 The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and, where appropriate, autonomous and/or collaborative initiative in complex and unpredictable situations, and in professional/institutional or equivalent environments.
- 10.26 The ability to communicate findings clearly and effectively.

## **11. CONFERMENT OF AWARDS AS INTERMEDIATE AWARDS**

- 11.1 Candidates whose written papers and/or thesis do not satisfy the assessment criteria for the award for which they were registered may be eligible for an intermediate award subject to their work satisfying the relevant assessment criteria for an intermediate award.
- 11.2 Certificates for the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research and for the Professional Masters will only be issued to candidates who have satisfied the assessment criteria for the awards and exit Anglia Ruskin University. Certificates will not be issued to candidates progressing from the Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Research to the Professional Masters and from the Professional Masters to the Professional Doctorate.

## **PART D**

### **Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's Higher Doctorates:**

**Doctor of Letters**

**Doctor of Science**

**Doctor of Technology**

**Doctor of Laws**

## **1. STANDARD OF THE AWARD**

- 1.1 Higher Doctorates are awarded for work of high academic distinction.
- 1.2 Higher Doctorates are conferred by Anglia Ruskin University in recognition of published work of high distinction which results from research at a higher level than a PhD, which is not supervised and which constitutes a substantial and sustained contribution to the field of study, characterised by its originality, and has established the candidate's authoritative standing in his/her subject, normally at international level.
- 1.3 The award of Doctor of Technology is reserved for those individuals whose contribution has been principally to developments in the application of knowledge.

## **2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

- 2.1 Applicants for a Higher Doctorate should normally be a graduate of Anglia Ruskin University or be a member of staff of Anglia Ruskin University, an Associate College or partner research active organisation, or be a Visiting Professor. Applicants should normally be holders of a PhD or equivalent, in addition to at least four years' standing of a higher degree (MA/MSc) or of a qualification equivalent to a higher degree.
- 2.2 With the specific approval of the Chair of the Research Degrees Subcommittee a candidate outside the above categories may be considered.

## **3. APPLICATION**

- 3.1 Applicants for a Higher Doctorate should submit, in confidence, to the Secretary to Senate of Anglia Ruskin University five copies of the work on which the application is based. The submission may take the form of books, contributions to journals, patent specifications, reports and design studies and may also include other evidence of original work. The submission must be presented in English. Exceptionally, and with the approval of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, permission to submit in a language other than English shall normally only be granted if the subject matter involves language and related studies.
- 3.2 All materials other than books should be secured in one hardback folder, or more if necessary, each containing a title and contents page.
- 3.3 An applicant should state which part of the submission, if any, has been submitted for any other academic award.
- 3.4 The applicant should submit in typed form (11 point) five copies of the following:
  - a) A statement of not more than one thousand words setting out the applicant's view of the nature and significance of the work submitted, the general title and principal themes and the contribution to knowledge.
  - b) The award for which the submission is made.
  - c) A statement of the extent of the applicant's contribution to any work submitted which involves joint authorship or other types of collaboration. Anglia Ruskin University reserves the right to contact the co-author should it wish to do so.
  - d) A CV
  - e) A provisional list of the publications on which the case is based.

3.5 The candidate is advised to consult the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) for guidance on the standards required, and the process to be followed.

## 4. ASSESSMENT

4.1 The assessment of the application is undertaken as follows:

4.1.1 The Secretary to Senate shall establish a Higher Doctorate Degrees Panel, as a Subcommittee of the Research Degrees Subcommittee, to determine whether a *prima facie* case has been established. This Panel will comprise:

- A Deputy Vice Chancellor (Chair)
- Chair (or nominee), Research Degrees Subcommittee
- The Deputy Vice Chancellor with responsibility for research
- A senior member of academic staff pertinent to the area in question

The panel may seek advice from within and outside Anglia Ruskin University. The Panel is serviced by the Secretary of the Research Degrees Subcommittee.

4.1.2 If the Panel is satisfied that a *prima facie* case has been established, the evidence is submitted normally to two independent examiners of appropriate standing external to Anglia Ruskin University, approved by the Higher Doctorates Panel on the advice of the Deputy Vice Chancellor with responsibility for research. Each of the examiners shall report independently with a recommendation. If there is disagreement, a third (or more) examiner may be sought.

4.1.3 The candidates shall submit to Anglia Ruskin University via the Secretary to Senate five sets of documentation which shall include:-

- (a) a critical appraisal, of not normally less than 1,000 words nor more than 10,000 words, of the submitted works which identifies the field and aims of the candidate's research and the original and distinguished contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the field represented by the works;
- (b) an offprint or high quality photocopy of each of the published works which have been cited, if necessary giving proof of authenticity. The works shall be numbered and correspond exactly with the list cited in accordance with paragraph 3.4 (e);
- (c) where relevant, a copy of other published or unpublished works cited in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3.4 (e).

4.1.4 The Panel will determine whether or not a viva voce examination is required, comprising the two external examiners and a chair appointed by the Research Committee.

4.1.5 Examiners' recommendations are considered by the Higher Doctorates Panel prior to submission to the Research Degrees Subcommittee and Senate for ratification. Examiners may recommend the award or resubmission, in which case written guidance on the deficiencies of the first submission must be provided or recommend that the degree be not awarded.

4.1.6 In order to preserve confidentiality in the case of applicants who are Anglia Ruskin University members of staff the following confidentiality safeguards will apply:

- (a) The Research Degrees Subcommittee will be informed that a candidate from Faculty X has applied and examiners have been appointed
- (b) If the examiners recommend the award, then the Higher Degrees Panel is given the reports and other information and asked to endorse the recommendation to the Research Degrees Subcommittee
- (c) If the application is unsuccessful, the Research Degrees Subcommittee is informed that a candidate from Faculty X was not recommended for the award

4.2 There is no appeal against the decision of the Senate.

4.3 Applicants may reapply after two academic years from the date of the decision of the Senate and may include the same material in the application if they so desire and are considered on their own merit afresh. The Panel shall decide whether the same examiners should continue.

4.4 A copy of the successful application shall normally be lodged in Anglia Ruskin University Library, and the candidate may request that any confidential unpublished work may remain classified for a period of two years.

## **5. FEES**

5.1 An initial application fee is paid to cover preliminary enquiries.

5.2 An examination fee is charged to cover the assessment of the complete submission.

## **PART E**

### **Specific Regulations for the Award of Anglia Ruskin University's Doctor of Medicine by Research**

The Research Degrees Regulations apply equally to Doctor of Medicine by Research candidates. The specific additional requirements for this award are set out below.

## 1. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### Applications for Entry to the Doctor of Medicine by Research (MD (Res))

- 1.1 The MD (Res) degree is aimed specifically at students in clinical practice. It is expected that candidates will make a substantial contribution to knowledge in their clinical area, normally leading to published work. To be eligible for registration for the MD (Res) degree a candidate must:
- have a registrable qualification in Medicine, appropriate to the course to be followed, awarded by a UK university, or a qualification of an equivalent standard, appropriate to the course to be followed, awarded by a university outside the UK;
- and
- be eligible for full registration or hold limited registration with the General Medical Council
- 1.2 Our University may, at its discretion, register for the MD (Res) degree a person who holds an appropriate qualification but who does not hold registration with the General Medical Council, providing that the research project does not involve contact with patients.

## 2. TRANSFER OF STUDY

A candidate registered for the Doctor of Medicine by Research will not be permitted to transfer their registration to another research degree.

## 3. TIMESCALES FOR COMPLETION

	Minimum	Maximum
<b>MD (Res)</b>		
<i>full-time</i>	24 months	48 months
<i>part-time</i>	36 months	72 months

- 3.1 For full-time study the degree shall be a continuous one. Candidates will, however, be permitted to perform limited clinical duties if the prior approval of their supervisor(s) is obtained. Candidates are required to devote the whole of their time as a full-time candidate to the degree and to attend our University at all appropriate times.
- 3.2 For part-time study, candidates are permitted to perform their normal clinical duties and continuing professional education but are required to attend the compulsory University and faculty researcher development programmes.



## 4. SUPERVISION

- 4.1 For candidates registered for the award of Doctor of Medicine by Research, one member of the supervisory team must be a medical practitioner.

## 5. PROGRESSION

- 5.1 Assessment of a candidate's research ability to determine whether registration for the MD (Res) degree can continue is determined through the confirmation of registration process.

**For students starting their programme in September 2015 onwards:**

MD (Res) candidates are required to apply for confirmation of their registration between 9-18 months after starting their programme for full-time and between 15-24 months for part-time candidates.

**For students starting their programme prior to September 2015:**

MD (Res) candidates are required to apply for confirmation of registration normally no later than one year after starting their programme for full-time candidates and no later than two years after starting their programme for part-time candidates.

- 5.2 For confirmation of registration one of the panel members must be an appropriately qualified medical practitioner.

## 6. REQUIREMENTS OF AN MD (Res) THESIS

- 6.1 A thesis for the MD (Res) degree will deal with any branch of medicine, or surgery or medical science.
- 6.2 Studies that fall under the Medical Device Regulations (2002) or Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations (2004) as amended must have approval from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) as well as ethical approval and any other approvals (e.g. NHS R&D Management) required. Studies that fall under the Human Tissue Act (2004) which are within the remit of Anglia Ruskin University's research licence from the Human Tissue Authority can be reviewed by the relevant Faculty Research Ethics Panel. If studies do not fall under the terms of our licence from the Human Tissue Authority, they can only be reviewed by an NHS Research Ethics committee. Any other approvals required (e.g. NHS R&D Management) must be obtained.
- 6.3 Candidates must ensure that if their research falls under the Mental Capacity Act (2005) it is reviewed by an NHS REC or the Social Care Research Ethics Committee: <http://www.hra.nhs.uk/resources/before-you-apply/non-nhs-recs/national-social-care-research-ethics-committee/>. University ethics committees cannot review research that falls under the Mental Capacity Act (2005).
- 6.4 For exemption from our University's compulsory research ethics training, MD (Res) students must provide evidence of an up-to-date Good Clinical Practice training record

6.5 The thesis shall:

- a) consist of the candidate's own account of his/her investigations;
- b) form a distinct contribution to the knowledge of the subject and afford evidence of originality by the discovery of new facts and/or by the exercise of independent critical power;
- c) be an integrated whole and present a coherent argument;
- d) give a critical assessment of the relevant literature, describe the method of the research and its findings, include discussion of those findings and indicate in what respects they appear to the candidate to advance clinical medicine and, in doing so
- e) demonstrate a deep and synoptic understanding of the field of study (the candidate being able to place the thesis in a wider context), objectivity and the capacity for judgment in complex situations and autonomous work in that field;
- f) include a full bibliography and references;
- g) demonstrate research skills relevant to the thesis being presented, and
- h) be of a standard to merit publication in whole or in part or in a revised form (for example, as a monograph or as a number of articles in learned journals).

6.6 Publications derived from the work in the thesis may be attached as supplementary material to the thesis.

## **7. THE EXAMINERS**

7.1 In an examination for a Doctor of Medicine by Research the examining team shall have experience of examining Doctor of Medicine candidates (i.e. normally have examined at least one Doctor of Medicine candidate) and one examiner should be an appropriately qualified medical practitioner.

## **Annex 1**

### **Useful Publications**

Research Degrees Handbook

The following documents are all available at: <http://www.anglia.ac.uk/researchethics>

Research Ethics Policy

Code of Practice for Applying for Ethical Approval at Anglia Ruskin University

Question-specific Advice for Research Ethics Application Form (Stage 1)

Question-specific Advice for Applying for Stage 2 Ethical Approval

#### **Available from the University Secretary**

Rules, Regulations and Procedures for Students

#### **Available from the University Library**

Guide to the Harvard System of Referencing is available at the following web address:

<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>

#### **Available from the Doctoral School**

Notes of Guidance for Chairs of Postgraduate Research Degrees Examinations

Notes of Guidance for Examiners of Postgraduate Research Degrees Examinations

Senate Code of Practice on Research Degrees

Progress Platform training guides for students, supervisors and administrators

#### **Available from Student Services**

Student Charter for Postgraduate Research Degree Students

#### **Available from [www.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.qaa.ac.uk)**

QAA Doctoral Degree Characteristics

QAA Master's Degree Characteristics

QAA Quality Code for Higher Education, Chapter B11: Research Degrees

## Annex 2

### Guidance for the thesis Abstract and Title Page

#### Abstract

Name of University →

Abstract →

Faculty →

Degree for which the thesis →  
is submitted

Title of thesis →

Full name of author →

Month and year of submission →

Text of abstract →

ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT

FACULTY OF ARTS, LAW AND SOCIAL  
SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

THE ROLE OF MUSIQUE CONCRÈTE IN THE  
EMERGENCE OF NEW MUSIC TECHNOLOGY  
IN POST-1945 EUROPE

ELDON FENTON

November 2016

(Guidance notes: The Abstract text should be single line spaced and, unless Research Degrees Subcommittee has granted exemption, in Arial 11 or Times New Roman 12 font. Paragraph headings may be used. Quotation marks should be single throughout. References should not be used, but citations may appear if they represent the basis upon which the research was undertaken.)

Key words: (Guidance note: Insert up to 10 key words.)

## Title Page

<p>ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY</p> <p>FACULTY OF ARTS, LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES</p> <p>THE ROLE OF MUSIQUE CONCRÈTE IN THE EMERGENCE OF NEW MUSIC TECHNOLOGY IN POST- 1945 EUROPE</p> <p>ELDON FENTON</p> <p>A thesis in partial fulfilment of the requirements of Anglia Ruskin University for the degree of ... (A)</p> <p>This research programme was carried out in collaboration with the Sound and Vision Reference Service of The British Library</p> <p>(B)</p> <p>Submitted: November 2016</p>
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Note:

- A Please insert the title of the degree for which the thesis has been submitted
- B Please insert the name of the educational institution where the candidate was registered for this award, if this was NOT Anglia Ruskin University

### **Annex 3**

## **Student Complaints Procedure**

A student wishing to make a complaint should consult the advice available on our website here:

[http://web.anglia.ac.uk/anet/staff/sec\\_clerk/feedback.phtml](http://web.anglia.ac.uk/anet/staff/sec_clerk/feedback.phtml)



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Additional copies of the Research Degrees Regulations are available from:

Director of the Academic Office  
Anglia Ruskin University  
Bishop Hall Lane  
Chelmsford  
CM1 1SQ

Tel: 0845 196 4913

[www.anglia.ac.uk/researchregs](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/researchregs)