

Appendix 1

Regulations for the research degrees (PhD/MPhil and other doctoral degrees)

1 General

- 1.1 These regulations are made under paragraphs 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 of the Regulations for the Award of Postgraduate Degrees.
- 1.2 In these regulations definitions shall apply as in the Regulations for the Award of Postgraduate Degrees and in the Interpretation Section of the Academic Rules and Regulations.

2 Research Degrees Committee

- 2.1 The Research Degrees Committee (referred to in these Regulations as 'the RDC') shall approve applications for and oversee the progress of all students registered on the programme as required in these regulations. Terms of Reference of the RDC are available in Appendix 6.

3 Entry Requirements

- 3.1 Entry requirements of the research degrees are given in page 7 of the *Guidebook*.
- 3.2 An applicant shall satisfy the RDC that he/she has sufficient command of the language (normally Chinese or English) in which the course of study and research is to be undertaken and in which the thesis is to be presented. At the time of admission, the RDC shall stipulate whether the thesis is to be presented in Chinese or English.
- 3.3 No applicant who is already a candidate for a research degree at this or another institution may be admitted to the programme, unless the express permission of the RDC is obtained.

4 The Award of PhD/MPhil and other Doctoral Degrees

- 4.1 To be eligible for the award of the PhD/MPhil and other doctoral degrees, a student shall:
 - 4.1.1 comply with the Regulations for Admission, Registration and Maintenance of Status; and
 - 4.1.2 comply with the Regulations for the Award of Postgraduate Degrees.
- 4.2 The RDC may approve or prescribe special conditions for any applicant, including undertaking a preliminary course of study and/or performing satisfactorily in an examination, oral or written, either before the date of commencement, or during the period of, the programme of study and research.
- 4.3 The RDC shall determine the date of commencement of study. For the PhD and MPhil programme, the date shall normally be the term commencement date of the Autumn, Spring and Summer term after the date of approval of the application by the RDC and after payment of all fees due. For other research postgraduate programmes involving coursework, the date of commencement of study shall normally be the term commencement date of the Autumn term.

- 4.4 Submission of the thesis for examination for the part-time MPhil and doctoral degrees shall normally be subject to the following time frame:

Programme	Time frame for submission of thesis
MPhil (part-time)	No less than two and no more than five years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the MPhil degree
PhD (part-time)	No less than two and no more than five years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the PhD degree
Other doctoral degrees with coursework components (part-time)	No less than two and no more than five years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the doctoral degree with coursework components

Any period outside the range should require the approval of the RDC.

- 4.5 Submission of the thesis for examination for the full-time MPhil/doctoral degrees shall normally be subject to the following time frame:

Programme	Time frame for submission of thesis
MPhil (full-time)	No less than one and no more than two years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the MPhil degree
PhD (full-time)	No less than one and no more than three years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the PhD degree
Other doctoral degrees with coursework components (full-time)	No less than one and no more than two years after a student's first registration for the thesis of the doctoral degree with coursework components

Any period outside the range should require the approval of the RDC.

- 4.6 The period of study and research from admission to the programme to the satisfactory completion of the thesis, including periods of leave of absence and/or suspension of studies (if any), shall normally be subject to the following time frame:

Programme	Period of study and research from admission to completion
MPhil	Full-time: no more than three years Part-time: no more than six years
PhD	Full-time: no more than four years Part-time: no more than eight years
Other doctoral degrees with coursework components	Full-time: no more than four years Part-time: no more than eight years

- 4.7 A registered student shall follow under supervision a prescribed programme of study and research for the specified period in a field approved by the RDC.
- 4.8 A registered student may not register or enroll for any other research degree of the University or of any other institution during the period of study and research, unless the express permission of the RDC is obtained.
- 4.9 The Senate may, on the recommendation of the RDC, terminate the registration of any student at any time on the grounds of unsatisfactory performance or of failure to comply with these Regulations by the student.
- 4.10 A registered student who wishes to be examined for the degree shall give notice, as specified by the University, of the intention to present a thesis. The student shall be required to attend an oral examination, and present the thesis in the form prescribed by the University, and it shall become the property of the University. Consultation of the theses would follow the policies of the University.