

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD – 360 points)

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations for the University.

1. Version

These Regulations came into force on 1 January 2018.

2. Variations

The Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research may vary these Regulations where special or unusual circumstances warrant.

3. The structure of the qualification

To qualify for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy a student must pass a thesis having a minimum total value of 360 points. It must:

- (a) include original research that makes a significant contribution to knowledge; and
- (b) include research in the broader framework of the discipline; and
- (c) be undertaken under qualified supervision; and
- (d) meet recognised international standards; and
- (e) be submitted in English or te reo Māori; and
- (f) must not exceed 100,000 words, excluding appendices.

4. Admission to the qualification

- (a) A student, before enrolling for the degree, must be approved by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research (or delegate) as having adequate qualifications, research experience and the ability to pursue the proposed course.
- (b) A student for the degree must have either:
 - i. qualified for an Aotearoa New Zealand equivalent of a bachelor's degree with First or Second Class (Division I) Honours, or a master's degree with Distinction or Merit, or a master's degree with First or Second Class (Division I) Honours.
 - ii. been admitted with a degree of equivalent standing to those in Regulation 4(b)(i).
 - iii. In special circumstances, the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research may approve the enrolment of a graduate who does not hold one of the qualifications under Regulation 4(b)(i), but who has produced satisfactory evidence of adequate research experience, training and ability to pursue the degree.

5. Subjects

The subject areas for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy are:

Accounting (ACCT); Antarctic Studies (ANTA); Anthropology (ANTH); Art History (ARTH); Art Theory (ARTT); Astronomy (ASTR); Audiology (HEAR); Biochemistry (BCHM); Bioengineering (ENBI); Biological Sciences (BIOL); Biotechnology (BIOT); Cellular and Molecular Biology (CEMB); Chemical and Process Engineering (ENCH); Chemistry (CHEM); Chinese (CHIN); Civil Engineering (ENCI); Classics (CLAS); Computational and Applied Mathematical Sciences (CAMS); Computer Science (COSC); Criminal Justice (CRJU)*; Cultural Studies (CULT); Data Science (DATA); Disaster Risk and Resilience (DRRE); Earthquake Engineering (ENEQ); Ecology (ECOL); Economics (ECON); Education (EDUC); Electrical and Electronic Engineering (ENEL); Engineering Geology (ENGE); Engineering Management (ENMG); English (ENGL); Environmental Science (ENVR); European Studies (EURO); Finance (FINC); Fire Engineering (ENFE); Forest Engineering (ENFO); Forestry (FORE); French (FREN); Geography (GEOG); Geology (GEOL); German (GRMN); Health Sciences (HLTH); Higher Education (HEDN); History (HIST); Human-Animal Studies (HUAN); Human Interface Technology (HITL); Human Services (HSRV); Industrial and Organisational Psychology (APSY); Information Systems (INFO); Japanese (JAPA); Journalism (JOUR); Law (LAWS); Linguistics (LING); Management (MGMT); Māori and Indigenous Studies (MAOR); Marketing (MKTG); Mathematical Physics (MAPH); Mathematics (MATH); Mathematics and Philosophy (MPHI); Mechanical Engineering (ENME); Media and Communication (COMS); Medical Physics (MDPH); Medical Physics (Clinical) (MPHC); Microbiology (MPIO); Music (MUSI); Pacific Studies (PACS); Philosophy (PHIL); Physics (PHYS); Political Science and International Relations (POLS); Product Design (PROD); Psychology (PSYC); Russian

(RUSS); Science Education (SCED); Social Work (SOWK); Sociology (SOCI); Spanish (SPAN); Speech and Language Sciences (SPSC); Statistics (STAT); Taxation (TAXA); Transportation Engineering (ENTR); Te Reo Māori (TREO); Water Resource Management (WATR).

* Subject to Te Pokai Tara | Universities New Zealand CUAP and TEC approval, due December 2022.

6. Time limits

- (a) A student must enrol full-time unless exempted by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
- (b) With the support of supervisors and host programme, a student may apply for part-time study of either
 - i. 0.65 EFTS per annum or
 - ii. 0.35 EFTS per annum.
- (c) A student can accumulate no more than 12 months of part-time enrolment at 0.35 EFTS over the full period of enrolment.
- (d) The minimum and maximum accumulated periods of enrolment are the equivalent of 3.0 EFTS and 4.0 EFTS, respectively.
- (e) The Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research may:
 - i. vary the time limits if extenuating circumstances are demonstrated; and
 - ii. permit a student to transfer between full and part-time.

7. Transfers of credit, substitutions and cross-credits

This qualification adheres to the Credit Recognition and Transfer Regulations, with the following stipulations:

- (a) With the approval of the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research, and on the recommendations of the Tumuaki Tari/Kura | Head of Department/School and the relevant Amo | Dean, a student for a master's degree may transfer to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In order to gain approval, a student must:
 - i. have satisfactorily completed any course work required by a student enrolling for a PhD; and
 - ii. have undertaken research towards a master's thesis for greater than the equivalent of six months' full-time enrolment; and
- (b) For a student enrolled for a PhD under this Regulation, the date of enrolment and Student – Supervisory Agreement will be backdated to the date at which the master's research commenced.

8. Progression

This qualification adheres to the General Regulations for the University, with the following stipulations:

- (a) Coursework during PhD Candidature
 - i. A student may be required by their supervisors to enrol in specific courses concurrent with their PhD enrolment, in which case:
 - a. a student will not be charged additional enrolment fees for those courses; and
 - b. completion of courses to a minimum grade specified by the department will be required for continued enrolment in the PhD.
 - ii. A student may elect to enrol, concurrent with their PhD enrolment, in courses not required by their supervisors, in which case:
 - a. a student must have the support of their supervisory team; and
 - b. a student will be charged fees for these courses; and
 - c. completion of courses will have no bearing on continuation of the PhD.
 - iii. A student is restricted to one 15-point elective or required course per semester and a total of 60 points during their PhD candidature.
 - iv. A student may not enrol in other degrees, certificates or diplomas while doing their PhD without permission of the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
- (b) Student – Supervisory Agreement
 - i. Within six months of initial enrolment, a student must submit a Student – Supervisory Agreement and Research Proposal for approval of the Tumuaki Tari/Kura | Head of Department/School and Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.

- (c) Confirmation
- i. A student must undertake a PhD confirmation process 12 months after enrolment. This may result in:
 - a. a student's full enrolment being confirmed; or
 - b. a student's provisional enrolment being extended for up to six months; or
 - c. a student's enrolment be discontinued.
 - ii. If a student's research involves a contract (other than the Student – Supervisory Agreement), the PhD confirmation document must be signed by Te Rōpū Rangahau | UC Research and Innovation.
 - iii. Where a student's research is dependent on the approval of University's ethics committee(s), or any other committee or organisation, appropriate approval must be obtained prior to undertaking PhD confirmation.
- (d) Progress Reports
- i. At six month intervals after the date of PhD confirmation, the student and supervisors must submit a PhD Progress Report.
 - ii. Unsatisfactory progress may result in the student being put on probation. Continued unsatisfactory progress may result in discontinuation from the PhD.
- (e) Supervision
- i. The formal supervisory team must comprise at least two, and no more than four, members stated in the Student – Supervisory Agreement.
 - ii. Every supervisory team must include a Senior Supervisor who holds a doctorate and is a continuing member of University of Canterbury academic staff; and
 - iii. The appointment of, and any changes to, the supervisory team are subject to approval by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
- (f) Thesis submission
- i. A student must be enrolled at the time of thesis submission.
 - ii. A thesis must be submitted to the Rangahau Tāura | Postgraduate Research Office as a PDF file or in a previously agreed format.
 - iii. In all cases the submissions shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Senior Supervisor stating that the work submitted was carried out under their immediate supervision, that the requirements of the degree have been fulfilled and, where appropriate, that any conditions laid down in other regulations have been satisfied.
- (g) Examination
- i. Examination of the thesis is conducted by two Examiners supported by a neutral Examination Chair.
 - ii. The Examiners and the Examination Chair must be nominated by the Tumuaki Tari/Kura | Head of Department/School (or nominee) and approved by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
 - iii. A Tumuaki Tari/Kura | Head of Department/School who is also a supervisor of the student must delegate the nomination of Examiners to an appropriate independent member of staff.
 - iv. Once Examiners have been nominated, communications with them related to the thesis must occur only through the Rangahau Tāura | Postgraduate Research Office or the Examination Chair.
 - v. Each Examiner must submit an independent thesis report and recommendation to the Rangahau Tāura | Postgraduate Research Office.
 - vi. On the receipt of Examiner's reports, the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research will determine whether the oral examination should proceed.
 - vii. In the event of unresolvable conflicting recommendations by the two Examiners, an independent external Examiner will be appointed.
 - viii. The oral examination must be conducted by one Examiner in the presence of the Examination Chair and at least one member of the supervisory team.
 - ix. A student may invite a maximum of two observers to the oral examination.
 - x. The Examination Chair may invite other observers with the prior agreement of the student.
 - xi. Observers must remain silent and not disrupt the examination in any way.
 - xii. The examination Chair does not have a formal role in deciding the results of the examination. The Chair may ask questions of the student, must ensure that questions posed by any absent Examiners are put to the student, and must provide an independent report of the examination.

- xiii. Members of the supervisory team in attendance of the oral exam must not play a role in deciding the results of the examination. Their default positions are as observers, but where appropriate the Examination Chair may request them to participate.
- xiv. After the oral examination, the Examiner must recommend one of the following:
 - a. The student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.
 - b. The student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy subject to satisfactory completion of amendments.
 - c. The student be invited to revise and resubmit the thesis for examination.
 - d. The student not be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy but be awarded the appropriate master's degree instead.
 - e. The student not be awarded a degree.
- xv. Where a student is required to make amendments to the thesis following the examination, those amendments must be approved by either the Examination Chair or a designated member of the supervisory team. Once approved the student will become eligible to graduate.
- xvi. At any point during the examination process, either the student or supervisor may appeal to the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
- (h) Revision and Resubmission
 - i. The revision and resubmission process can only be exercised once.
 - ii. Resubmission must occur in the time approved by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research.
 - iii. A student must be enrolled during the time that revisions are taking place.

9. Exit and Upgrade Pathways to other Qualifications

A student who has not fulfilled the requirements of the PhD or who wishes to transfer, may apply to the relevant Amo | Dean and Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research to transfer to the appropriate master's degree.

10. Place of research and study

Unless approval has been granted at the time of enrolment for extramural study:

- (a) A student must spend at least 18 months undertaking research at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury. With support from the senior supervisor, and approval of the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research this period may be reduced.
- (b) A student wishing to undertake study away from Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury must apply to the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research in advance and demonstrate that:
 - i. there are adequate research facilities and supervision; and
 - ii. there is satisfactory means of communication with the supervisors at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury; and
 - iii. consideration has been given to risks associated with research being conducted at the proposed location.

11. Appeals

A student may appeal against any decision made by the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research as stipulated in the General Regulations for the University.