

Theses written in Te Reo Māori Procedure

Last Modified Nōnahea i Whakarerekē	June 2026
Review Date Rā Arotake	June 2027
Approval Authority Mana Whakaae	Dean of Postgraduate Research

Kupu Whakataki | Introduction

These guidelines provide information for research master's and doctoral students who intend to write their research thesis in te reo Māori (the Māori language of Aotearoa New Zealand). They should be read in conjunction with the relevant [Regulations for the research degree that the student is enrolled in](#), the [Research Course Regulations](#), and the [Research Student Supervision Policy](#). If anything in these guidelines conflicts with UC Regulations or policies, the Regulations and policies prevail. If further clarification is required, please contact Te Kura Tāura | UC Graduate School (graduateschool@canterbury.ac.nz).

Aratohu | Guidelines

In recognising that te reo Māori is an official language of Aotearoa New Zealand, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | the University of Canterbury is committed to enabling a student to write a thesis in te reo Māori. These guidelines outline the requirements and procedures for students undertaking a thesis written in te reo Māori.

Application

Any student intending to undertake their master's or doctoral research thesis in te reo Māori is required to clearly indicate this in their research admission application. It is recommended that preliminary discussions are had to ensure that there are suitable supervisors, examiners, and resources available. It is also expected that students submitting their research thesis in te reo Māori will be sufficiently competent in the language to exercise academic scholarship.

Appointment of Supervisors

The Senior Supervisor of the research thesis submitted in te reo Māori is required to have knowledge in the topic field and a high level of fluency in te reo Māori. The Co-Supervisor/s, including Associate Supervisor and/or External Supervisor, should be competent in the language and have the relevant expertise and knowledge about te ao Māori (the Māori world) including tikanga (customary lore and values), mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge), and indigenous research ethics. If any

member of the supervisory team does not have te reo Māori fluency, it is the Senior Supervisor's responsibility to facilitate a mutual understanding of content regarding the thesis. Responsibility for ensuring supervisory competence (see the Appointment of Supervisors section in [Research Student Supervision Policy](#)) regarding te reo Māori is that of the Head of Department/School under which the student belongs.

Milestones

All milestone documentation that is linked to Te Kura Tāura | UC Graduate School including the Confirmation Assessment, Progress Reports, and examination forms can be written in English or te reo Māori.

Doctoral students undertaking their research thesis in te reo Māori must complete their research proposal, confirmation presentation, thesis, and oral examination in te reo Māori.

Examination

Work submitted for examination should be assessed in the language used in the submission. The examiners' response and feedback must also be in the language in which the thesis was submitted.

Examiners are expected to meet the usual eligibility criteria for thesis examination as outlined in the Thesis Examination Procedures as well as the following:

- Examiners for master's and doctoral examinations will be literate in te reo Māori.
- An International Examiner is not a requirement for research students undertaking theses written in te reo Māori.

Doctoral Examination

The oral examination will be conducted in te reo Māori where the student has written their thesis in te reo Māori.

Whānau may accompany the student and will be acknowledged accordingly through a mihi whakatau (welcome). Whānau must take an observer role and cannot participate in the oral examination.

A larger location may be required if wider whānau are attending the examination. This should be discussed at the time of thesis submission with the Senior Supervisor and the Examination Chair.

Examination Chair

The Examination Chair is required to be fluent in te reo Māori. Refer to the [Thesis Examination Procedures](#) document for the responsibilities of the Examination Chair.

Turnitin

Theses presented in te reo Māori are required to be submitted to Turnitin prior to submission for examination.

Outcome

Students who intend to write their thesis in te reo Māori can expect that this will be supported by their Faculty and Te Kura Tāura, leading to an equitable thesis examination.

He kōrero anō | Related Documents and Information

Ngā Waeture | UC Regulations

- [Academic Misconduct Regulations](#)
- [Appeals Regulations](#)
- [Doctor of Education Regulations](#)
- [Doctor of Health Science Regulations](#)
- [Doctor of Musical Arts Regulations](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy Regulations](#)
- [General Regulations](#)
- [Qualification Regulations](#)
- [Research Course Regulations](#)

Te Pātaka Kaupapa Here | UC Policy Library

- [Academic Integrity Guidance for Staff and Students](#)
- [Animal Ethics Committee Code of Ethical Conduct](#)
- [Allocation of Academic Activities and Establishing Academic Staff Workload Policy](#)
- [Conflict of Interest Policy](#)
- [Equity and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Financial Enrolment Information PhD Masters Thesis Dissertation Students Policy](#)
- [Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy](#)
- [Human Research Ethics Policy - Research Involving Human Participants](#)
- [Intellectual Property Policy](#)
- [Proofreading and Editing Guidelines](#)
- [Research Conduct Policy](#)
- [Research Student Supervision Policy](#)
- [Thesis Availability Policy](#)
- [Staff Code of Conduct](#)
- [Student Code of Conduct](#)

UC Website and Intranet | Te Pae Tukutuku me te Ipurangirototo o UC

- [Key documents for doctoral students \(University website\)](#)
- [Key documents for research master's students \(University website\)](#)
- [Te Kura Tāura | UC Graduate School Homepage \(University website\)](#)
- [Raise a concern for Staff and Students \(University website\)](#)
- [Research Homepage \(University website\)](#)
- [University of Canterbury website \(University website\)](#)

Document History and Version Control Table			
Version	Action	Approval Authority	Action Date
1.0	Document approved by Dean of Postgraduate Research	Dean of Postgraduate Research	26 June 2026