



Academic Year 2023-24

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Introduction

1. These regulations set out the framework within which Middlesex University (“we”, “us”, “our”) offers postgraduate research study to students (“you”, “your”, “doctoral researcher”, “postgraduate researcher”). They form part of our Enrolment Terms and Conditions, and in cases of doubt have precedence of specific individual policies. You should also read the guidance for postgraduate researchers.
 2. The following regulations and policies also apply:
 - a. The [University Regulations](#), and in particular sections F (Academic Integrity and Misconduct) and H (Student Responsibilities).
 - b. Any university research policies apply to you as a research student.
 3. If there is a dispute about the meaning of these regulations, or their interpretation, the University’s Academic Registrar will be asked to decide. Their decision will be final.
 4. These regulations apply to all students who registered for a postgraduate research degree from September 2022. The provisions relating to assessment benefit all students and are therefore applicable to all postgraduate research students regardless of the date of registration.
 5. A research degree means an award with the following characteristics
 - a. A research degree (u) T 2 9 8 (
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Glossary

9. Some words in these regulations have specific meanings, as follows:

means the process through which we decide whether to offer a place to you and you decide whether to accept the offer.

means the degree qualification which is awarded on successful completion of a degree programme.

means an initial period of registration, during which we monitor carefully your progress and at the end of which we may confirm or end your registration.

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Admissions

11. You must apply for, and be accepted by us, to register as a postgraduate researcher.
12. We may offer you a place on a degree programme different to that for which you applied.
13. In the case of research degrees where there are linked awards at level 7 (masters) and level 8 (doctoral) we

27. You may not submit your thesis for final assessment before the minimum registration period for your degree outlined in paragraph 26 above has passed.
28. You are expected submit your thesis/dissertation and all other work for your final assessment by the submission date outlined in paragraph 26 above.
29. If you have not submitted for your final assessment by the end of the maximum candidature end date, set out in paragraph 26 above, your registration will be ended and you will not be eligible for the award of a degree.
30. Requests for extensions beyond the candidature period will not normally be considered. However, in the case of unforeseen and very exceptional circumstances occurring in the final stages of the programme, it may be possible, with supporting evidence, to request a short extension to your candidature period (usually for no more than a maximum of 3 months).

Progression review

31. We will annually review the progress of all postgraduate researchers. We will include you even if you have interrupted your study (or are writing up for pre Sept 2022 entries): this is to help us to ensure that your overall research study remains on track and to recalibrate your registration plan. We will consider, when assessing your progress, any extenuating circumstances which you tell us about. We may ask to see evidence to support your claim.

Satisfactory progress is judged in relation to; meeting of milestones as set out in your registration plan, researcher engagement in your programme – particularly regular supervision - and-1.4 (y)-5 (t)2 aWsioa en(i)-

Specific provision for ArtsM to ArtsD transfer

47. For transfer from ArtsM to ArtsD the transfer portfolio (see paragraph 43 above) should comprise:
- a. A significant body of artistic work (which may be a series of in-progress works) undertaken during your registration accompanied by exposition material(s) that articulate and evidence this work at the standard required for a level 8 award (see paragraph 55 below). Together these should demonstrate a rigorous approach to artistic practice, a good understanding of the research context, appropriate research design and methods. The exposition may be in text form or in aural, visual, digital or other performative modes. AND
 - b. A clear explanation of research undertaken and future research to be done. This may be presented in written form or by other means and must clarify the independent and original contribution to artistic practice and/or interpretation/understanding that is likely to emerge.
48. Your work for the ArtsM may suggest that your research is more theoretical than practical: in this case you may apply instead to transfer to the PhD degree. Your application will be considered in line with paragraphs 42 to 44 above.

Specific provisions: MProf to DProf transfer

49. [This paragraph applies only to MProf/DProf students first registered before Sept 2022]. When you have successfully completed the preparatory research training phase you must submit a proposed programme of research. This will be considered by a Programme Approval Panel, which is the equivalent of the transfer panel. The outcome of that panel will be either:
- a. Approval of the programme, and recommendation that your registration be amended to DProf
 - b. Approval of the programme, and recommendation that your registration be amended to DProf, subject to minor revisions to the proposed programme within a set period of time
 - c. To refer back the proposal for further work and resubmission at a specified time. If the proposed programme is not then approved you may continue in registration for the MProf degree.

Specific provisions: DBA degree

50. [This paragraph applies only to DBA students first registered before Sept 2022]. When you have successfully completed the preparatory research training phase you must submit a proposed programme of research. This will be considered by a Programme Approval Panel, which is the equivalent of the transfer panel. The outcome of that panel will be either:
- a. Approval of the programme
 - b. That you be referred back for further work and reassessment, with resubmission within

c. That you

- a. A decision to end your registration (as set out in paragraph 21.b above)
- b. A decision to end your registration arising from an annual progress review (as set out in paragraph 30 above)
- c. A decision of a transfer panel (as set out in paragraph 42 above)
- d. The outcome of an Assessment Panel (as set out in paragraphs 59 and 60 above)

72. You may appeal on one or more of the following grounds:

- a. That there is evidence of a process failure of such a nature as to give reasonable grounds to consider that the outcome would have been different had the process failure not occurred
- b. That the judgement was based on an incomplete assessment of your performance
- c. That your performance was affected by factors which were not known to the panel, and could not reasonably have been made known to the panel

73. You must provide evidence to support your appeal. An appeal will not be considered if it is an unevicenced statement of disagreement with the decision made.

74. Your appeal must be

78. If the Panel decides to uphold your appeal it will recommend a course of action to the Research Degrees Board. This may include:
- a. A recommendation that the faculty or relevant panel review their decision, considering any new information
 - b. That you be given more time to prepare
 - c. In the case of an appeal against the result of a transfer panel or an Assessment Panel, that a new panel be convened to reconduct their assessment
79. We will aim to tell you the outcome of your appeal within three months from receipt of your full appeal.

Office of the Independent Adjudicator

80. If you are dissatisfied with the final outcome of our handling of your appeal, you may be able to ask the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (the OIA) to investigate. To do so you will need a Completion of Procedures letter: we will issue you with one when we have completed all internal steps (see paragraphs 69, 72 and 74 above).
81. If you wish to submit a complaint to the OIA you must do so within twelve months of the date of the Completion of Procedures Letter. You can find more information about the OIA's complaints scheme at their website: www.oiahe.org.uk.

29 July 2022

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