

2.3 GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR DOCTORATES BY PUBLISHED WORK

- a) Candidates seeking the degree of PhD on the basis of published work must be graduates of the University of Buckingham or members of staff of the University of Buckingham. Graduates of other universities seeking to obtain a doctorate on the basis of published work should contact the university from which they graduated.
- b) The criteria for the award of the degree on the basis of published work are the same as those for the PhD for supervised research.
- c) The candidate must submit published work which gives clear proof of a significant and original contribution to the knowledge of the discipline either by the discovery of new knowledge, or by the exercise of a new and independent critical approach, for example the connection of previously unrelated facts, the development of new theory, or the revision of previously held views.
- d) In the case of PhD by published work the candidate must show, by means of a commentary on the submitted work and in the oral examination, that he or she appreciates the relationship of his or her special work to a wider field of knowledge. The commentary must be in the region of 20,000 words. Registration must be for a period of one year minimum during which time the candidate will have regular supervisions with the supervisor and be guided in accordance with the same process and provision as if registered for the PhD by research programme.
- e) The degree of PhD on the basis of published work may be conferred on:
 - i. graduates of this university of not less than five years standing;
 - ii. graduates of another university of not less than five years standing who have also held an appointment as a member of staff of this university for at least two years;
 - iii. graduates of another university of not less than five years standing who have also held a Fellowship of this university for at least two years.
- f) 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 of a significant and original contribution to learning, for example through the discovery of new knowledge, the connection of previously unrelated facts, the development of new theory, or the revision of older views. The standard required for the degree is the same as that required for a PhD.
- g) In the first instance, a person wishing to pursue a PhD by published works should contact the appropriate Research Officer, who will identify an appropriate supervisor. The supervisor will be appointed for a minimum of 12 months and be responsible for providing assistance to the student in preparing the submission for the degree. In due course, the submission for the degree will be delivered to the Registry Officer, with the appropriate fee, and will comprise three copies of:

- i. 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;
 - ii. a supporting commentary indicating the area of knowledge to which the published work relates and the ways in which it makes a significant and original contribution to learning meriting the award of the degree;
 - iii. 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;
 - iv. the published works upon which the application is based.
 - v. a *curriculum vitae*.
- h) 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.
- i) Any application for the degree shall first be considered by the Research Officer and or supervisor (for PhD by Publication) 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 Research Officer and supervisor 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. Where the Research Officer and supervisor 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.
- j) 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 together with the commentary and an oral examination on the works submitted.
- k) Each examiner shall make an independent report on the published works and the commentary before the oral examination, shall be present at the oral examination, and shall sign a joint statement of the result of the oral examination.

- l) 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.

- m) 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.