



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

College of Science and Engineering

Examination procedure

MScR candidates





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This guidance is intended for the assessment of MScR dissertations administered by College and should be used in conjunction with the PGR Assessment Regulations:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/policies-regulations/regulations/assessment>

The University's handbook on the external examining of research degrees can be accessed here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/pgrexternalexamininghandbook.pdf>

Examination timeframe

It is the aim of the University to complete the assessment of MScR dissertations within two months of the examiner receipt of the dissertation, if at all possible.

Nomination of examiners

Once a student has notified the College of their intention to submit their thesis, the College PGR team will contact the relevant School and ask for examiners to be nominated.

There are two examiners for MScR dissertations: one internal and one external.

Submission of thesis

Following dissertation submission, the College PGR team will send the dissertation and examination paperwork to the appointed examiners as soon as possible, providing the examiners have been appointed.

Assessment

Unless specified, no oral examination is required for the assessment of MScR degrees. The examination report should be submitted to the College PGR team within two months of receipt of the dissertation. Examiners are asked to report independently and without consultation with each other.

Available assessment outcomes are specified in the Postgraduate Research Assessment Regulations (Section E). The Common Marking Scheme referred to in the regulations can be found at:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/timetabling-examinations/exams/regulations/common-marking-scheme>

Examiners should refer to CMS4.



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Examiner discussions

If the recommended outcomes differ, the College PGR team will contact both examiners and request that they come to an agreed outcome.

The internal examiner will be asked to complete Part 2(a) of the report to confirm the agreed outcome.

Ratification of outcome

Once a joint outcome has been reached, the examiners' reports will be considered at the next College PGR Board of Examiners meeting. The College PGR Board of Examiners meets once a month, and is chaired by the Dean of Postgraduate Research, Prof Antony Maciocia.

The Postgraduate Research Assessment Regulations authorises the College PGR Board of Examiners to modify or change the examiners' recommendation where appropriate.

Notification of outcome

After the Board has ratified the examination recommendation, the College PGR team will notify the student of the outcome within 5 working days of the meeting. The notification will be sent by email to the student's University of Edinburgh email address. If the award is approved, a letter confirming that the College has recommended that the student receive an award will be issued.

No final dissertation submission is required for MScR degrees.

External examiner fees and expenses

A fee of £130 is paid to each examiner for assessing an MScR dissertation. Payment will be processed on receipt of the external examiner fee claim form and examiner report form. The completed forms should be sent by email to the College PGR team.