

## **GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING AN ARTICLE-BASED THESIS**

This note provides guidance when students wish to present the results of their doctoral work in the format of a series of published or publishable papers (referred to as a 'Paper based PhD Thesis' or 'Three papers PhD') and when these papers constitute the majority of the substantive work in the Thesis both in terms of research and text.

The basic principle is that the academic quality of the Thesis is the same whether it is a monograph or a compilation of several papers. This means that in its entirety, the Thesis shall comply with section 3.5 of the University Requirements for the Award of Research Degrees and constitute a substantial original contribution to knowledge that is, in principle, worthy of peer-reviewed publication. The text shall be clearly and concisely written, well-argued, and shall show a satisfactory knowledge of both primary and secondary sources.

The Thesis must consist of a minimum of three substantive article-like papers containing distinct research contributions. If more papers are included, the length of the dissertation must remain within the word limits set by the University Requirements for the Award of Research Degrees.

The papers must be self-contained and, indicatively, of publishable quality in reputable peer-reviewed journals. They can be of empirical or theoretical nature. The thesis examiners will ultimately determine whether a thesis is acceptable and meets the required University academic standard.

The Thesis must also include a substantial introduction and a conclusion that:

- Explains the theoretical context and rationale for the inquiry underpinning the Thesis.
- Illustrates the objectives and research questions underpinning the PhD project to demonstrate that the papers form a coherent body of work.
- Summarizes and compares the findings of the papers, their research questions, and their conclusions as presented in the articles.
- Explains the inter-relationship between the material presented and how the papers holistically constitute a substantial original contribution to knowledge.

- Outlines the limitations of the project and directions for future research.

The research work must be performed, and the papers written during the period of PhD candidature. Papers that have been submitted and accepted to a conference, or are under peer review in reputable peer-reviewed journals and have not been rejected, or that are published already are allowed and desirable (but not required). The published paper can be attached as an appendix to comply with copyright regulations.

The PhD candidate must be the first author in at least one of the papers (more is better). The candidate must have had a demonstrable substantial or significant input in the investigation underpinning the papers as well as the draft and revisions of the manuscript itself. The independent contribution and comprehensive effort of the PhD candidate must be evident in all parts of the work.

Jointly authored papers must be clearly identified as such. For each of the papers, the candidate must state clearly their personal share of the authorship. All the co-authors must submit a written statement confirming their role in the paper. It is the responsibility of the candidates to collect and include the co-authorship declarations in the Thesis.