



Confirmation of Candidature/ Masters Review

Prepared September 2007

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Overview

- Confirmation of candidature/ masters review
- Timing
- Administrative procedure
- Preparation
- Expectations

Purpose of confirmation of candidature

- Provide objective confirmation that the research direction is sound, the methodologies are appropriate and that the standard of writing is satisfactory
 - Allow candidates a platform on which to receive useful insights and feedback on their progress and research direction from a panel of experienced academics
 - Obtain independent advice in the refining and development of the research question and methods
 - Provide a supportive environment to enhance presentation skills
 - Identify and remedy any difficulties that may impede successful completion of the research project
- Same process as upgrade

Timing of confirmation: PhD

- 12 months full-time, or 24 months part-time candidature for doctoral students, excluding those listed below
- For students who have made excellent progress, earlier confirmation of candidature may be considered. A candidate should be enrolled for a minimum period of 6 months full-time, or 12 months part-time candidature

Timing of review: Masters by Research: 100%

- 6 months FT/ 12 months PT
- If upgrading to PhD, school may request extension to review to 9 - 12 months FT point

Timing of review: Masters by Research: 66%

- FT - Review point: 3 – 6 months after commencement of research component
 - 1st sem: Coursework
 - 2nd sem: Research
- PT - Review point: 6 months after commencement of research component
 - 1st & 2nd sem: Coursework
 - 3rd sem: Research
 - 4th sem: Review

Requirements: PhD confirmation

- Confirmation of candidature form
- Oral presentation of at least 20 minutes
- Student's detailed research proposal: 7,000 – 10,000 words
- Panel report

Requirements: Masters confirmation 100%

- **Masters review form**
- **Student's detailed research proposal: 5,000 – 6,000 words**
 - Outline of proposal
 - Literature review
 - Bibliography
 - Timetable for completion
- **Panel report**

Requirements: Masters confirmation 66%

- **Masters review form**
Supervisor & student to complete
- **Student's detailed research proposal:** 4,500 – 5,000 words **or** 2,000 words Music Performance **or** 2,500 words Music Composition
 - Outline of proposal
 - Literature review
 - Bibliography
 - Timetable for completion
- **Panel report**

Additional review points

- APRs
- Interim reports
- Mid candidature review (PhD only)

Academic advice

- **1. Preparation**
- **2. The Panel Meeting**
- **3. Possible Outcomes**
- **4. Likely Benefits**

1. Preparation

- **1.1 Consultation**
 - Supervisors; Graduate Coordinator; etc.
- **1.2 Planning**
 - Don't leave to the last minute
- **1.3 Draft material**
 - Requirements depend upon discipline
- **1.4 Timeline**
 - Will be scrutinised by the panel
- **1.5 Seminar presentation (or equivalent)**

2. The Panel Meeting

- **2.1 Scene setting by panel chair**
- **2.2 Brief presentation to panel**
- **2.3 Questioning by panel**
- **2.4 Panel deliberation**
- **2.5 Verdict**

- **Note about panel constitution**

3. Possible Outcomes

- **3.1 Confirmation of candidature**
- **3.2 Constrained confirmation**
- **3.3 Postponement of confirmation**
- **3.4 Withdrawal from candidature**

4. Likely Benefits

- **4.1 Feedback on your project**
- **4.2 Setting future research directions**
- **4.3 Confirmation that you are going well**