

## Graduate Research Degrees Regulations

*This Regulation should be read in conjunction with Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (Statute No. 4)*

These Regulations are made under Murdoch University *Statute No. 4 - Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates*. They apply to all graduate research degrees, as set out in Schedule A to these Regulations (see Attachments).

These Regulations do not apply to courses leading to the award of coursework degrees, diplomas and certificates at the undergraduate and graduate levels. These are covered by the *Coursework Regulations*.

The Regulations governing the Murdoch University graduate research degrees are as follows:

- Section 1 outlines the Regulations governing all graduate research degrees of the University.
- Section 2 outlines the Regulations governing all matters in relation to courses or units undertaken as a requirement in the graduate research degrees of the University.

The provisions of *Statute No. 8 - Interpretation* apply to these Regulations.

Unless otherwise indicated, all procedures are outlined in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.

### Definitions:

#### *Academic period:*

An academic period is a teaching period for graduate research degree candidates enrolled in any unit.

#### *Advisory Committee:*

A committee established for each graduate research degree candidate to oversee candidature, including evaluation for confirmation of candidature, as outlined in the *Graduate Research Degrees Advisory Committee Guideline*.

#### *Committee:*

The University's Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee is a sub-committee of Research Committee and administers candidature for graduate research degrees.

#### *Co-Supervisor:*

A member of Murdoch University staff, including honorary title holders, appointed in accordance with these regulations who in co-operation with other appointed

Supervisors, provides guidance to candidates in all matters relating to research conduct at the different stages of the research.

*Course:*

A course is a combination of coherent units approved by Academic Council that leads to a particular award.

*Dean of Graduate Studies:*

The Dean of Graduate Studies is the person occupying the position of Dean of Graduate Studies from time to time, or such other position that replaces or subsumes the functions of that position.

*External Supervisor:*

The External Supervisor, who is not a member of Murdoch University staff, provides guidance to candidates in matters relating to research conduct at the different stages of the research.

*Postgraduate Research Chair:*

The Postgraduate Research Chair has delegated responsibilities for the administration of graduate research degree candidature in a Discipline or multiple Disciplines.

*Manager:*

The Manager is the person occupying the position of Manager Graduate Research in the Research and Innovation Office from time to time, or such other position that replaces or subsumes the functions of that position.

*Principal Supervisor:*

A Murdoch University Academic employee based in a College who manages the administrative aspects of a candidature in addition to providing academic guidance for the duration of the candidature.

*Supervisor:*

Supervisor refers to the Principal Supervisor or any other Supervisor/s for a candidate, including External and Co-Supervisors, who provide guidance to candidates in all matters relating to research conduct at the different stages of the research.

*Supervisor Mentor:*

Where none of the other Supervisors are eligible for appointment as Principal Supervisor, the Supervisor Mentor, who meets the eligibility criteria for Principal Supervisor, mentors the Supervisors.

*Supervisor Register:*

The Supervisor Register is a University database listing staff members who are eligible to act as a supervisor for a graduate research degree (GRD) student. Staff employed by the University must maintain current registration in order to supervise GRD students. Staff listed on the register have met the registration criteria detailed in these Regulations and its accompanying procedures.

**Regulations:**

1. In order to be awarded a graduate research degree of this University, a candidate must satisfy the requirements of these Regulations and all other relevant Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Policies of the University.
2. The Dean of Graduate Studies may delegate any authority conferred by these Regulations but that authority cannot be further delegated.
3. The Manager may delegate any authority conferred by these Regulations but that authority cannot be further delegated.
4. The responsibilities of Murdoch University, Colleges, Supervisors and candidates are set out in Schedule B.

**SECTION 1: REGULATIONS GOVERNING ALL GRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREES OF THE UNIVERSITY**

5. The Regulations in Section 1 apply to all Murdoch University graduate research degrees and the respective titles, as set out in Schedule A, unless Academic Council has approved otherwise.

**Admission**

6. The admission requirements for each of the University's graduate research degrees are set out in Schedule C.
  - 6.1 The Manager must ensure that candidates meet these requirements, and English language competence requirements as approved by Academic Council, on admission.
7. The Dean of Graduate Studies approves the admission of individual candidates, taking into account:
  - 7.1 the provisions of these Regulations and all other relevant Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Policies of the University;
  - 7.2 decisions on quotas and targets, and any operational policies and procedures approved by the Pro Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation with responsibility for graduate research degrees;
  - 7.3 the subject matter of the applicant's research proposal, after endorsement from the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative, that the applicant has sufficient background for the research;
  - 7.4 endorsement from the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representatives, that adequate facilities and resources are available for the applicant's research proposal; and
  - 7.5 the appointment of Supervisors on admission, subject to Regulation 11.
8. The Dean of Graduate Studies approves the admission of an applicant proposing to carry out research in the course of employment and using the employer's facilities, subject to a signed statement from the employer giving:
  - 8.1 consent to the applicant's enrolment as a research candidate;

- 8.2 a commitment to allow the applicant sufficient time to pursue the research;
  - 8.3 approval for the use of the employer's facilities for this purpose;
  - 8.4 consent to the publication of the thesis to be submitted by the candidate, subject to any access restrictions that may be approved under Regulation 109 and its Sub-Regulations; and
  - 8.5 where appropriate, the name of a person from the employer's organisation recommended for appointment as an External Supervisor.
9. Any conditions stated in the offer of admission must be met. Failure to do so may result in the termination of candidature.

### **Advisory Committee**

10. An Advisory Committee, in accordance with the *Graduate Research Degrees Advisory Committee Guideline*, will be established within four weeks of enrolment for each candidate to manage and monitor progress for the duration of candidature.

### **Supervision**

#### Appointment of Supervisors

11. Subject to Regulations 13 to 19 and 22, the Dean of Graduate Studies, on the nomination of the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative and in consultation with the candidate, must appoint a Principal Supervisor and, normally, at least one Co-Supervisor at the time of the candidate's admission.
- 11.1 The Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative may also nominate one or more External Supervisors.
12. A candidate or Supervisor may apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies at any time for a change in supervision arrangements, subject to Regulation 11.

#### Supervisor Eligibility Criteria

13. To be appointed as a Principal or Co-Supervisor, staff must be on the University Supervisors Register as outlined in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.
14. Principal Supervisors must meet the following criteria:
- 14.1 possess a degree at least equivalent to that undertaken by the candidate;
  - 14.2 be a University academic employee based in a College or Institute who can be expected to provide supervision for the duration of the candidature;
  - 14.3 be experienced and research active; and
  - 14.4 have supervised at least one graduate research degree candidate to completion.
15. Co-Supervisors must be a Murdoch staff member and, normally, will meet criterion 14.1 above.

16. Where none of the proposed Supervisors meet the eligibility requirements for appointment as Principal Supervisor, a Supervisor Mentor who meets the eligibility criteria for Principal Supervisor, in accordance with Regulation 14, must be appointed.
17. Ordinarily, a Supervisor should supervise no more than five EFTSL research candidates.
  - 17.1 Staff supervising more than five EFTSL candidates must seek the endorsement of the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative and approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies for each additional research candidate supervision.
18. A Supervisor who meets eligibility requirements 14.2 and 14.3, but not 14.1 and 14.4, may be appointed as Principal Supervisor provided that there is a Supervisor Mentor.
19. A Supervisor appointed under Regulation 11:
  - 19.1 will have PhD supervisory load included as part of their overall workload, in discussion with the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative;
  - 19.2 will have a negotiated agreement for supervision with the student within six months of full-time enrolment. In accordance with Regulation 12, the candidate or Supervisor may apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies at any time for a change in supervision arrangements;
  - 19.3 will meet the eligibility criteria specified in Regulations 13 to 18; and
  - 19.4 will be free of conflict of interest, as outlined in the *Conflict of Interest Policy*.
20. If a Supervisor is unable to continue supervising a candidate for any reason (e.g. retirement or resignation), the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative in consultation with the candidate is responsible for ensuring that adequate and acceptable supervision arrangements are made prior to the Supervisor's termination of supervision arrangement, subject to Regulations 13 to 19.
21. If a Supervisor plans to take leave for any period of more than two months during the candidature, in consultation with the candidate and subject to the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative's endorsement, the Supervisor must establish agreed supervision arrangements for the period of their absence, in accordance with Regulations 13 to 19.
22. Subject to these Regulations, in exceptional circumstances the Dean of Graduate Studies may determine any special arrangements for the candidate's supervision.

#### Research Conduct, Misconduct and Dispute Resolution

23. All Supervisors and candidates must comply with the research conduct outlined in the *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research* and the Murdoch University *Responsible Conduct of Research Policy*, including any other supporting policies, procedures and guidelines.

24. If the Dean of Graduate Studies is of the opinion that a Supervisor or candidate may have breached these Regulations or any other relevant legislation, the matter will be handled in accordance with the *Research Misconduct Policy and Procedure*.
25. Dishonesty by a candidate (including, but not limited to, plagiarism and falsification of research results) is a disciplinary offence. Any such dishonesty will be dealt with under the *Research Misconduct Policy* or *Student Discipline Regulations*, as appropriate.
26. A candidate seeking to resolve a dispute which is not a research misconduct allegation should refer to the *Graduate Research Degrees Dispute Resolution Procedure*.

### **Enrolment**

27. A candidate must be enrolled in the College in which the Principal Supervisor is based.
  - 27.1 In a case where the Principal Supervisor is a member of an Institute and not a College, the student should be enrolled in the agreed College.
28. A candidate must nominate either full-time or part-time enrolment.
  - 28.1 Part-time enrolment is 0.5 EFTSL.
29. A full-time candidate should devote at least 37.5 hours per week on average to the research program, with the exceptions of approved annual and personal leave, and any time permitted for part-time teaching or other employment subject to Regulation 35 and its related Sub-Regulations.
30. Subject to Regulation 48 and its Sub-Regulations and unless the Dean of Graduate Studies permits otherwise, a candidate must be continuously enrolled until all examinable components of their program have been submitted for examination.
  - 30.1 Candidates who do not request to resume their candidature from the Dean of Graduate Studies at the end of approved parental leave or suspension may have their candidature terminated.

### **Enrolment Period**

31. Doctoral Degrees have a maximum enrolment of four years full-time equivalent and Masters Degrees a maximum enrolment of two years full-time equivalent.
  - 31.1 The maximum enrolment periods specified under Regulation 31 are doubled for part-time candidates and are calculated on a pro rata basis for candidates mixing full-time and part-time candidature during their enrolments.
  - 31.2 In exceptional circumstances, the Committee may approve an extension to the enrolment period.
  - 31.3 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Regulation, the absolute minimum period of candidature is one year.
  - 31.4 Subject to Regulations 79 and 80, for a candidate who has transferred from enrolment in one graduate research degree to another, the

maximum period includes the period the candidate was enrolled in the earlier qualification.

- 31.5 Unless otherwise approved by the Committee, if a candidate's thesis is not submitted within the maximum time limits specified in Regulation 31, candidature is terminated.

### Concurrent Enrolment

32. A candidate may enrol concurrently for another qualification at this University or elsewhere following the Dean of Graduate Studies' written approval of the candidate's written application which includes the name of the concurrent program, and signed recommendation from the Principal Supervisor and endorsement by the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative.
33. A candidate must withdraw or suspend enrolment in the concurrent program if they do not make satisfactory progress in the graduate research degree at Murdoch University.
34. Subject to exceptional circumstances, an extension or suspension of candidature will not be granted due to the concurrent enrolment.

### Part-time Employment

35. It is expected that a full-time candidate would undertake no more than 420 hours of employment per year, subject to any scholarship conditions.
- 35.1 If the part-time employment consists of tutoring and/or lecturing, the total includes the time required for preparation and marking.
- 35.2 Any employment beyond these limits requires the approval of the candidate's Principal Supervisor and the Dean of Graduate Studies.
- 35.3 There is no limit on employment during annual leave, public holidays and weekends.

### Mode of Enrolment

36. Subject to Regulation 37, candidates who are resident within the Perth metropolitan area who are not enrolled in coursework units are normally enrolled in the internal mode.
37. The Dean of Graduate Studies may approve the enrolment of existing and new candidates (part-time and full-time) in the external mode which is restricted to:
- 37.1 candidates who are resident outside the Perth metropolitan area;
- 37.2 candidates who are resident within the Perth metropolitan area who, for reasons of disability or infirmity, or other reasons acceptable to the Dean of Graduate Studies, are unable to attend the University's facilities on a regular basis;
- 37.3 candidates reaching an agreement with the Principal Supervisor as to how much time is spent at the University during the period of candidature and when, and this agreement must be endorsed by the Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative and approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Candidatures proposing no time to be spent at the University will not normally be approved;

- 37.4 candidates who meet the conditions approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies to ensure adequate supervision and resources are available.

#### Annual Leave

38. Candidates are entitled to up to 20 days annual leave each year, to be taken at a time negotiated with the Principal Supervisor. Annual leave is calculated on a pro-rata basis and no more than 20 days annual leave may be accumulated.

- 38.1 The number of days taken must be noted on the Annual Progress Report.

#### Personal Leave

39. Candidates are entitled to up to 12 days personal leave each year. Personal leave is calculated on a pro-rata basis and is for personal illness or injury or because the candidate is required to care for an ill or injured person to whom he/she has a family responsibility.

- 39.1 Relevant documentation must be submitted to the Principal Supervisor to support the personal leave. The number of days taken must be noted on the Annual Progress Report.

- 39.2 If a Candidate requires more leave than entitled they can access the suspension, as outlined in Regulation 63.

#### **Confirmation of Candidature**

40. Following evaluation of the Program of Study by the Advisory Committee, and subject to the Postgraduate Research Chair's endorsement, the Advisory Committee will make a recommendation on confirmation of candidature to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

41. Candidature is deemed to be probationary until confirmed following approval of a Program of Study, in accordance with the *Graduate Research Degrees Confirmation of Candidature Guideline*, within the timeframe set out in Schedule D or the part-time equivalent.

- 41.1 Unless previously arranged with the Dean of Graduate Studies, a candidate's enrolment may be terminated if candidature is not confirmed within the timeframe set out in Schedule D or the part-time equivalent, and subject to the requirements of Regulation 40.

- 41.2 Suspension of candidature shall not be permitted if it is due to the candidate's failure to complete the requirements for confirmation of candidature within the timeframe set out in Schedule D or the part-time equivalent.

42. After reviewing the Advisory Committee recommendation on confirmation of candidature and obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Postgraduate Research Chair, the Dean of Graduate Studies must either:

- 42.1 confirm the candidature;



- 42.2 recommend that the candidate revises and resubmits the Program of Study for re-evaluation by the Advisory Committee within the maximum period allowed for each degree as detailed in Schedule D;
  - 42.3 transfer the candidate's enrolment to another lesser degree; or
  - 42.4 refer the matter to the Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee for a decision to terminate the candidate's enrolment on the basis of unsatisfactory progress (see Regulations 81 to 83 concerning Termination of Candidature and the *Student Appeals Policy*).
43. A candidate must follow the approved Program of Study and the subject matter of the candidate's thesis shall conform to the general area of research in the approved Program of Study.
- 43.1 Failure to comply with Regulation 43 may result in the termination of candidature, subject to Regulation 46 and its Sub-Regulations.
44. A candidate enrolled for a Doctoral Degree (Research) or Master of Philosophy may include coursework units to a total value of not more than 12 credit points in the research Program of Study as set out in Schedule E.
45. Where a Doctoral Degree (Research) or Master of Philosophy candidate includes coursework units in the Program of Study:
- 45.1 any coursework units must be directly related to the area of the candidate's research thesis in an integrated and complementary way, and normally chosen in consultation with the Principal Supervisor;
  - 45.2 the Principal Supervisor must recommend and the Dean of Graduate Studies must approve the coursework units; and
  - 45.3 the unit results must not be considered in determining the award of the degree.
46. A candidate may apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies to change the Program of Study at any time after the confirmation of candidature, following discussion with the Principal Supervisor.
- 46.1 The Dean of Graduate Studies may approve minor changes to the Program of Study and may specify revised conditions of candidature in approving the change.
  - 46.2 Significant changes to the Program of Study, as determined by the Postgraduate Research Chair, will require the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval, and endorsement by the Postgraduate Research Chair, and may require resubmission of the Program of Study.

### **Progress Reports**

47. During the period of confirmed candidature the Advisory Committee and the candidate must jointly provide the Dean of Graduate Studies with Progress Reports at such times and frequency as Academic Council, or its delegated sub-committee, may from time to time approve.
- 47.1 Progress Reports must be submitted as detailed in the *Graduate Research Degrees Advisory Committee Guideline* (refer also to the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*).

48. After reviewing the candidate's Annual Progress Report and obtaining the endorsement by the relevant Postgraduate Research Chair on whether the candidate should be permitted to re-enrol, the Dean of Graduate Studies must:
- 48.1 confirm the candidate's enrolment;
  - 48.2 place conditions on the continuation of the candidature;
  - 48.3 transfer the candidate's enrolment to another degree; or
  - 48.4 terminate the candidate's enrolment on the basis of unsatisfactory progress (see Regulations 81 to 83 concerning Termination of Candidature and the *Student Appeals Policy*).
49. Failure to submit the Annual Progress Report may result in termination of candidature.
50. Before making a referral under Sub-Regulation 48.4, the Dean of Graduate Studies may require a candidate to provide additional reports, to ascertain what progress the candidate is making and/or to assist the candidate in completing within the enrolment period set out in Regulation 31.
51. A candidate will not be permitted to re-enrol within three years if the candidature is terminated on the basis of unsatisfactory progress.
- 51.1 In accordance with Regulation 51, enrolment after three years is subject to Regulation 7.

### **Variations to Candidature**

52. A candidate may transfer between full-time and part-time candidature, subject to the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval on the recommendation of the Principal Supervisor and endorsement by the Postgraduate Research Chair.
- 52.1 Candidates who are on scholarship will be required to check the scholarship conditions before considering transferring between full-time and part-time.
  - 52.2 The candidate must report to the Dean of Graduate Studies any significant change in other commitments outside the Program of Study that are likely to hinder satisfactory progress.
53. A candidate may transfer between internal and external modes of enrolment, subject to the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval on the recommendation of the Principal Supervisor and endorsement by the Postgraduate Research Chair, and in accordance with Regulations 36 and 37.
- 53.1 Candidates who are on scholarship will be required to check the scholarship conditions before considering transferring from internal to external.

### **Parental Leave**

54. After completing one year of full-time or part-time candidature, a candidate may apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies for parental leave(s) for up to a total of one year for maternity, adoption and child-rearing purposes.
- 54.1 The application will be assessed in accordance with the relevant sections of the University policy for leave entitlement.

55. The parental leave is not counted as part of the enrolment period for the degree as prescribed in Regulation 31, or as part of the minimum period of candidature for the degree as prescribed in Sub-Regulation 31.3.
56. The application for parental leave must be in writing and submitted prior to the start date of the proposed period of leave, and will not be granted retrospectively.
  - 56.1 Any parental leave taken without approval is not recognised. If the enrolment period is consumed as a result of the parental leave without approval, the candidature may be terminated and the candidate must re-apply for admission, subject to Regulation 7.
57. A candidate must request to resume their candidature after a period of parental leave and may be required to be enrolled for a minimum period.
58. A candidate must request to apply to extend approved parental leave, subject to the leave duration in Regulation 54.
59. Candidates who do not comply with Regulations 57 and 58 before the period of approved parental leave ends, may have their candidature terminated.
60. For candidates undertaking the coursework component of a graduate research degree, the Dean of Graduate Studies may grant a candidate parental leave following consultation with the Principal Supervisor and the Academic Chair.

#### Suspension of Candidature

61. After completing at least one year of full-time or part-time candidature, and subject to Sub-Regulation 41.2, a candidate may apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies for a suspension (or suspensions) of candidature for up to a total of one year.
  - 61.1 This period of suspension may be for recovery from serious illness, for employment or for other personal matters that arise, and appropriate documentation must be provided with the application for suspension of candidature.
  - 61.2 This period of suspension is subject to the recommendation of the Principal Supervisor and endorsement of the Postgraduate Research Chair.
  - 61.3 This period of suspension is not counted as part of the enrolment period for the degree as prescribed in Regulation 31, or as part of the minimum period of candidature for the degree as prescribed in Sub-Regulation 31.3.
  - 61.4 Candidates may apply for multiple periods of suspension so long as these do not exceed a maximum of one year over the course of their candidature.
62. The application for suspension of candidature must be in writing and submitted prior to the start date of the proposed suspension of candidature, and will not be granted retrospectively except in extraordinary circumstances.
  - 62.1 If a candidate suspends their candidature without approval from the Dean of Graduate Studies, the suspension is not recognised. If the enrolment period is consumed as a result of this suspension, the

candidature may be terminated and the candidate must re-apply for admission, subject to Regulation 7.

63. A candidate must request to resume their candidature after a period of suspension of candidature and may be required to be enrolled for a minimum period.
64. A candidate must request to extend a period of suspension of candidature, subject to the suspension duration stated in Regulation 61.
65. Candidates who do not comply with Regulations 63 and 64 before the approved period of suspension ends, may have their candidature terminated.
66. For international candidates studying in Australia on a student visa, suspension of candidature will be granted only on the basis of compassionate or compelling grounds.
67. Within one month of the resumption of candidature a meeting of the candidate's Advisory Committee, as outlined in the *Graduate Research Degrees Advisory Committee Guideline*, is required.

#### Withdrawal from Candidature

68. A candidate may withdraw from candidature up until the date that the thesis is submitted by informing the Dean of Graduate Studies in writing.
  - 68.1 The candidature is terminated once the candidate withdraws.
  - 68.2 Withdrawal from candidature is not granted retrospectively.
69. Where a candidate withdraws from candidature, the candidate will not normally be readmitted within three years of the withdrawal date if it is to the same degree of the same level.
  - 69.1 Readmission will require the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval, subject to Regulation 7.
  - 69.2 Where appropriate, the Dean of Graduate Studies may require relevant documentation that the candidate is now in a position to resume candidature.

#### Resumption of Studies after Withdrawal

70. Subject to Regulation 69 and its Sub-Regulations, where a candidate withdraws from candidature and resumes study in the same course or another graduate research degree course at the same level:
  - 70.1 if at least three years have elapsed since the previous enrolment, the candidate is entitled to the maximum enrolment period allowed for the course, as outlined in Regulation 31, subject to any restrictions placed by the relevant professional bodies; or
  - 70.2 if fewer than three years have elapsed since the previous enrolment, the candidate is entitled to the maximum enrolment period allowed for the course, as outlined in Regulation 31, less any period of prior entitlement consumed; or
  - 70.3 if fewer than three years have elapsed since the previous enrolment and the full period of entitlement has been consumed, readmission will be

subject to the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval in accordance with Regulation 7.

71. Where a candidate withdraws from candidature and subsequently enrolls in a different graduate research degree course at a different level, the candidate is entitled to a full enrolment period for the new course, as outlined in Regulation 31, provided the change in enrolment is not an upgrade (see Regulation 75) or downgrade (see Regulation 76).

#### Withdrawal from a Unit

72. Candidates who are completing coursework units, in accordance with Regulations 44 and 45, may withdraw without penalty from a unit before the last date for withdrawal in that teaching period, as approved by the University and published on its website, as outlined in Section 2
  - 72.1 Unit withdrawals shall be recorded on the candidate's academic transcript and the candidate may incur fees.
  - 72.2 Candidates are not permitted to withdraw retrospectively from a unit except with the permission of the Dean of Graduate Studies. The application for a retrospective withdrawal from a unit must be in writing to the Dean of Graduate Studies, and must include relevant documentation and recommendation from the Principal Supervisor and endorsement of the Postgraduate Research Chair.

#### Changing Course

73. Where a candidate changes the course of study to another graduate research degree at the same level, without a period of withdrawal, the enrolment period remains unchanged, as outlined in Regulation 31.
74. The application for a course change must be in writing to the Dean of Graduate Studies, and subject to Regulation 7.

#### Transfer of Candidature

75. Subject to Sub-Regulation 75.1, candidates enrolled for a Master of Philosophy may apply to upgrade to a Doctoral Degree (Research) with credit for the work completed for the Master of Philosophy.
  - 75.1 Transfers may take place no earlier than four months and, other than in special circumstances, no later than 18 months (three years for part-time candidates) after initial enrolment.
  - 75.2 Transfers must take place without a break between candidature for the Master of Philosophy and the Doctoral Degree (Research).
  - 75.3 Applications under this Regulation must be made in writing to the Dean of Graduate Studies and supported with the candidate's Annual Progress Report or a comparable progress report. The Dean of Graduate Studies may grant a transfer application where the Principal Supervisor and Postgraduate Research Chair endorse that the Master of Philosophy work is capable of development to Doctoral Degree (Research) level and subject to Regulation 7.
    - 75.3.1 The research undertaken by the candidate while enrolled for the Master of Philosophy must be continued for the Doctoral

Degree (Research) or modified to meet the requirements for the Doctoral Degree (Research).

- 75.4 The same enrolment period for a Doctoral Degree (Research) as outlined in Regulation 31 applies, with the time completed as a Master of Philosophy candidate deducted from the enrolment as a Doctoral Degree (Research) candidate.
- 76. Candidates enrolled for a Doctoral Degree (Research) may elect or be required to downgrade to a Master of Philosophy for academic or personal reasons.
  - 76.1 Transfers may take place within two years (or part-time equivalent) after initial enrolment in the Doctoral Degree (Research), subject to Regulation 31.
  - 76.2 Applications under this Regulation must be made in writing to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval and endorsed by the Principal Supervisor and Postgraduate Research Chair, subject to Regulation 7.
  - 76.3 The same enrolment period for a Master of Philosophy as outlined in Regulation 31 applies, with the time completed as a Doctoral Degree (Research) candidate deducted from the enrolment as a Master of Philosophy candidate.

### **Termination of Candidature**

- 77. A candidature may be terminated for the following reasons:
  - 77.1 if the candidature does not meet the conditions stipulated on the offer of admission (Regulation 9);
  - 77.2 if the candidature is not confirmed within the timeframe set out in Schedule D (Sub-Regulation 41.1);
  - 77.3 if the candidate deviates significantly from the approved Program of Study without the Dean of Graduate Studies' approval (Sub-Regulation 43.1);
  - 77.4 if Annual Progress Reports are not submitted, as required (Regulation 48.4);
  - 77.5 if there is unsatisfactory progress (Regulations 51 and 128);
  - 77.6 if the candidate proceeds on a period of parental leave or suspension without approval (Sub-Regulations 56.1 and 62.1);
  - 77.7 if the candidate does not request to resume candidature after a period of parental leave or suspension (Sub-Regulations 59 and 65);
  - 77.8 if the candidate does not request to extend approved parental leave or suspension (Sub-Regulations 59 and 65);
  - 77.9 if the candidate does not submit the thesis within the enrolment period as set out in Regulation 31 (Sub-Regulation 31.5);
  - 77.10 if the candidate does not resubmit the thesis within the timeframe set out in Sub-Regulation 92.2.2;

- 77.11 if any examiner in the revised thesis recommend NA and the candidate fails to resubmit within the allowed timeframe without an approved extension; and
- 77.12 if the Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee recommends termination for any of the reasons outlined in Sub-Regulations 96.4.4.1 to 96.4.4.6.
- 78. On the termination of candidature, candidates will immediately lose their right to access the University's resources and facilities including supervisory support.
- 79. A candidate may appeal against a candidature termination in accordance with the *Student Appeals Policy*.

### **Thesis Submission**

- 80. The thesis shall be based on research supervised during the enrolment period at Murdoch University, as outlined in Regulation 31 and subject to Sub-Regulation 31.3. The learning outcomes for the graduate research degrees are as follows:
  - 80.1 the Doctoral Degree (Research) must make a significant and original contribution to knowledge, and demonstrate the learning outcomes at the relevant Australian Qualifications Framework level;
  - 80.2 the Doctoral Degree (Professional) must make a significant and original contribution to knowledge in the context of professional practice, and demonstrate the learning outcomes at the relevant Australian Qualifications Framework level; and
  - 80.3 the Masters Degree (Research) must apply an advanced body of knowledge in a range of contexts for research and scholarship and as a pathway for further learning, and demonstrate the learning outcomes at the relevant Australian Qualifications Framework level.
- 81. At least two months before the thesis submission, the candidate must submit the title of the thesis, together with a draft abstract of approximately 300 words, to the Supervisors, Postgraduate Research Chair, and Graduate Research Office as notification of the intention to submit.
- 82. Following the candidate's notice of intention to submit, the Principal Supervisor in consultation with the other Supervisors must nominate examiners in accordance with Regulations 84 and 85, and the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.
  - 82.1 Candidates may contribute a list of potential examiners to their Supervisor/s, and may identify persons whom they would not like to have examine their thesis, but otherwise must play no part in determining their examiners and must not communicate with examiners during the course of the nomination and examination process, as outlined in Regulation 95 and its Sub-Regulations.
- 83. Except in extraordinary circumstances, a thesis will not be examined if the Principal Supervisor, or Pro Vice Chancellor of the relevant College or their designated representative in their absence, does not declare that the thesis is complete and suitable for examination, in accordance with Regulation 80.

- 83.1 Further to Regulation 83, a thesis will not be examined if the Principal Supervisor or candidate have not met the requirements for submission as set out in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.
84. Subject to Regulation 85, the Dean of Graduate Studies must appoint three examiners (two preferred and one reserve) on the recommendation of the Principal Supervisor for the following graduate degrees:
- 84.1 Doctoral Degree (Research);
- 84.2 Doctoral Degree (Professional); and
- 84.3 Masters Degree (Research).
85. Except where the Dean of Graduate studies is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist, the appointment of examiners under Regulation 84 must meet the following criteria:
- 85.1 all examiners must be free from any conflict of interest in the examination of the thesis;
- 85.2 an examiner cannot be an employee of Murdoch University;
- 85.3 all examiners must be independent of the candidate and the Supervisors, with no formal collaboration within the previous five years;
- 85.4 the examiners must not have supervised the candidate for any graduate research degree at any institution;
- 85.5 at least one of the examiners must be based outside Australia;
- 85.6 no more than one examiner can be from a Western Australian University;
- 85.7 all examiners must be currently active researchers and have expertise in the general area of the thesis (i.e. have a record of recent refereed publications in a relevant field of study);
- 85.8 all examiners must be familiar with the expectations of the relevant graduate research degree (e.g. have experience in the supervision of the relevant graduate research degree candidates to completion, and/or have previously examined theses in the relevant graduate research degree);
- 85.9 all examiners must hold a degree either equivalent to or higher than the graduate research degree for which the thesis is being examined; and
- 85.10 all examiners must have confirmed, prior to being appointed as an examiner, that they are available to complete the examination of the thesis within 8 weeks of receiving it.
86. A thesis' content:
- 86.1 may describe work done in conjunction with the Principal Supervisor and/or other persons, provided that the candidate's personal share in the investigation is clearly stated, and that this statement is certified by the Principal Supervisor and/or other persons;
- 86.2 must conform to scholarly standards of presentation, citation and referencing for the discipline;



- 86.3 must include an abstract;
- 86.4 must not exceed 100,000 words for the Doctoral Degree (Research), 60,000 for the Doctoral Degree (Professional), Master of Philosophy (M Phil) and Master of Laws by Research (LLM (Res)), and 40,000 for other Masters Degrees (Research) listed in Schedule E, excluding footnotes, maps, diagrams and bibliography, unless otherwise approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Principal Supervisor;
- 86.5 must be in 1.5 or double-spaced typescript;
- 86.6 must normally be in size 12 font;
- 86.7 may be printed double-sided;
- 86.8 must be in a format suitable for examination, as specified in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*, with both a digital copy and hard copy of the thesis available on request; and
- 86.9 must include a written declaration by the candidate to verify:
  - 86.9.1 all of the thesis is the candidate's own account of the research conducted by the candidate, except where other sources are fully acknowledged in the appropriate format;
  - 86.9.2 the extent to which the work of others has been used should be documented by a percent allocation of work and signed by the candidate and Principal Supervisor;
  - 86.9.3 that any editing and proof-reading by professional editors complies with the standards approved by the Committee, as set out on the Graduate Research website;
  - 86.9.4 (except for a resubmitted thesis) the thesis contains as its main content work which has not been previously submitted for a degree at any university; and
  - 86.9.5 that all necessary ethics and safety approvals have been obtained, including their relevant approval or permit numbers, as appropriate.
- 87. The structure of the thesis should be as follows:
  - 87.1 a 'traditional' format; or
  - 87.2 in the case that it contains non-text material, such as performances, exhibitions of works of art, musical compositions, films or videos, interactive digital work and other media, candidates should refer to the *Graduate Research Degrees with a Creative or Production-Based Thesis Guideline*; or
  - 87.3 in the case that it contains manuscripts that are published, in review, or in preparation, candidates should refer to the *Graduate Research Degrees by Compilation Guidelines*.
- 88. Candidates should review examples of their selected structure which can be found on the Graduate Research Office website or review examples provided within their own disciplines.

89. For all graduate research degrees, candidates must submit one digital copy, and upon request up to two hard copies, of the thesis for examination as detailed in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.
90. The Principal Supervisor must provide a statement which:
  - 90.1 advises that the candidate has completed the approved Program of Study under the direction of the Supervisors; and
  - 90.2 confirms that the thesis is of sufficient merit to warrant examination; and
  - 90.3 confirms that the thesis is of an appropriate English language and presentation standard to warrant examination; and
  - 90.4 comments on any special circumstances relevant to the thesis' preparation and examination.
91. Before submitting a thesis to the examiners, the Dean of Graduate Studies must:
  - 91.1 be satisfied that the Principal Supervisor's recommended examiners have met the requirements of Regulation 85;
  - 91.2 be satisfied that the candidate has complied with Regulation 86; and
  - 91.3 decide (after consultation with the candidate and the Principal Supervisor) whether the thesis should be sent to the examiners or returned to the candidate for further work if:
    - 91.3.1 the Principal Supervisor expresses reservations about the suitability of the thesis for examination; and/or
    - 91.3.2 the thesis does not comply with Regulation 86.

### **Thesis examination**

92. Each examiner will normally submit a written report on the quality of the thesis, its strengths and weaknesses to the Dean of Graduate Studies and a recommendation for one of the following classifications and actions:
  - 92.1 Award (A): that the degree be awarded:
    - 92.1.1 subject to the insertion of corrections and/or additions;
    - 92.1.2 corrections/additions must be documented in a point-by-point format and approved by the Principal Supervisor, Postgraduate Research Chair and Dean of Graduate Studies.
    - 92.1.3 the point-by-point response should be submitted to the Graduate Research Office within two months of receiving the outcome.
  - 92.2 Revise and Resubmit (RR): that the degree not be awarded, but that the candidate be permitted to submit a revised thesis for the same degree;
    - 92.2.1 the resubmission may include re-organisation of the existing data or the collection of new data;
    - 92.2.2 resubmission must be completed within three months of the candidate receiving the outcome;

- 92.2.2.1 an extension to six months will be provided in the case of a request for the collection of new data or under extraordinary circumstances for which the candidate and Principal Supervisor would need to seek permission from the Dean of Graduate Studies in writing.
  - 92.3 Non-Award (NA): that the degree not be awarded.  
An alternative degree award (AltD) is recommended:
    - 92.3.1 if the reviewer believes the thesis meets the necessary quality of Masters (Research) or Masters (Professional).
    - 92.3.2 The reviewer may request additional changes that are necessary to meet the requirement for Masters (Research or Professional).
    - 92.3.3 The candidate would be provided three months to address all necessary comments for the award.
- 93. Communication during thesis examination must be conducted as follows:
  - 93.1 The examiners must not consult one another before the submission of an independent report.
  - 93.2 A candidate must not discuss any aspect of the examination with the examiners during the period from submission of the thesis until a decision is reached by Academic Council.
  - 93.3 Supervisors or Postgraduate Research Chairs must not discuss any aspect of the thesis while under examination with examiners during the period from submission of the thesis until a decision is reached by Academic Council, except where prior approval is given by the Dean of Graduate Studies.
- 94. If an examiner does not provide a report on the thesis within a reasonable time, the Dean of Graduate Studies may appoint a new examiner in that examiner's place.
- 95. Upon receipt of all examiners' reports the following are possible outcomes:
  - 95.1 All examiners recommend to award (A);
  - 95.2 All examiners recommend non-award (NA) or revise and resubmit (RR);
  - 95.3 One examiner recommends award A yet, the other recommends RR or NA;
  - 95.4 One examiner recommends RR while the other recommends NA.
- 96. Based on the possible outcomes, the following actions will be taken:
  - 96.1 All examiners recommend award A;
    - 96.1.1 The Graduate Research Office will provide the examiner reports to the candidate, Supervisors and Advisory Committee and the relevant Postgraduate Research Chair;

- 96.1.2 The Dean of Graduate Studies will send a letter of congratulations to the candidate with further instructions on the process of addressing any reviewer comments and graduating.
- 96.2 All examiners recommend RR:
  - 96.2.1 The Graduate Research Office will provide the examiner reports to the candidate, Supervisors and Advisory Committee and the relevant Postgraduate Research Chair;
  - 96.2.2 The candidate will be provided three months to make the necessary changes to the thesis for resubmission to the original reviewers;
    - 96.2.2.1 The candidate may only resubmit once;
    - 96.2.2.2 All changes, or the rationale for not addressing a concern, should be recorded in a separate point-by-point response document and all changes should be highlighted in the thesis;
    - 96.2.2.3 Upon resubmission, the examiner(s) will be provided with the original examiner reports, the point-by-point response and revised thesis.
  - 96.2.3 At resubmission, examiners will only be allowed to recommend A or NA;
  - 96.2.4 The Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee may recommend termination of candidature if:
    - 96.2.4.1 Any examiner in the revised thesis recommend NA; or
    - 96.2.4.2 The candidate fails to resubmit within the allowed timeframe without an approved extension.
- 96.3 One examiner recommends A and the other RR:
  - 96.3.1 All procedures outlined in Sub-Regulation 96.2 will be followed for the result of RR;
  - 96.3.2 Alternatively, the candidate and Principal Supervisor may request in writing that the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee review the examiners' reports and appoint an adjudicator;
    - 96.3.2.1 The request must be presented in writing and highlight issues that the candidate and Principle Supervisor believe are enough for the appointment of an adjudicator.
- 96.4 One or more of the examiners recommends NA the first time:
  - 96.4.1 The Dean of Graduate Studies will contact the Supervisors and Advisory Committee and relevant Postgraduate Research Chair to discuss the outcome and possible options;

- 96.4.2 The matter will be referred to the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee for the appropriate action which could include:
  - 96.4.2.1 That Supervisors and the candidate be asked to submit a response to the examiner to provide recommendations for further consideration by the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee;
  - 96.4.2.2 That the thesis should be sent to either an adjudicator or additional examiner immediately; or
  - 96.4.2.3 That the thesis be revised and resubmitted for re-examination; or
  - 96.4.2.4 That, in the instance of two or more examiners recommending NA, that the examination outcome be recorded as NA and candidature terminated; or
  - 96.4.2.5 Any other course of action as deemed appropriate to the situation.
- 96.4.3 The Dean of Graduate Studies will communicate the examiner recommendations and the course of action recommended by the Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee to the candidate, their Supervisors and Advisory Committee, and their relevant Postgraduate Research Chair within ten (10) University working days following the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee decision.
- 96.4.4 The Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee will not recommend that a degree be awarded and may recommend termination of candidature if:
  - 96.4.4.1 All examiners recommend NA;
  - 96.4.4.2 An appointed adjudicator supports the recommendation of NA;
  - 96.4.4.3 An additional examiner recommends NA;
  - 96.4.4.4 Examiners recommend the candidate be awarded another degree;
  - 96.4.4.5 Examiners recommend the candidate resubmit their thesis for examination for another degree; or
  - 96.4.4.6 The candidate has failed to undertake the actions required by the Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee within the specified timeframe without an approved extension and after notification has been given.

#### Appointment of adjudicator

- 97. The appointment of an adjudicator will only be considered in the circumstances consistent with Sub-Regulation 96.3.2 which indicate substantive disagreement between the recommendations of the examiners.

- 97.1 An adjudicator is required to adjudicate between the examiner reports in the context of the thesis and to make a recommendation to the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee.
- 97.2 An adjudicator must be a senior academic with expertise in the field of the research topic, and extensive experience in graduate research degree supervision and the Australian thesis examination system.
- 97.3 The adjudicator should be determined after consultation between the Principle Supervisor, relevant Postgraduate Research Chair and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

#### The appointment of a new examiner

- 98. The appointment of a new examiner will only be considered in the extraordinary circumstances where there is a substantive reason (which must be identified by the Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee) to believe that one of the examiner reports is biased or otherwise inappropriate and should be disallowed.
  - 98.1 To request an alternative examiner, a formal written request must be provided by the candidate, Supervisors and Advisory Committee to the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee for consideration.
  - 98.2 The request must provide evidence for the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee to:
    - 98.2.1 Conclude that an examiner was biased or otherwise inappropriate in their assessment.
    - 98.2.2 If an additional examiner is approved, the examination from the additional examiner will be considered by the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee in conjunction with the original allowed examiner reports.
- 99. All examiners will be advised of the final outcome of the examination process.
  - 99.1 When the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee requires that the thesis be revised and resubmitted, the examiners will be advised of that decision at the time it is made and where necessary invited to re-examine the revised thesis.
  - 99.2 Examiners will be provided with a de-identified copy of the allowed reports of the other examiner(s).
- 100. The candidate may appeal any decision of the Research Degrees and Scholarship Committee or Dean of Graduate Studies in relation to the examination process or outcome in accordance with the *Student Appeals Policy*.

#### Resubmission of Thesis

- 101. A candidate whose thesis is classified as RR will remain enrolled until the thesis is resubmitted for examination.

### Award of Degree

102. Where it is recommended that a degree be Awarded A, Academic Council must be advised once the requirements for the final production of the thesis have been met, as outlined in the *Graduate Research Degrees Procedure*.

### Thesis Access

103. The copies of a candidate's thesis in the University Library are available for consultation, loan and photocopying, subject to any restrictions contained in the *Copyright Act 1968 (C'th)*.

103.1 Subject to Sub-Regulation 103.2, an access restriction (embargo) normally not exceeding one year may be approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies in exceptional circumstances, if requested by the candidate and supported by the Principal Supervisor in writing.

103.2 Where, pursuant to the terms of any agreement between the University, the candidate and/or any third party, obligations of confidentiality are imposed in relation to all or a section/s of a candidate's thesis, an access restriction as specified in the agreement will automatically apply to the thesis or section/s of it, consistent with the terms and conditions of those confidentiality obligations.

## **SECTION 2: REGULATIONS GOVERNING ALL MATTERS IN RELATION TO COURSEWORK UNDERTAKEN AS A REQUIREMENT IN THE GRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREES OF MURDOCH UNIVERSITY**

104. The Regulations in Section 2 apply to all matters governing courses or units undertaken as a requirement in the graduate research degrees of the University unless Academic Council has approved otherwise.

### **Award of Credit or Advanced Standing**

105. Subject to Sub-Regulation 31.3, candidates may be granted credit on the basis of previous studies undertaken at this or another recognised university or tertiary institution, in accordance with *Advanced Standing Policy*.
106. Academic Council has overriding responsibility for all courses in accordance with the *Academic Planning Policy*.
107. Enrolment in Work Integrated Learning units must be in accordance with the *Work Integrated Learning Policy* and *Guideline* as approved by Academic Council.
108. The assessment methods of each unit shall comply with the *Assessment Policy*.

### **Structure of Graduate Research Degree Courses**

109. Unless otherwise approved by Academic Council (see Schedule E), in addition to Regulation 1, in order to be awarded a graduate research degree at Murdoch University, a candidate must successfully complete the number of credit points required for that award (subject to reduction as a result of the use of any credit awarded under Regulation 105), as listed below:

109.1 Doctoral Degree (Professional): 24 credit points of graduate coursework and a research thesis of 48 to 60 credit points (see Schedule E for details by degree course); or

109.2 Masters Degree (Research): 12 credit points of graduate coursework and a research thesis of 24 credit points.

### **Academic Progress**

110. Academic Chairs within the Colleges are responsible for the academic matters and the respective enrolled graduate research degree candidates within their relevant College, as set out in the *College Regulations*.

111. The Academic Progress of each candidate enrolled in the coursework component of a graduate research degree is reviewed periodically, usually at the end of each teaching period.

112. In order to make Satisfactory Progress, a candidate must:

112.1 pass units with a value of at least half the points in the enrolled units for that academic period and for which results were due, subject to Regulations 119, 119 and 120;

112.2 gain at least three credit points in each academic year except when enrolled solely in the thesis component of a course (see Regulations 119, 119 and 120);

112.3 satisfy any additional progress rules for the course, as published on the College website or University Handbook; and

112.4 complete the course within the period specified in Regulation 31.

113. For the purpose of determining Satisfactory Progress:

113.1 in calculating the total number of points for which a candidate was enrolled in an academic period, withdrawals on or before the last date for a withdrawal of a unit will be disregarded; and

113.2 where a unit spans two or more academic periods, the credit points for the unit shall be counted towards the credit points total of the period in which the unit is completed (or withdrawn from). Withdrawals which occur after the end of one academic period of the unit but before the start of the next period, shall be considered to have occurred during the former period.

114. Following confirmation of results by the Board of Examiners, the University will determine whether:

114.1 the candidate has made Satisfactory Progress;

114.2 there is Cause for Concern in relation to the candidate;

114.3 the candidate demonstrates Poor Performance; or

114.4 the candidate has made Unsatisfactory Progress.

115. To maintain Satisfactory Progress, a candidate must pass units with a value of at least 50% of the credit points in which they were enrolled after the last date for withdrawal without penalty of the teaching period under review (In the case of units taken over two semesters, the credit points shall be included within the



credit points total of the semester in which the unit is completed or withdrawn from after the last date for withdrawal without penalty).

116. The University has Cause for Concern when a candidate has one of the following outcomes in any teaching period:
  - 116.1 fails more than 50% of the credit points in which they were enrolled after the last date for withdrawal for the teaching period under review;
  - 116.2 fails a unit;
  - 116.3 withdraws from all units between the census date and the last date to withdraw with a WD outcome; or
  - 116.4 is awarded a supplementary assessment.
117. A candidate demonstrates Poor Performance when they generate Cause for Concern under Sub-Regulations 116.2 to 116.4 in two consecutive teaching periods.
118. A candidate makes Unsatisfactory Progress when they fail more than 50% of the credit points in which they were enrolled as set out in Sub-Regulation 116.1 in two consecutive teaching periods.
119. Candidates who fail to gain at least three credit points in an academic year shall be sent a warning letter which may include attached conditions for continued enrolment.
120. Candidates who fail to gain at least three points in the following academic period, and were formally warned in writing on the first occasion, shall be asked to show cause why:
  - 120.1 the candidate should not withdraw from the course and apply to enrol in an alternate graduate research degree; or
  - 120.2 the candidature should not be terminated.
121. Candidates who have withdrawn from all their units in an academic year before the Census Date of the relevant academic period(s), must apply for re-admission in order to study in the following year, subject to Regulation 7.
122. Candidates who have successfully completed all units required for the coursework component of the graduate research degree may commence on the research component towards the thesis.
123. Candidates who fail the thesis component do not make satisfactory progress.
124. The relevant College Board may recommend to Academic Council to establish additional rules for satisfactory progress in the coursework component of a graduate research degree. These rules shall be included in the University Handbook or on the College website. Candidates may be terminated from the candidature if they fail to meet these additional rules.
125. A candidate may appeal against the final result awarded in a unit in accordance with the *Student Appeals Policy*.

#### Termination from a Course

126. Candidates who do not make satisfactory progress, as specified in Regulation 112, will have their graduate research degree enrolment terminated.

127. A candidate who is terminated from a graduate research degree course is not permitted to complete any continuing unit for that course and shall not be eligible for readmission to the same course as per Regulation 70 and subject to Regulation 7.

127.1 The candidate may apply for readmission to another course, in accordance with the admission procedures of Murdoch University and Regulation 71, and is subject to Regulations 7 and 31.

128. A candidate may appeal against a termination from a graduate research degree course in accordance with the *Student Appeals Policy*.

## **Related Legislation:**

### **Statutes**

[Statute No. 4 - Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates](#)

### **Regulations**

[Student Discipline Regulations](#)

### **Policies**

[Advanced Standing Policy](#)

[Assessment Policy 2016 August 01](#)

[Award Nomenclature, Certification and Issuance Policy](#)

[Curriculum Policy](#)

[Research Misconduct Policy](#)

[Responsible Conduct of Research Policy](#)

[Student Appeals Policy](#)

[Work Integrated Learning Policy](#)

### **Procedures**

[Graduate Research Degrees Procedure](#)

[Graduate Research Degrees Dispute Resolution Procedure](#)

[Research Misconduct Procedure](#)

### **Guidelines**

[Graduate Research Degrees Advisory Committee Guideline](#)

[Graduate Research Degrees Confirmation of Candidature Guideline](#)

[Graduate Research Degrees with a Creative or Production-Based Thesis Guideline](#)

[Graduate Research Degrees Thesis Style Guideline: Thesis by Compilation](#)

[Work Integrated Learning Units Guideline](#)

## **References:**

- Australian Qualifications Framework Council. 2011. *Australian Qualifications Framework*. SA: Council of the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment.  
[http://www.aqf.edu.au/Portals/0/Documents/Handbook/AustQuals%20FrmwrkFinalEditionJuly2011\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.aqf.edu.au/Portals/0/Documents/Handbook/AustQuals%20FrmwrkFinalEditionJuly2011_FINAL.pdf).
- Graduate Research School. 2012. *Appointment of Supervisors of Higher Degree by Research Students*. WA, Perth: University of Western Australia.
2008. *Code of Higher Degree Research (HDR) Practice and Code of Supervisory Practice*. NSW: Macquarie University.
2007. *Code of Practice for Research Higher Degree Candidature Policy*. NSW: The University of Newcastle.
- Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. 2010. *Research Training Scheme*. Canberra, ACT: Commonwealth of Australia.
2012. *Handbook for Doctoral and MPhil Degrees*. Melbourne, VIC: Monash University.
2010. *Higher Degree Research Supervisory Practice Policy*. NSW: Macquarie University.
- Melbourne School of Graduate Research. 2011. *The PhD Handbook 2011*. Melbourne, VIC: The University of Melbourne.
- National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Research Council, and Universities Australia. 2007. *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research*. Canberra, ACT: Australian Government.
2009. *Professional Doctorate Policy*. QLD: Griffith University.
2010. *Research Higher Degrees Policies and Procedures*. Adelaide, SA: Flinders University.
2011. *Rule No. 10 Made Pursuant to Statute No. 12 – Enrolment: Degree of Doctor by Research*. WA, Perth: Curtin University of Technology.
2011. *Rule No. 11 Made Pursuant to Statute No. 12 – Enrolment: Degree of Master by Research*. WA, Perth: Curtin University of Technology.
2008. *Supervision of Research Students Policy*. Melbourne, VIC: La Trobe University.

### **Implementation:**

At its meeting of 8 August 2012, Academic Council resolved by AC/124/2012(i), (ii) and (iii) to recommend *Graduate Research Degrees Regulations* to Senate for approval with an implementation date of 1 January 2013.

Senate, at its meeting of 3 October 2012, resolved by S/22/2012(ii) that Academic Council or its nominated subordinate committee approves future revisions to Schedules A to E as attached to the *Graduate Research Degrees Regulations*, to facilitate more efficient regular approvals of revisions.

### **Approval and Implementation:**

<b>Approval Authority:</b>	Senate
<b>Responsible Officer(s):</b>	University Secretary

### Revision History:

Version	Date Approved	Effective Date (if later than 'Date Approved')	Next Review Date	Resolution No. (if applicable)
Approved	13/05/2020		13/05/2023	S/09/2020
AC recommended to Senate	06/05/2020			AC/38/2020
RC recommended Schedules A,B,C,D,E to AC	04/03/2020			RC/02/2020(iii)
Schedule B amended by AC	06/07/2018			AC/57/2018
Schedule E amended by AC	05/07/2017			AC/79/2017
Approved	09/03/2017		09/03/2020	S/07/2017(i)
Rescinded S/44/2014(i)	09/03/2017			S/07/2017(ii)
AC recommended to Senate	17/02/2017			AC/29/2017(i)(ii)
Schedule D approved by AC	17/08/2016		05/11/2017	AC/95/2016(i)
Schedule D rescinded by AC AC/144/2014(vii)	17/08/2016			AC/95/2016(ii)
Approved	10/12/2014		05/11/2017	S/44/2014(i)
Rescinded S/22/2012(i)	10/12/2014			S/44/2014(ii)
AC recommended to Senate	05/11/2014			AC/144/2014(i) to (x)
Approved by Senate	03/10/2012	01/01/2013	08/08/2015	S/22/2012(i)
AC recommended to Senate	08/08/2012	01/01/2013		AC/124/2012(i)

**Note: All enquiries relating to Legislation should be referred to the University Secretary's Office.**