



Conversion from Master's to PhD Degree Programme



Conversion from Master's to PhD Degree Programme

A student may apply for conversion from a Master's Degree by Research to a PhD degree programme. If the application is successful, the student is required to comply with all requirements for a PhD degree.

An independent committee shall be appointed by the Faculty/Institute/School to evaluate the application for conversion and this committee shall make its recommendations to the Dean through the Faculty/Institute/School for approval by the University Graduate Studies Committee or its equivalent, and endorsement by the Senate. The following rules apply.

(i) The student must:

- (a) have completed at least two (2) semesters or one (1) year but not more than four (4) semesters or two (2) years of the Master's degree programme;
- (b) have completed the coursework requirements of the Faculty/Institute and obtained a minimum CGPA of 3.670 (if applicable).
- (c) have published or show proof of acceptance of an article in a refereed journal or its equivalent (e.g. book chapter) based on research done during candidacy;
- (d) submit an extended research proposal that meets the scope of a PhD degree; and
- (e) have passed the conversion examination.

- (ii) The Chairman of the Supervisory Committee shall verify in writing in the form of a report that the student:
 - (a) has the ability to integrate knowledge of research and/or theories pertaining to issues that are fundamental to the field of study;
 - (b) demonstrates critical, analytical and independent thinking skills; and
 - (c) has a good understanding of relevant research design and methodology.
- (iii) The Faculty/Institute/School shall appoint an independent committee, comprising a minimum of three members with the Coordinator of Graduate Studies of the Faculty/Institute/School, or his representative as the Chairman.
- (iv) The independent committee shall:
 - (a) evaluate the extent to which the Master's research has progressed, and the proposal for the doctoral research via a seminar presentation;
 - (b) advise the student of areas to be examined;
 - (c) conduct the conversion examination (which will consist of written as well as oral examinations); and
 - (d) submit a comprehensive report to the School through the Faculty/Institute highlighting the merits and achievements that will support or justify the conversion.
 - (v) If the conversion is approved within the first seven (7) weeks of the semester, it shall take effect immediately. Otherwise, the conversion shall take effect the following semester.

