

Master by Research

Guidance for examiners

A Masters by Research at the University of Canberra requires the submission of a thesis, which represents the research and findings of the course of study and research.

A thesis submitted for examination for a Masters by Research degree should not exceed 60,000 words.

The master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is conversant with well-known and well-tried techniques of research and has the ability to make logical and considered judgements. The level of competence displayed should be adequate for applied research or for the more routine types of pure research.

A Masters by Research thesis will be assessed and examined using the following criteria:

- a. Displays sound knowledge of the field of the thesis including recent contributions to that field;
- b. Demonstrates analytical and critical evaluation skills of a high order;
- c. Includes a substantial critical review of the field;
- d. Including an original contribution in the form of a contribution to knowledge or a new presentation of existing knowledge;
- e. Contains material suitable for publication either in its own right or in part; and
- f. Is well ordered and satisfactory in its literary presentation.

Thesis including published works

Candidates at the University of Canberra are able to include publications in their thesis. The thesis including published works does not lead to a different degree but refers to a thesis format characterised by the incorporation of one or more publications, or, presented as a series of publications (thesis by publication). A thesis can include published papers, manuscripts submitted for publication but not yet accepted; manuscripts ready for submission; or 'traditional' chapters.

A thesis including publications will be examined as a conventional thesis. Examiners of a thesis that includes one of more publications should note that recommendations for changes cannot be made to individual works that have been peer reviewed.