

## CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FACULTY

Practice based research can serve as a **Method of Data Collection** or a **Means of Reporting**.

### 1.1 Practice as a Method of Data Collection

Here *Practice Based Research* is a research strategy offering up data for analysis. The practice is experimental and the results will be written up in the thesis. There is no reason for examiners to see the production.

When creative practice is used in this way the following word lengths apply:

PhD - 80,000 words

MA - 30,000 words

Normally photographic or video documentation of the creative work will be included to support and illuminate the knowledge claims made in the thesis.

### 1.2 Practice as a Means of Reporting

Here *Practice Based Research* sees the practice stand as an examinable component of the study. The knowledge claims in the work can only be made through the symbolic language of the artistic practice. The work must be witnessed and judged by examiners for the control of artistic form demonstrated within the context of the research project. Examiners will normally be briefed on the work prior to assessing it.

2.1 The **weighting** between the practice and the written component must be specified in advance. This will be at admission for the MA and no later than confirmation for the PhD.

2.2 The weighting for the practice component shall be between 40% and 75% of the whole study. The scope and scale of the practice is to be determined by the Director of CIRAC after consultations with the candidate, supervisors and Head(s) of the appropriate discipline(s). In establishing scale, scope and the weighting between the practice and written component of the study, due acknowledgement will be paid to the expectations of both the university and the profession.

2.3 Such a weighting requires the following MINIMUM word lengths for the written component of the study:

PhD - 20,000 words (25% of 80,000 words)

MA - 7,500 words (25% of 30,000 words)

Any variation to these minimum word lengths must be approved by the Director of CIRAC after consultations with the candidate, supervisors and Head(s) of the appropriate discipline(s).

2.4 The written component will:

1. Articulate the central research question, intention or matter under investigation in the study.
2. Specify the relationship between the written component and the practice component and whether it stands as an integrated part of the whole output of the award or is intended to be published/disseminated as a stand alone output.

3. Set down an account of work already undertaken in the field and this work's relationship to the field and, especially at the doctoral level, demonstrate its original contribution to that field.
  4. Outline the steps taken to address the central research question, intention or matter under investigation in the study.
- 2.5 The written component shall be in a form that communicates to the researcher's academic and professional colleagues.
- 2.6 The bound, library copy of each successfully examined thesis must be accompanied by a permanent record of the practice component. This will normally be in photographic, video, DVD or other multimedia format.

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