

Higher Degrees by Research Honours Equivalence Checklist

To accompany application for admission or scholarship for Higher Degree by Research. Refer to Notes on page 2.

| | | | |
|---|---|--------------------|---|
| Student Number (if available) | <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> | Course: | <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> |
| Surname: | <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> | Given Name: | <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> |

1. a. Have you completed an Honours degree? Yes No

b. If yes, What was your Honours result: Honours 1 Honours 2A

Honours 2B Other: _____

2. a. Have you completed a Masters by Coursework Degree Yes No

b. If yes, did you complete research units within this degree Yes No

c. If yes, please specify these units:

1

2

3

4

3. Have you completed a Master by Research (100% research)? Yes No

4. a. Have you completed a Graduate Diploma? Yes No

b. If yes, did you complete research units within this degree? Yes No

c. If yes, please specify these units:

1

2

3

4

5 a. Do you have any research publications? Yes No *Refereed?*

b. If yes, please list:

1 Yes

2 Yes

3 Yes

4 Yes

Please attach copies and provide evidence if the publications are refereed.

6 a. Have you authored any research reports? Yes No

b. If yes, please list:

1

2

3

4

Please attach copies.

7 Are you requesting an exception? (*see Notes*) Yes No

If so, please attach a supporting letter from your potential supervisor, supported by the Head of the relevant School.

| ENDORSEMENTS: | Hons. Equiv. Assessment | Name | Date | Signature |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|-----------|
| ORI Assessment: | | | | |
| Principal Supervisor: | | | | |
| Executive Dean or Delegate | | | | |

Please return this form to the Office of Research and Innovation, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, NT 0909. Fax (08) 8946 7066.

Notes

PRINCIPLES FOR GAUGING HONOURS EQUIVALENCE

It is problematic for members of any board or committee of academics to judge the competing arguments and requirements of candidates from very different scholarly traditions. The nature of the research project in Engineering or Medicine may be very different from that required for Literature or Political Science, for example. Thus, the demonstration of a candidate's potential for higher degree research may equally require qualitatively different evidence. The Honours degree has been seen as the great leveller in this regard.

In determining Honours Equivalence consideration may be given to alternative* qualifications and/or research experience and publications.

The primary principles for deciding the value to be given to alternative* qualifications for the purpose of entry into a research degree are:

- Successful completion of a Masters by Research Degree is considered equivalent to a First Class Honours.
- To be deemed equivalent to a First Class Honours, the research component of an alternative* coursework based degree must comprise at least 0.5FTE and must be achieved with a High Distinction level result overall. Where the alternative* coursework based degree is not awarded with a merit based grade or the grade achieved is less than a High Distinction evidence of publication output as detailed below is essential in order to be considered for First Class Honours equivalence.
- To be deemed equivalent to a Second Class Honours A, the research component of an alternative* coursework based degree must comprise at least 0.5FTE (or the equivalent of one half a year's full-time load**) and any graded coursework based degree must be achieved with a Distinction level result overall.
- To be equivalent to a Second Class Honours B, the research component of an alternative* coursework based degree should be at least 0.25 FTE (or the equivalent one quarter of a year's full-time load**) for a Masters by Coursework and at least 0.5FTE (or the equivalent of one half a year's full-time load**) for a Graduate Diploma.

*Acceptable alternative qualifications for entry into the PhD program include a Masters by Coursework Degree and a Masters by Research Degree. For entry into the Masters by Research Program a Graduate Diploma may also be considered.

** It is important then to be able to determine what constitutes a full-time load. At CDU 80 credit points constitutes a full-time load, but this varies between universities. Relevant documentation regarding the full-time equivalence should be provided with the academic transcripts for this purpose.

Research Experience

To qualify, the applicant should have substantial experience as a research officer actively engaged in research. They should be able to demonstrate their ability to undertake a higher degree by research through their output. A minimum of three journal articles or similar, not necessarily in the Australian Government's principal publication categories would be expected. Where publications do not qualify as Australian Government audited categories, full copies of the publications must be provided at the time of application for admission so that an academic assessment of equivalence may be made.

Such experience may allow an upgrade from a Pass degree or Honours IIB to Honours IIA or First Class Honours equivalence, depending on ability to demonstrate proven research potential.

Creative Arts

It is recognised that for creative arts students the Australian Government categories of publications are often not appropriate and that exhibitions and performances are often of equal merit. Therefore, applicants with a Creative Arts background who are looking to attain entry into a research degree in Creative Arts will be able to:

Participate in an Interview with a selection panel convened by the Head of School of Creative Arts & Humanities. The interview format will be provided to applicants in advance. . Applicants will need to provide their portfolio, a CV and a piece of written work, *as well as* presenting the following in place of traditional publications:

- **International Exhibitions or Performances** – at least **1 major** work of scholarship (or **2 joint** works), advertised in the international press and held at a recognised international gallery, theatre or equivalent. Sufficient to upgrade from pass or Honours IIA or IIB to First Class Honours equivalence.

or

- **National Exhibitions or Performances** – at least **2 solo** works of scholarship (or **3 joint** works), advertised in the *major* national press and held at a recognised national gallery, theatre or equivalent. Sufficient to upgrade from pass or Honours IIA or IIB to First Class Honours equivalence.

Publications

Other than as detailed under research experience and creative arts above publications should fit into Australian Government's audited publication categories (A1, B, C1, E1) and be relevant to the proposed area of study.

- **Books** – at least **1 major** work of scholarship, published as single author. Sufficient to upgrade from pass or Honours IIA or IIB to First Class Honours equivalence.
- **Refereed Journal Articles / Book Chapters**— at least **2** journal articles/book chapters. Sufficient to upgrade Honours IIA to First Class Honours equivalence.
- **Refereed Journal Articles / Book Chapters**— at least **3** journal articles/book chapters. Sufficient to upgrade pass or Honours IIB to First Class Honours equivalence.
- **Conference publications** — at least **3** published papers, subject to editorial scrutiny and peer review. Upgrade pass or Honours IIB/IIA to First Class Honours equivalence.

Definition of 'refereed'

An acceptable peer review process is one that involves an assessment or review of the research publication in its entirety before publication by independent, qualified experts. Independent in this context means independent of the author.

Exceptions

Special exemption from the above requirements may be granted by the Chair of the Research Panel where a compelling case has been made by a potential supervisor supported by the head of the relevant school