

## **REGULATIONS: HIGHER DOCTORATES**

### **Definition**

Higher doctorates are a higher tier of research doctorates which may be awarded:

- on the basis of a formally submitted substantial body of published original research of a very high standard.

OR

- on an honorary basis (*honoris causa* ie. "for the sake of the honour") when a university wishes to formally recognize an individual's achievements and contributions to a particular field.

Higher doctorates are therefore **not** encompassed within the 'Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes'.

### **Regulations for Higher Doctorates by Published<sup>1</sup> Work**

#### **Admission Requirements**

Candidature for the degrees of Doctor of Engineering, Doctor of Letters, Doctor of Music, Doctor of Science and Doctor of Laws shall be open to:

(a). A graduate of the University of Bristol.

(b) A graduate of any other degree-awarding body, who has been a member of University staff for the last three years.

#### **Qualification for the degree**

The qualification for the degree shall be:

(a). A submission of original published work, of distinction, on any subject falling within the academic scope of the relevant faculty.

(b). Judgment of the work as being of sufficient merit to entitle the candidate to the degree, the candidate having, in the opinion of the examiners, established his or her reputation as an authority in their subject.

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<sup>1</sup> Published work may be published in electronic or hard copy form.

## Eligibility and Nature of Work Submitted

- (a). Candidates may not submit work previously submitted for a higher doctorate.
- (b). Candidates should indicate publications which have already been submitted for a degree other than a higher doctorate, stating how they support the present candidature.
- (c). Published work must represent a very significant contribution to knowledge.
- (d). Work will normally be regarded as published if it is listed in ordinary catalogues of published works and was obtainable, at or before the submission, by members of the public.
- (e). The submission can include material already accepted for publication.
- (f). The published work submitted by a candidate may range across different topics, but these should normally relate in a coherent way to a field of knowledge. The treatment of these topics should be substantial.
- (g). Greater weight will be attached to a few substantial publications than to a larger number of brief items. It will not normally be possible to form an adequate judgment of the candidate's eligibility unless the amount of work submitted is considerable.

## Procedure for registration

- (a). The candidate should make contact with the graduate dean<sup>2</sup> or head of school before submitting a formal application, providing a provisional list of publications.
- (b). The candidate should register with the appropriate Faculty. A registration fee is payable at this time. See: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academicregistry/fees/> for the current rate.
- (c). The graduate dean or head of school will appoint a supervisor, to advise the candidate on how to present the material, and ensure suitable examiners are selected.

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<sup>2</sup> Graduate dean/faculty education director

(d). Candidature for a higher doctorate should normally be completed within one year.

## **Examiners**

Three examiners (normally one internal and two external) should be appointed in consultation between the supervisor and the candidate. The recommendation is formally made by the head of school, with the approval of the graduate dean. An Appointment of Research Degree Examiners form should be completed before submission. The form is available at: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/exams/forms/apptrdeform.doc>

## **Submission of work**

The submission described below should be made to the Examinations Office, and can be at any time of year. A submission fee is payable at this time. See: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academicregistry/fees> for the current rate.

Candidates should submit three copies of the following:

- (a). The published work, indicating key publications  
OR for DMus, a folio of between five and seven compositions, comprising scores, primary documentation, electronic or recorded material (See also Appendix 1).
- (b). An analytical account, of no fewer than 2,000 – 3,000 words, linking the published work and explaining its significance and coherence and incorporating the following:
  - (i) A synopsis of the candidate's record of research and scholarship;
  - (ii) an outline of research interests and achievements through reference to specific publications;
  - (iii) evidence that the publications have been widely noted in the national and international academic community as making original or significant contributions to developments in the field.
- (c). A signed statement indicating the level of contribution to each publication and role of the candidate as sole author, senior author or co-author.

(d). A numbered list of publications indicating books and monographs, chapters in books, edited works, papers in refereed journals, refereed conference proceedings and other work.

(e). A CV, including full name, present professional position, higher education and qualifications, lectures given in national and international conferences, invited seminars, invited overseas visits and lectures, awards, prizes, bursaries, composer-in-residence posts (for DMus), honours and research-related activities including membership of committees and editorships.

(f). Any appropriate supplementary data.

## **Reports**

The examiners are required to make independent reports to the Research Degrees Examination Board, through the Examinations Office. Each report (1-2 pages of A4) should be sufficiently comprehensive and detailed to enable the Board to assess the scope and significance of the work submitted by the candidate, and should make a clear recommendation whether the degree is to be awarded. There is no viva examination.

## **Outcomes**

Once all three reports have been received by the Examinations Office they will be submitted to the next available Research Degrees Examination Board. The Board will either pass or fail the candidate. No resubmission is permitted.

## **Copy in the University Library**

A definitive copy of each set of publications or compositions successfully presented for the degree shall be submitted to the Examinations Office for deposit in the University Library.

## **Appendix 1 - Guidance on DMus submission**

A DMus folio should demonstrate original and significant thinking in musical terms, and a high level of technical command in a variety of mediums. Where the composer is predominantly concerned with acoustic instrumental music, there should be evidence of extended structures such as symphonic work and carefully wrought music such as that associated with the string quartet medium, amongst contrasting

work. Where the composer has concentrated on the development of other areas, such as mixed media, studio, ethnic or community approaches, the work should be of comparable quality in its field.

The folio should comprise:

- (a) a list of works (and recordings) submitted;
- (b) scores, primary documentation, electronic or recorded material;
- (c) recordings of performances.