



Higher doctorates

The degrees of Doctor of Letters (DLitt), Doctor of Science (DSc), Doctor of Engineering (Deng), Doctor of Business (DBus) and Doctor of Laws (LLD) may be awarded by the University.

A higher doctorate may be awarded by University Academic Board on the recommendation of Research Degrees Committee for original and substantial contributions of distinction which add to the knowledge and understanding of any branch of learning with which the University is concerned.

Eligibility for Admission

Subject to these regulations a faculty may accept as a candidate for the relevant higher doctorate a person who has, or has had, a substantial association with the University and is either;

- a graduate of the faculty concerned, or
- a graduate of another QUT faculty, or
- a graduate of another university of institution of education recognised by Research Degrees Committee as being equivalent to a QUT degree.

Providing that the period of time since the candidate was admitted to the qualifying award referred to above, and the date of application for the higher doctorate is greater than five years in the case of a doctoral degree, or greater than ten years in the case of another award.

Preliminary Assessment

A person who desires to become a candidate for a higher doctorate shall apply in writing to the Registrar. The application shall detail the applicant's grounds for admission, achievements and the work to be submitted for the higher doctorate, as well as the faculty of candidature.

The candidate shall appoint a committee to determine

- whether the work to be presented falls within the scope of the faculty and, if so,
- whether the quality and the quantity of the work to be presented justifies submitting the work for examination.

The faculty shall advise the Registrar whether or not it accepts the candidate and whether or not it approves submission of the work for examination.

The Registrar shall convey the faculty's decision to the applicant.

If it approves submission of the work, then the faculty shall nominate an Examination Committee, for approval by Research Degrees Committee, consisting of at least three examiners with not more than one internal examiner. The examiners must be widely recognised as having made an outstanding contribution to the relevant discipline. The internal examiner, or a nominee of Research Degrees Committee, shall be the Chairperson of the Examination Committee.

Content of the Submission

To qualify for the higher doctorate the candidate shall provide satisfactory evidence of outstanding scholarship and of an original, substantial and distinguished contribution to the knowledge, understanding, practice or creative achievement in any branch of learning with which the faculty is directly concerned.

Without limiting the generality of this evidence, the published work may be regarded as a distinguished contribution to knowledge if, in its field, the work

represents a significant advance in knowledge, or
is a major part of, or has given rise to a significant debate in, scholarly books and journals, or
has given rise to significant changes in the direction of research or of practice of a newer generation of scholars.

The higher doctorate shall be awarded primarily on consideration of such published works as the candidate may submit for examination.

The candidate, in submitting published works, shall state generally in a preface, and specifically in notes the main sources from which the information is derived and the extent to which the candidate has made use of the work of others, especially where joint publications are concerned. The candidate shall also indicate, in general terms, the portions of the work which are original.

The candidate is required to indicate what part, if any of the work has been submitted for another award in this or any other university.

The candidate shall lodge with the relevant faculty four copies of the work to be examined for the higher doctorate.

Examination

A candidate who complies with the foregoing conditions and satisfies the Examination Committee may, on the recommendation of Research Degrees Committee, be admitted to the appropriate higher doctorate by University Academic Board.

The decision of the Examination Committee must be unanimous and without conditions, However, examiners may request the Chairperson of the Examination Committee to require the candidate to answer any questions either orally or in writing. The Chairperson of the Examination Committee shall submit a report to Research Degrees Committee which will normally include the text of the examiners' reports.

A candidate shall not be allowed to resubmit the work after it has been examined.

One copy of any successful submission for a higher doctorate shall be lodged in the University library.

Related Documents

[Policy C/3.2 Award classifications Higher Doctorate](#)

http://www.mopp.qut.edu.au/C/C_03_02.html#C_03_02.09.doc)