## Doctoral Research (MPhil/PhD) Pathway
(For students who started their course before 2018/19)

### Schedule for first 15-18 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Deliverable*</th>
<th>Target Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1 Topic Chosen</td>
<td>A brief (50 word) description of the general research topic.</td>
<td>Term 1 (week 2)</td>
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| M2 Supervisory Panel – Research Proposal Review | First report: outline research proposal (1000 words)  
- Outline of area of study and major literature  
- Outline of problem to be investigated  
- Work plan for Terms 2 and 3  
- Identify resources needed  
- Identify Proficio courses they need to attend to acquire necessary skills | End of Term 1  
i.e., December for October starters, March for January starters, and June for April starters.  
(End of Term 2 for PT students) |
| M3 Supervisory Panel – Full Progress Report and Progress to Year 2 | Full research proposal (5000 words) including  
- Broad review of specific relevant work published in peer reviewed journals  
- Identification of the area of study  
- Identification of key published work  
- Refined statement of the work to be undertaken, its aims and significance, especially its novelty and timeliness  
- Outline plan of work/milestones for following years of study  
- List Proficio and other courses attended and identify courses required in the future. | End of Term 3  
i.e., June for October starters, August/September for January starters, and December for April starters.  
(End of Term 5 for PT students) |
| M4 Quarterly progress review | The student should refine their M3 research proposal (7000 words):  
- Focus on key literature with critical and in-depth analysis  
- Clearly identify the major research questions which have not been addressed by others  
- Describe the investigative approach  
- Identify significant milestones and a plan for achieving them  
- Identify resources needed  
- List Proficio and other courses attended | End of Year 1  
i.e., August/September for October starters, December for January starters, and March for April starters. |
| M5 Supervisory Panel – KEY PROGRESS REVIEW – PhD Confirmation Point | Full progress report (10,000 words)  
- Evidence of appropriate academic writing standard  
- Full literature review including an in-depth discussion/critique of key published work.  
- Revised proposal indicating the main aspects that will be addressed in relation to published work.  
- Full report of experimental/theoretical work to date  
- Account of any problems encountered  
- Revised plan of work for remaining period of study  
- A thesis outline  
- Draft of first workshop, symposium, or conference paper if applicable. | End of Term 4  
i.e., December for October starters, March for January starters, and June for April starters.  
(Decision may be deferred to End of Term 5 if necessary if there is limited evidence of originality, experimental work and/or publication plans)  
(End of Term 8 for PT students) |

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*In the progress report, please highlight/mark the sections written or updated since the previous supervisory panel meeting.*
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M5.5</td>
<td>Supervisory Panel Progress Review and Progress to Year 3 Further training needs should be identified.</td>
<td>End of Term 6 i.e., June for October starters, August/September for January starters, and December for April starters. (End of Term 11 for PT students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>M6</td>
<td>Supervisory Panel Progress Review</td>
<td>End of Term 7 i.e., December for October starters, March for January starters, and June for April starters. (End of Term 14 for PT students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>M7</td>
<td>Supervisory Panel KEY PROGRESS REVIEW Completion plan By this stage the experimental or theoretical work should be essentially complete and a number of conference papers should have been drafted, submitted or published. A detailed thesis plan should be produced, and perhaps some thesis chapter drafts.</td>
<td>End of Term 9 i.e., June for October starters, August/September for January starters, and December for April starters. (End of Term 17 for PT students) (Carried over to End of Year 3 if necessary)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion</td>
<td>Students must submit their thesis within 4 years. During the completion period a supervisory panel meeting should be held every 2 terms.</td>
<td>Within Year 4</td>
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Prior to supervisory panel meetings students submit the latest version of their thesis and a Research Student Progress Summary Form, which should contain a detailed thesis/completion plan.