**PhD Registration in Mechanical Engineering: The Framework and Milestones for the Registration, Monitoring and Progression of Full-Time Students (2015-6)**

Nb. All milestones should be assessed by at least one independent assessor (independent from the research “group” i.e. from the project and supervisor).

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<th>TIMETABLE</th>
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| 6-12 WEEKS – Research Plan Confirmation (RPC) | Plan of study (typically 2 pages) and Gantt Chart.  
*Stage 1 – English Assessment 1 (if applicable)* | To:  
1) Ensure communication between student and the supervisor  
2) Provide description of possible project  
3) Assess potential of project | 1) Progress  
2) Re-submit |
| 9 MONTHS – Early Stage Assessment (ESA) | Substantial report (20 pages) to include:  
1) Scope of the project  
2) Literature review  
3) Results to date, if any  
4) Plan for future work  
Oral interview/examination  
*Professional Skills Development Requirement  
Stage 2 – English Assessment (if applicable)* | To show the student has:  
1) An understanding of the field of research  
2) A critical awareness of the relevant literature  
3) An understanding of the direction of the project  
4) The potential to pursue research.  
Data may be minimal and more indicative of ability to perform. | Complete before 12 months  
1) Progress  
2) Re-submit (by 11 months)  
3) Transfer to MPhil registration  
4) Fail/withdraw  
Nb. Transfers to MPhil are usually backdated to the original PhD registration date. |
| 18-24 MONTHS – Late Stage Review (LSR) | Publication of a peer reviewed archival paper, or a paper independently assessed within the department  
Oral presentation of a paper at a conference, or an oral presentation at a seminar within the department | Establish that the student  
1) Understands research problem adequately  
2) Has a critical awareness of the relevant literature on the subject  
3) Has a reasonable plan for future work  
4) Has the capacity to purses research  
5) Will complete within the registration period | 1) Progress  
2) Re-submit  
3) Transfer to MPhil registration and write up  
4) Fail/Withdraw  
Nb. Students who transfer to MPhil at this stage must complete the MPhil within 3-6 months of their initial LSR. |
| 36 MONTHS | Students eligible to enter Writing Up (Completing Research Status) | | |
| By 44 MONTHS | Students are required to submit an Exam Entry Form no later than 44 months after initial registration for the research degree | | |
| By 48 MONTHS | Thesis submission | | |
| EVERY 6 MONTHS | Research Assessment Forms submitted to the Postgraduate Office | | |