

2.2 GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR HIGHER DOCTORATES

- i) These degrees represent the pinnacle of academic achievement. They are awarded to candidates who have already established a position as a leading authority through their contribution to scholarship. Candidates 'must have ... published work which... gives clear proof that the candidate is a leading authority in the field of study concerned and has made an original and distinguished contribution to the advancement or application of knowledge in that field'.
- ii) Candidates must also be graduates of the University of Buckingham or members of staff of the University of Buckingham. Graduates of other universities seeking a higher doctorate should contact the university from which they graduated. The degrees awarded as higher doctorates are the LLS (Doctor of Laws), the DLitt (Doctor of Letters), and DSc (Doctor of Science).
- iii) The degrees of Doctor of Laws (LLD), Doctor of Letters (DLitt), and Doctor of Science (DSc) may be conferred on:
 - a) graduates of this University of not less than seven years standing;
 - b) holders of a higher degree of this University of not less than four years standing;
 - c) graduates of another University of not less than seven years standing who have also held an appointment as a member of staff of this University for at least two years.
- iv) Candidates must have fulfilled such conditions as are prescribed below and have submitted published work which, in the opinion of the examiners, gives clear proof that the candidate is a leading authority in the field of study concerned and has made an original and distinguished contribution to the advancement or application of knowledge in that field.
- v) A person wishing to be admitted to the degree shall submit to the Registry Officer, with the appropriate fee, three copies of:
 - a) a list of the published works upon which the application is based. The list should indicate whether and with what result any of the works have previously been submitted for any degree of any university or awarding body;
 - b) a supporting statement indicating the area of knowledge to which the published work relates and the ways in which it makes an original and distinguished contribution to the advancement or application of knowledge meriting the award of the degree;
 - c) where any of the works submitted have been produced jointly with others, a written statement signed by the other contributors to the works concerned indicating the share which the candidate took personally in the work;
 - d) the published works upon which the application is based.

- vi) The works submitted as part of the application must be published and freely available. Unpublished work, or material in the course of being published, will not be accepted. Work which has successfully been submitted for the award of a degree at this or any other university or awarding body can only be considered as supporting material explaining the context or background to other works submitted. All the works submitted shall be written in English, except where the prior approval of the Research Committee has been given for the submission of work in another language.
- vii) Any application for the degree shall first be considered by the Dean who, after such consultation as may be considered necessary or desirable, shall determine whether in his or her opinion there is a *prima facie* case for the award of the degree. Where the Dean is of the opinion that a *prima facie* case has been made, s/he shall proceed to nominate examiners for the degree to be appointed by Senate and where applicable to be approved by the Academic Advisory Council. Where the Dean is not of the opinion that there is a *prima facie* case for the award of the degree, the candidate shall be so informed and the published works submitted shall be returned together with such portion of the fee as is prescribed.
- viii) There shall be three examiners for the degree, at least two of whom shall be external examiners. The examination shall consist of a consideration of the works and prescribed materials submitted. In cases where the examiners consider it desirable, the candidate may be given an oral examination on the works submitted and on the general area of knowledge to which they relate.
- ix) Each examiner shall make an independent report on the published works and shall indicate whether in his or her opinion the candidate has achieved the standard required for the award of the degree and whether an oral examination should be held. Each examiner should be present at any oral examination, and shall sign a joint statement of the result of the oral examination.
- x) The reports and statement of the examiners shall be considered by the Research Committee which may recommend to Senate the award of the degree, permit a further examination on such conditions as it sees fit, or decline to award the degree. Except where the Research Committee permits further examination, no further application for the award of the degree may be made until the expiry of at least two calendar years from the date upon which any previous application was made.
- xi) Where Senate confirms the award of the degree, one copy of the works and prescribed materials submitted shall be deposited in the University Library. Except where the nature of the publications renders this impracticable (for instance where they are in book form), they should be bound together with the prescribed materials in a form similar to that required by the Rules for the Form and Submission of Theses for Higher Degrees.