# School of Health and Social Care: Standard Milestones for Masters by Dissertation Students

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<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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| M1: Agreement on research topic and assessment of training needs and knowledge required to undertake research project and complete the thesis. | - A brief description of the general research topic.  
- Training Needs Analysis to be completed. | 2nd week  2nd week |
| M2: Clarify research topic and demonstrate an understanding of topic and relevance to wider research | Research Project Proposal, including (dependent on subject area):  
- Write central research problem/questions to be answered.  
- Methodological considerations.  
- Feasibility Report – identifying sources, access and ethical considerations  
- Create project plan, outlining objectives for each stage. | By first Supervisory Board (Term 1) |
| M3: Demonstrate the ability to produce work of the quality and quantity in order to complete a Masters by Dissertation. | Evidence that academic writing is of standard and ability expected at Masters by dissertation level, including adequate referencing and language skills.  
- Write critical literature review | By end of Term 2 |
| M4: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected to be in a position to complete within one year | Create a detailed, realistic plan of work leading to submission  
- Produce 2 draft chapters/papers  
- Report on research undertaken to date  
- Research completed (experimental, empirical and theoretical work, where relevant)  
- Produce supervisory board report written in an appropriate subject specific style | By Supervisory Board (Term 3) |
| M5: Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities. | Create a detailed, realistic completion plan (if required) | By Supervisory Board (Term 3) |
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<th>Completion Year (if needed)</th>
<th>M7: Clear evidence of progress towards submission</th>
<th>Completed final draft of thesis for supervisor(s) comments</th>
<th>By Supervisory Board prior to submission</th>
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