



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

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**Additional information for examiners  
appointed to report on applications for  
the Doctor of Philosophy component  
of**

**the Integrated degrees of Doctor of  
Philosophy and Master (MA/MSc/LLM)**

## Examination for the PhD component of the Integrated Degree

Examiners are specifically asked to bear in mind that the thesis submitted for examination for the degree of PhD represents part of the requirements for the Integrated degree of PhD and Master (and the Postgraduate Researcher (PGR) will have already completed the requirements for the award of the degree of Master). Separate information about the structure of the Integrated degree of PhD and Master and the thesis component of the degree is provided in this document.

## Regulations for the award of the Integrated degree of PhD and Master

The [Ordinances, Regulations and Programmes of Study for Research Degrees](#)<sup>1</sup> detail the formal regulations and requirements for all of the University's research degrees.

To qualify for the award of the Integrated degrees of Doctor of Philosophy and the relevant degree of Master the candidate must complete the requirements of the prescribed programme of advanced study, training and supervised research as approved by the relevant committee, must meet the required learning outcomes and satisfy the examiners that his/her achievement is of sufficient merit and that his/her thesis contains evidence of originality and independent critical ability and matter suitable for publication through:

- (a) presenting a thesis on the subject of his/her advanced study and research, *and*
- (b) presenting him/herself for an oral examination and such other tests as the examiners may prescribe.

## Regulations for the award of MPhil

Examiners are permitted to recommend the award of the degree of Master of Philosophy to candidates who fail to achieve the standard for the award of a PhD but who nevertheless satisfy the criteria for the award of the degree of MPhil.

**To qualify for the award of the degree of Master of Philosophy**, each candidate must meet the required learning outcomes and satisfy the examiners that his/her achievement is of sufficient merit and that his/her thesis contains an independent contribution to knowledge and scholarship and material at a level suitable for publication through:

- (a) presenting a thesis or alternative form of thesis as prescribed under regulation 36 on the subject of his/her advanced study and research, *and*
- (b) presenting him/herself for an oral examination and such other tests as the examiners may prescribe.

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<sup>1</sup> Ordinance X (Research Degrees) [http://ses.leeds.ac.uk/info/22168/student\\_support-related\\_policies/646/ordinances](http://ses.leeds.ac.uk/info/22168/student_support-related_policies/646/ordinances)

In cases where the degree of MPhil is awarded the candidate will be awarded two separate degrees – the degree of Master and the degree of MPhil. The award of the degree of MPhil will be made in accordance with the University's Ordinance and Regulations for the MPhil award and will not bear the title of studies of the overall integrated programme.

### Types of Recommendation

Examiners are asked to submit **one** of the following recommendations:

- a) that the degree of PhD be awarded
- b) that the degree of PhD be awarded subject to editorial and presentational corrections
- c) that the degree of PhD be awarded subject to the correction of minor deficiencies
- d) that the application be referred for resubmission for the degree of PhD
- e) that the degree of MPhil be awarded
- f) that the degree of MPhil be awarded subject to editorial and presentational corrections
- g) that the degree of MPhil be awarded subject to the correction of minor deficiencies
- h) that the application be referred for resubmission for the degree of MPhil
- i) that no research degree be awarded

### Learning outcomes

The University's learning outcomes/level indicators for its different academic awards have been developed in the expectation that the learning outcomes will be achieved irrespective of the manner and location of the research and/or delivery of the programme followed by the students concerned. These general statements will be subject to continuous review by the Graduate Board.

Achievement is assessed by the examination of the thesis and performance under oral examination. However, examiners will not be expected to monitor/assess all the Learning Outcomes at the time of the viva. The main emphasis of the viva will be upon the research achievement and it may be difficult at that stage to assess expertise in '*generic and subject/professional skills*'. Instead, an ongoing process of monitoring and evaluation should be recorded within the Faculty/School (in the University's system for maintaining a record of the research degree candidature). Within three months of the commencement of study the University requires a training needs analysis to be conducted, and a training plan to be agreed between the PGR and the Supervisor(s). The PGR's progress against the training plan is then reviewed regularly. Examiners may ask that the School make available these records at the viva to enable them to audit the arrangements that have been made. This will typically include the training plan, training record and any relevant extracts from the progress reports where progress with the agreed training plan is reviewed. Examiners are not required to comment on achievement against the learning outcomes as part of their report form, although comments are invited.

For PGRs commencing study before 01 September 2011 the University learning outcomes reflected the then RCUK Joint Statement of Skills for postgraduate research students (JSS). The JSS was subsequently superseded by the Researcher Development Framework (RDF). The RDF incorporates the content of the JSS but also expands the statement to cover researcher skills and attributes from postgraduate researcher through to senior academic. The introduction of the RDF led to some minor modification of the University learning outcomes. Reflecting that there are still pre-2011 candidates registered at the University both pre and post 2011 learning outcomes are included here. Although the learning outcomes are ostensibly the same, examiners should refer to the learning outcomes appropriate for the registration date of the PGR (the Internal Examiner can check this in GRAD).

The learning outcomes for the following degrees of PhD and Master, are described in the additional information for the specific Integrated degree programme, published on the [SES website](#):

- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc in Oral Science (Paediatric Dentistry)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Low Carbon Technologies)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Nuclear Fuel Cycle)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Chemical Process Research and Development)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Medical and Biological Engineering)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Molecular-scale Engineering)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Advanced Particulate Materials)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Bioenergy)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Fluid Dynamics)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine - Innovation in Medical and Biological Engineering)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Complex Particulate Products and Processes)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Data Analytics and Society)
- Integrated degree of PhD and MSc (Artificial Intelligence for Medical Diagnosis and Care)

These can also be requested from Doctoral College Operations ([rp\\_examinations@adm.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:rp_examinations@adm.leeds.ac.uk)).

## Background to the format and structure of the Integrated degree of PhD and Master

The aim of the Leeds integrated PhD four-year programme is to provide PhD candidates with the highest quality of coursework and practical experience alongside specialist research study. This approach provides breadth and depth of subject knowledge as well as the opportunity for interdisciplinary study and research experience. The Integrated degrees of PhD and Master are undertaken by a combination of taught specialist modules, training and skills courses and research study. PGRs study a number of specialised subject modules in their first and second years and attend training and skills courses throughout the programme. The University currently offers a number of programmes leading to the Integrated degrees of PhD and Master, as outlined in the [Ordinances, Regulations and Programmes of Study for Research Degrees](#)<sup>2</sup>

### PERIOD OF STUDY

The Integrated degree of PhD and Master is normally a 4 year full-time programme of study, except where undertaken under Model B (ii) of the split-site arrangements by a combination of full and part-time study where the standard period of study is 5 years (see the [Programme of Study entry](#) for the degree of PhD in the Ordinance and Regulations for further information).

### PROGRESS AND MONITORING

Progress is formally reviewed at appropriate stages and, at least annually, candidates are required to undergo a thorough review process, emphasising the different stages in the progress, development and training. PGRs are accepted for study to the registration category of Postgraduate Research. Upon completion of the first year, PGRs are required to undergo an assessment for transfer to Provisional PhD status. If successful in transfer to Provisional PhD status, PGRs will be required to undergo the formal assessment procedure for transfer to full PhD status before the end of the second year of study. The supervisors play a key role throughout the programme in guiding the student through an appropriate pathway of optional course and integrating all the elements of the programme.

### EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT

#### (i) Assessment of the Masters component

The relevant subject modules and training and skills modules undertaken during Years one and two of study are assessed and examined at the appropriate point in the candidature. Module results have been formally presented at a taught examination board to determine whether the PGR has satisfied the the relevant rules for award of the Masters degree under [Ordinance XI \(Taught Postgraduate Awards\)](#). The degree of Masters is achieved at the end of Year 2 of study and “banked” at that stage. The degree of Master will be formally awarded following examination and assessment of the PhD submission. To qualify for the award of MA/MSc/LLM, PGRs must achieve an average of 50% over all 180 credits of which 150 credits must be passed at 50% or more. PGRs are required to pass to the required standard all compulsory courses and modules which form part of their prescribed [programme of study](#).

#### (ii) Assessment of the PhD component

Candidates are required to submit a thesis (100,000 words maximum) for examination by no later than the end of the fifth year (or by the end of the sixth year if undertaking study under the split-site arrangements) after entry upon the approved course of study and research. Although it forms only part of the requirements for the award of the Integrated degree of PhD and Master, the PhD submission is of equivalent standard to the traditional PhD thesis and is judged on the same criteria.

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<sup>2</sup> Ordinance X (Research Degrees) [http://ses.leeds.ac.uk/info/22168/student\\_support-related\\_policies/646/ordinances](http://ses.leeds.ac.uk/info/22168/student_support-related_policies/646/ordinances)