Research Capability Assessment for New Course Proposals

Section 1 - Purpose

(1) This document outlines the research capability assessment required for new course proposals, and supports the [New Course Development Policy](#) and [New Course Development Procedure](#).

Section 2 - Scope

(2) New course proposals for research courses must be submitted with a rationale, and a course proposal form and provide the information required in the relevant section below.

Section 3 - Procedure

Research Capacity Assessment for Honours Courses

(3) The Faculty is required to demonstrate:

a. the academic viability of student numbers, both current and potential, in the honours course;

b. the availability of suitably qualified and experienced supervisory staff within the Faculty/Research Centre;

c. the availability of appropriate facilities within the Faculty/Research Centre, or through collaborative arrangements within the University, or with external institutions and organisations;

d. how the honours students would be integrated into research activities in the Faculty/ Research Centre and, where appropriate, other Faculties or Research Centres;

e. whether the broad field of study or specific discipline in which the honours studies will be undertaken is currently related to the Faculty/Research Centre's research activities and is linked to the aims and objectives of the appropriate professional bodies;

f. an indication of the views of the relevant professions on the development of an honours degree and/or a degree with honours in the particular field of study or discipline, including evidence that an honours programme is common practice in that field of study or discipline; and

g. potential overlap of the studies with other relevant honours programmes within the University.

(4) Accreditation documentation should also include a copy of a Faculty/Research Centre guide to students and staff involved in honours programmes. This guide should include, amongst other matters, information on the objectives of the course, selection criteria, advanced standing, supervision, examination and assessment.

Research Capacity Assessment for Masters by Research

(5) The Faculty is required to demonstrate:

a. alignment with University and Faculty/Research Centre research priorities, and relationship to the Faculty/Research Centre's research activities;

b. relationship to the aims and objectives of professional bodies where appropriate;

c. the academic viability of student numbers, both current and potential, in the masters course;

d. the availability of suitably qualified and experienced supervisory staff within the Faculty/Research Centre;

e. the availability of appropriate facilities within the Faculty/Research Centre, or through collaborative arrangements within the University, or with external institutions and organisations;

f. how the masters students would be integrated into research activities in the Faculty/ Research Centre and, where appropriate, other Faculties or Research Centres;

g. compliance with government requirements for research degrees and University policy for the relevant type of degree (criteria, admission requirements, advanced standing, thesis requirements etc); and

h. relationship to coursework courses offered by the Faculty.

Research Capacity Assessment for Professional Doctorates

(6) The Faculty is required to demonstrate:

a. alignment with University and Faculty/Research Centre research priorities, and relationship to the Faculty/Research Centre's research activities;

b. relationship to the aims and objectives of professional bodies where appropriate;

c. the academic viability of student numbers, both current and potential, in the course;

d. the availability of suitably qualified and experienced supervisory staff within the Faculty/Research Centre;

e. the availability of appropriate facilities within the Faculty/Research Centre, or through collaborative arrangements within the University, or with external institutions and organisations;

f. how the professional doctorate students would be integrated into research activities in the Faculty/ Research Centre and, where appropriate, other Faculties or Research Centres;

g. professional acceptance for the course, clear linkage between professional practice and academic study, and acceptance of professional doctorates as a doctoral form in the relevant profession;

h. relationship to coursework courses offered by the Faculty; and

i. compliance with government requirements for research degrees and University policy for the relevant type of degree (criteria, admission requirements, advanced standing, thesis requirements etc.).

Research Capacity Assessment for New PhD Specialisations

(7) The Faculty is required to demonstrate:

a. rationale for the new specialisation;

b. alignment with University and Faculty/Research Centre research priorities, and relationship to the Faculty/Research Centre's research activities;

c. relationship to the aims and objectives of professional bodies where appropriate;

d. the academic viability of student numbers, both current and potential, in the specialisation;

e. the availability of suitably qualified and experienced supervisory staff within the Faculty/Research Centre;

f. the availability of appropriate facilities within the Faculty/Research Centre, or through collaborative arrangements within the University, or with external institutions and organisations; and

g. how the students would be integrated into research activities in the Faculty/Research Centre and, where appropriate, other Faculties or Research Centres.

Status and Details

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