

# AQF level 9 – Masters Course Learning Outcomes

AQF Level 9	AQF Type Descriptor	Masters Learning Outcomes	Deakin Graduate Learning Outcomes	Evidence of Learning Outcome attainment
1. <b>Knowledge</b>	<p>Graduates of a Masters Degree (Research) will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a body of knowledge that includes the understanding of recent developments in one or more disciplines</li> <li>b. advanced knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to the field of work or learning</li> </ul>	CLO1.1 Demonstrate an advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in one or more discipline areas by generating substantial contribution to knowledge through the use of appropriate research principles and methods.	1, 3, 6	<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p>
2. <b>Skills</b>	<p>Graduates of a Masters Degree (Research) will have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. cognitive skills to demonstrate mastery of theoretical knowledge and to reflect critically on theory and its application</li> <li>b. cognitive, technical and creative skills to investigate, analyse and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and to apply established theories to different bodies of knowledge or practice</li> <li>c. cognitive, technical and creative skills to generate and evaluate complex ideas and concepts at an abstract level</li> <li>d. cognitive and technical skills to design, use and evaluate research and research methods</li> <li>e. communication and technical skills to present a coherent and sustained argument and to disseminate research results to specialist and non-specialist audiences</li> <li>f. technical and communication skills to design, evaluate, implement, analyse, theorise and disseminate research that makes a contribution to knowledge</li> </ul>	CLO2.1 Apply critical analysis and reflection to ethically research, synthesise and evaluate complex information, problems, concepts, interpretations and theories to demonstrate cognitive and technical skills in a body of knowledge or practice.	4, 5, 7	<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p> <p><b>Confirmation process</b> requires the committee to evaluate candidates in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical review of recent work in the field;</li> <li>• Originality, feasibility, significance and design of research;</li> <li>• Knowledge of field of research;</li> <li>• Oral presentation and verbal defence;</li> <li>• Ethics procedures where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress Reports</b> The annual review requires candidates to list any development activities undertaken in the current year, including skills training, papers submitted or other written or creative work, research presentations. The report also requires a plan for the coming year.</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1</p>
		CLO2.2 Effectively disseminate research outcomes to a variety of audiences using highly developed communication skills and work productively within a team of experts in the field.		<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1, including presenting at seminars and conferences.</p>
3. <b>Application of Knowledge and Skills</b>	<p>Graduates of a Masters Degree (Research) will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. with creativity and initiative to new situations and/or for further learning</li> <li>b. with high level personal autonomy and accountability</li> <li>c. to plan and execute a substantial piece of research</li> </ul>	CLO3.1 Demonstrate autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability, initiative, resilience and responsibility as a practitioner or learner.	2, 8	<p><b>Confirmation process</b> requires the committee to evaluate candidates in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical review of recent work in the field;</li> <li>• Originality, feasibility, significance and design of research;</li> <li>• Knowledge of field of research;</li> <li>• Oral presentation and verbal defence;</li> <li>• Ethics procedures where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress Reports</b> The annual review requires candidates to list any development activities undertaken in the current year, including skills training, papers submitted or other written or creative work, research presentations. The report also requires a plan for the coming year.</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1, including satisfactory completion of research integrity training.</p>

**Attachment 1**

The attached list suggests possible activities which candidates may undertake in order to demonstrate the attributes. The activities undertaken will vary according to the discipline and the student's personal goals and career aspirations. Other activities not listed here could also provide evidence.

CLO1.1	CLO2.1	CLO2.2	CLO3.1	Activities
	✓		✓	Meeting candidature milestones
	✓		✓	Preparation of confirmation of candidature documents and seminar presentation and response to feedback
	✓		✓	Preparation of mid candidature review documents and seminar presentation (if required) and response to feedback
	✓		✓	Seminar presentation and response to feedback
		✓		Participation in Three Minute Thesis or similar faculty/school events
✓	✓	✓	✓	Preparation of thesis chapters and response to feedback
✓	✓	✓	✓	Writing and editing manuscripts for publication and response to feedback
	✓		✓	Contribution to preparation of research tenders and grant applications
	✓			Preparation of applications to ethics committees
		✓	✓	Applying for travel scholarships and other grants
			✓	Working with professionals and peers
		✓	✓	Supervision and mentoring by supervisory team
✓	✓	✓		Participating in and presenting at seminars and/or journal clubs
✓	✓	✓		Conference attendance and presentation (oral and poster)
			✓	Providing feedback to the oral presentations of others
✓		✓		Opportunities to perform and display work and receive feedback
✓			✓	Participation in team work and collaborative projects
✓	✓	✓		Assisting supervisors in reviewing journal articles
			✓	Co-supervision/associate supervision for undergraduate, honours and postgraduate coursework students)
			✓	Co-teaching or contribution to teaching especially with members of supervisory team
✓	✓	✓	✓	Opportunities to network with international experts in discipline (for example, conference attendance, interacting with international visitors, international thesis assessors, publishing in international journals)
			✓	Industry/organisational placements or part-time employment
		✓	✓	Membership of and participation in professional organizations, committees
			✓	Training opportunities
			✓	Completion of graduate certificate or graduate diploma in higher education teaching and/or or commercialisation
			✓	Participation in research skills program and other training courses/workshops/seminars/debates/case studies, for example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of audio visual technology skills</li> <li>• Report writing skills</li> <li>• Oral presentation skills</li> <li>• Preparation of publications</li> <li>• Tutoring skills</li> <li>• Lecturing/teaching skills</li> <li>• Supervision skills</li> <li>• Media presentation skills</li> <li>• Advanced library and information search skills</li> <li>• Research skills</li> <li>• Data analytic techniques</li> <li>• Specific technical skills related to thesis area</li> <li>• Commercialisation boot camps</li> <li>• Ethical and professional issues in the discipline</li> <li>• Career planning, CV writing, job applications and interviews.</li> <li>• Occupational health and safety training</li> </ul>

# AQF level 10 – PhD Course Learning Outcomes

AQF Level 10	AQF Type Descriptor	PhD Learning Outcomes	Deakin Graduate Learning Outcomes	Evidence of Learning Outcome attainment
1. <b>Knowledge</b>	<p>Graduates of a Doctoral Degree (Research) will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a substantial body of knowledge at the frontier of a field of work or learning, including knowledge that constitutes an original contribution</li> <li>b. substantial knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to the field of work or learning</li> </ul>	CLO1.1 Demonstrate systematic and critical understanding in one or more specialist fields or discipline areas by planning and generating a substantial and original contribution that advances scholarship or professional practice.	1, 3, 6	<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p>
2. <b>Skills</b>	<p>Graduates of a Doctoral Degree (Research) will have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. cognitive skills to demonstrate expert understanding of theoretical knowledge and to reflect critically on that theory and practice</li> <li>b. cognitive skills and use of intellectual independence to think critically, evaluate existing knowledge and ideas, undertake systematic investigation and reflect on theory and practice to generate original knowledge</li> <li>c. expert technical and creative skills applicable to the field of work or learning</li> <li>d. communication skills to explain and critique theoretical propositions, methodologies and conclusions</li> <li>e. communication skills to present cogently a complex investigation of originality or original research for external examination against international standards and to communicate results to peers and the community</li> <li>f. expert skills to design, implement, analyse, theorise and communicate research that makes a significant and original contribution to knowledge and/or professional practice</li> </ul>	CLO2.1 Synthesise, apply and analyse existing and new knowledge in one or more discipline areas to develop new concepts or interpretations through engagement in ethical research, critical reflection, continuous evaluation and demonstration of research skills.	4, 5, 7	<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p> <p><b>Confirmation process</b> requires the committee to evaluate candidates in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical review of recent work in the field;</li> <li>• Originality, feasibility, significance and design of research;</li> <li>• Knowledge of field of research;</li> <li>• Oral presentation and verbal defence;</li> <li>• Ethics procedures where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress Reports</b> The annual review requires candidates to list any development activities undertaken in the current year, including skills training, papers submitted or other written or creative work, research presentations. The report also requires a plan for the coming year.</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1</p>
		CLO2.2 Effectively disseminate research outcomes to a variety of audiences using highly developed communication skills and work productively within a team of experts in the field.		<p><b>Successful thesis examination</b> outcome</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1, including presenting at seminars and conferences.</p>
3. <b>Application of Knowledge and Skills</b>	<p>Graduates of a Doctoral Degree (Research) will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. with intellectual independence</li> <li>b. with initiative and creativity in new situations and/or for further learning</li> <li>c. with full responsibility and accountability for personal outputs</li> <li>d. to plan and execute original research</li> <li>e. with the ongoing capacity to generate new knowledge, including in the context of professional practice</li> </ul>	CLO3.1 Demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgement, adaptability, leadership, initiative, resilience and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner or scholar.	2, 8	<p><b>Confirmation process</b> requires the committee to evaluate candidates in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical review of recent work in the field;</li> <li>• Originality, feasibility, significance and design of research;</li> <li>• Knowledge of field of research;</li> <li>• Oral presentation and verbal defence;</li> <li>• Ethics procedures where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress Reports</b> The annual review requires candidates to list any development activities undertaken in the current year, including skills training, papers submitted or other written or creative work, research presentations. The report also requires a plan for the coming year.</p> <p><b>Evidence of other activities</b> such as those outlined in Attachment 1, including satisfactory completion of research integrity training.</p>

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