UCL Academic Manual
2023-24

Chapter 5: Research Degrees Framework

Part H: Master of Research (MRes) Additional Regulations

1   Introduction

1. This document outlines some specific requirements which apply to MRes programmes and should be read in conjunction with the following Chapters of the UCL Academic Manual:
   - Chapter 1: Student Recruitment & Admissions
   - Chapter 3: Registration Framework for Taught Programmes
   - Chapter 4: Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes
   - Chapter 7, Part A: Qualifications and Credit Framework
2. MRes students are also governed by the Research Degree Supervision regulations:
   - Chapter 5, Part A, Section 3: Supervisory Arrangements
3. Students who are enrolled on MRes programmes that are integral to an MPhil/PhD or EngD programme should also refer to:
   - Chapter 5, Part A: Research Degree Regulations
4. MRes students are also required to comply with UCL's Code of Practice for Graduate Research Degrees.

2   Period of Registration

1. The general academic year starts on the first day of September and ends on the last day of August in the following year.
2. Some MRes programmes begin in January and end on the last day of December.
3. The approved period of registration for a one-year Masters by Research (MRes) degree is one calendar year of full-time study and two calendar years of full-time study for two-year programmes.
4. Programmes that offer a part-time mode of study have double the period of registration of the full-time programme.

Further guidance

1. Students should refer to programme-specific literature for information about available modes of attendance.
2. If students wish to change their mode of attendance, guidance should be sought from Programme Directors and from researchdegrees@ucl.ac.uk.

3   Approved Structure of a Masters by Research Programme (MRes)

1. The credit and qualification requirements of Masters by Research programmes are defined in Chapter 7, Part A: Qualifications and Credit Framework.
2. Research Supervision: Two approved research supervisors must be recorded on the student record database for all MRes students. Further information about Research Supervision is set out in Chapter 5, Part A, Section 3: Supervisory Arrangements.
3. Transferable Skills: MRes programmes must include 30 credits of identifiable taught transferable skills
4. Dissertation/Research Project UCL Credit Value: The dissertation/research project credit value of a one-year MRes programme must be between a minimum of 105 and a maximum of 150 credits. The dissertation/research project credit value of a two-year MRes programme should be proportionate.
5. Dissertation/Research Project Word Length: The dissertation/research project word lengths must be proportionate to the credit value and learning hours for the programme research element and be between a minimum of 15,000 and a maximum of 20,000 words.

6. Students who are enrolled on MRes programmes that are integral to an EngD or MPhil/PhD programme should also consider their research element in the context of undertaking further research as part of an integrated programme from the outset.

4 Progression Threshold for MRes Programmes Associated with a Doctoral Programme

1. For automatic progression from MRes to MPhil/PhD or EngD, students should achieve an average mark of not less than 60% in the independent, original research components of the programme, and not less than 50% in the taught elements.

Further guidance

1. This regulation relates to automatic progression from MRes to MPhil/PhD or EngD programmes.
2. However, in cases where a student did not meet these requirements, but who has the support of the MPhil/PhD or EngD programme organisers, a case in writing can be made to the Chair of the Research Degree Committee for the consideration of suspension of regulations on a case-by-case basis.