

## **MPhil/PhD in Psychoanalytic Studies – Research Proposal Guidelines**

The research proposal should be your own work, though the supervisor and other Unit staff may also give advice. It should clearly state the research question, and its importance. The word limit includes all sections and appendices. Only key references rather than a lengthy reference list should be included. In addition to the Research Proposal, you should use the 'Personal Statement' section of the UCL Graduate Student Application form to give any details on why you think you are particularly suited for your chosen area of research. Some guidelines for preparing a research proposal are below:

Please include:

- A paragraph setting out your proposal in terms of the research question it is asking.
- Indicate briefly a way in which this might be an original contribution to knowledge.
- Explain briefly in what ways this makes use of psychoanalysis or investigates psychoanalytic concepts.
- Provide a time line indicating what you think are the main areas of research you will need to undertake, when you will undertake them and how much time will be devoted to each.
- Suggest chapter headings for the thesis. These will not be fixed in stone, but will give an indication that the topic is manageable within the required framework.
- Bibliography. Provide key readings for each of the above sections.
- Suggested supervision/supervisors.
- Any courses (such as history or language courses) that you feel you could profitably audit within UCL.