# Department of Psychology: Standard Milestones for Masters by Dissertation Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Criteria for progress</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>M1: Progress to Year 2</strong></td>
<td>A: Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research project and complete the thesis.</td>
<td>• Training Needs Analysis to be completed.</td>
<td>• Term 1 for full-time students; Term 2 for part-time students</td>
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<td>(or equivalent for part-time</td>
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<td>• Attend Proficio courses and plan for further courses to attend, as</td>
<td>• By end of Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students</td>
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<td>students)</td>
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<td>appropriate.</td>
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<td>B: Clarify research topic and demonstrate an understanding of topic and relevance to wider research</td>
<td>• Research Project Proposal, including (dependent on subject area):</td>
<td>• By first Supervisory Panel and RSPB (Term 1 for full-time students; Term 2/3 for part-time students)</td>
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<td>• Write central research problem/questions to be answered.</td>
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<td>• Methodological considerations.</td>
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<td>• Feasibility Report – identifying sources, access and ethical considerations</td>
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<td>• Create project plan, outlining objectives for each stage.</td>
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<td>C: Demonstrate the ability to produce work of the quality and quantity in order to complete a Masters by Dissertation within the two year maximum period.</td>
<td>• Evidence that academic writing is of standard and ability expected at Masters by dissertation level, including adequate referencing and language skills.</td>
<td>• By end of year 1 SP and RSPB – (Term 3) for full-time students; By end of year 2 SP and RSPB – (Term 6) for part-time students.</td>
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<td>• Write critical literature review</td>
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<td>D: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected at the end of Year 1</td>
<td>• Create a detailed, realistic plan of work leading to submission</td>
<td>• By end of year Supervisory Panel (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</td>
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<td>• Produce draft thesis by the end of Year 1</td>
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<td>• Report on research undertaken to date</td>
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<td>• Research completed (experimental, empirical and theoretical work,</td>
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<td>E: Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities.</td>
<td>Create a detailed, realistic completion plan (if required)</td>
<td>By end of year Supervisory Panel (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</td>
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<td>M2: Completion Year (if needed)</td>
<td>A: Clear evidence of progress towards submission</td>
<td>Completed final draft of thesis for supervisor(s)/ Supervisory Panel comment</td>
<td>By Supervisory Panel prior to submission.</td>
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