

### Progression Review 3

The third review involves a viva, based on the research student's written submission (first full draft thesis). This will be conducted by all the members of the supervisory team. It will also include a review of the academic needs analysis. A written submission should be made at least four working weeks in advance of the decision deadline to allow the panel to consider the material, hold meeting, and make a recommendation within the specified timeframe. For instance, in the case of the full-time PhD programme, for the First attempt review, the respective written report must be submitted at least 4 weeks before the end of Month 33.

Failure to submit the required written work by the specified deadline will result in a failure of the respective progression review attempt.

In the main, having successfully completed the previous Progression Reviews and completed subsequent work (and having responded to any recommendations raised at Confirmation), candidates should be well on their way to completing their work. The third review is an opportunity, then, for formal feedback and guidance prior to final submission and in many cases the meeting can be treated as a mock-viva in preparation for final examination.

The review will lead to one of two recommendations:

- to progress to the final stage of candidature;
- to re-assess with a full panel within 3 months.

If re-assessment is recommended, the research student will be given written guidance on preparation for their second (and final) attempt. The second attempt at the Confirmation Review will have the same format as the first attempt, and will be conducted by a member of the supervisory team and an internal independent assessor appointed by the Director of the Faculty Graduate School. In exceptional circumstances, with the permission of the Director of the Faculty Graduate School, an external independent assessor may be appointed. In exceptional circumstances, the Director of the Faculty Graduate School may wish to appoint a third panel member, and/or an independent note taker

The second attempt at the third Progression Review will involve a re-viva. An independent chair for re-viva will be appointed by the Director of the Faculty Graduate School. However, if the assessors deem that the Report is sufficient to progress, the re-viva may not be necessary.

The review will lead to one of three recommendations:

- to progress to the final stage of candidature
- to transfer to MPhil candidature
- to terminate the student's candidature