Confirmation of Candidature, School of Psychology

For each candidate, the agreed tasks for the first year of candidature and the agreed times for completing those tasks will be formalized at the School’s proposal meeting, and listed in the proposal document submitted to the Graduate Research School. Those attending the proposal meeting include the PhD candidate, her/his supervisor(s), two additional academic staff from the School (representing an advisory panel), and the PhD Coordinator. Ordinarily the following tasks would be required of each student:

- Completion of a research proposal approved by the School of Psychology and the Graduate Research School.
- An oral presentation of the proposed research to an approved forum within the School of Psychology.
- Participation in research-skills/career-development seminars organized by the School of Psychology.
- Completion of an annual review meeting with supervisor(s) and the student’s advisory panel.

Additional tasks agreed in the proposal meeting will depend on the nature of the research. Possible tasks would include:

- Completion of a draft literature review.
- Completion of a meta-analysis of existing research.
- Completion of an initial empirical study.
- Development of a test battery.
- Development of software.

The School of Psychology may also expect the development of project-specific skills such as:

- Learning a programming language.
- Mastering a complex form of data analysis.
- Completing training in a diagnostic procedure.
- Mastering complex equipment or recording techniques.

As part of the process of assessing whether the agreed tasks have been achieved, towards the end of the first year of full-time candidature, the candidate will report to a meeting of her/his supervisor(s) and advisory panel on the tasks achieved to that point in time. Information from this meeting will be used in completing the first Annual Progress Report.