



Additional Academic Regulations for Students of Masters By Research Programmes (MRes)

2014-2015 Academic Session

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Recent Changes and/ or Additions to the Published Regulations

Throughout: Update April 2015: Terminology updated to reflect that MRes students progressing to PhD must first enrol on the MPhil.

Introduction To Regulations For Masters By Research Programmes

The Additional Academic Regulations for Students for Masters By Research Programmes (MRes) should be read together with sections one, two and three of the Postgraduate Academic Regulations for Students. (See links at the end of this section.)

Students who are enrolled on MRes programmes that are integral to an EngD or MPhil/PhD programme should also refer to sections one and two of the Academic Regulations and Guidance for Research Degree Students and to any programme specific EngD regulations. (See links at the end of this section.)

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.

MRes students should also be aware of the requirement to comply with UCL's Code of Practice for Research Degrees and the Code of Practice Graduate Taught Degrees. (See links at the end of this section.)

Links for the Introduction

All links go to the UCL website, unless stated otherwise.

[Section 1, Postgraduate Academic Regulations for Students \(PDF\)](#)

[Section 2, Postgraduate Academic Regulations for Students \(PDF\)](#)

[Section 3, Postgraduate Academic Regulations for Students \(PDF\)](#)

[Section 1, Academic Regulations and Guidance for Research Degree Students \(PDF\)](#)

[Section 2, Academic Regulations and Guidance for Research Degree Students \(PDF\)](#)

[Doctor in Engineering \[EngD\]: Specific Programme Regulations \(PDF\)](#)

[UCL Code of Practice for Research Degrees](#)

[UCL Code of Practice Graduate Taught Degrees](#)

[Handbook and Codes of Practice for Graduate Students](#)

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1 Period of Registration for MRes Programmes

- i) The general academic year starts on the first day of September and ends on the last day of August in the following year.
- ii) Some MRes programmes begin in January and end on the last day of December.
- iii) 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.
- iv) Programmes that offer a part-time module of study have double the period of registration of the full-time programme.

Further guidance on the registration period for MRes Programmes

- i) Students should refer to programme specific literature for information about available modes of attendance.
- ii) If students wish to change their mode of attendance, guidance should be sought from Programme Directors and from the Student Centre.

Link for Section 1

[UCL Student Centre](#)

2 Approved Structure of a Masters By Research Programme (MRes)

- i) **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 the Academic Regulations and Guidelines for Research Degree Students, Section 1.
- ii) **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.
- iii) **Transferable Skills:** MRes programmes must include 30 credits of identifiable taught transferable skills.
- iv) **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

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dissertation/research project credit value of a two-year MRes programme must be proportionate.

- v) **Dissertation /Research Project ECTS¹ Credit Value:** The dissertation/research project ECTS credit value must be between a minimum of 36 and a maximum of 60 ECTS.
- vi) **Programme Total ECTS:** One-year MRes programmes have a total of 72 ECTS and two-year MRes programmes have a total of 144 ECTS.
- vii) **Dissertation/ Research Project Learning Hours:** One-year MRes programmes have a minimum of 1050 and a maximum of 1500 learning hours for the research element of the programmes and the learning hours for the research elements of two-year MRes programmes should be proportionate.
- viii) **Programmes Total Learning Hours:** One-year MRes programmes have a total of 1800 learning hours and two-year MRes programmes have a total of 2600 learning hours.
- ix) **Exit Awards:** MRes programmes do not have interim of exit awards.

3 Re-entry to Examinations or to Other Forms of Academic Assessment for MRes Students

- i) Students on MRes programmes that are integral to a doctoral programme will be offered re-entry to an examination, part of an examination or any other form of academic assessment before or in August of the same academic year as the initial attempt. Students enrolled on MRes programmes that are not integral to a Doctoral programme will be offered a re-sit opportunity at the next following assessment period.
- ii) Students should be allowed to resit examinations until the beginning of the following academic session where medical or extenuating circumstances had prevented them from sitting the initial re-sit examination.
- iii) In exceptional circumstances a student may defer re-entry until a subsequent assessment period if prescribed by the relevant programme or with an approved suspension of regulations.
- iv) MRes students who fail the dissertation can resubmit the dissertation by the end of the first term of the following academic year.

¹ European Credit Transfer System

- v) The timing of re-entered other forms of academic assessment is at the discretion of the department/division, with Faculty approval.

Further guidance on re-entry to examinations or other assessments

- i) The assessment for a deferred module must be completed within two years of attending that module. This period of two years may be extended at the discretion of UCL by way of an approved suspension of regulations.
- ii) Applications for a suspension of regulations should be made in writing by the Departmental/Divisional Programme Tutor via the Faculty Office and submitted to the Examinations Section, Student and Registry Services, for consideration by the Dean of Students (Academic).
- iii) If a student fails the dissertation and resubmits by the end of the first term of the following academic year, the Board would then reconsider the award for these students in January.

4 Progression threshold for MRes Programmes Associated with a Doctoral Programme

- 4.1 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 on the progression threshold for MRes programmes associated with a doctoral programme

- i) Item 4.1 relates to automatic progression from MRes to an MPhil/PhD or EngD programme.
- ii) 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.