

## **Summary of changes to Presentation of Dissertations: Master of Science (MSc) by Research & Master of Enterprise (MEnt) Guidance (July 2020)**

The policy has been amended to include the option for the insertion of a COVID-19 thesis impact statement into the examination version of a thesis.

### **6.3. COVID-19 Impact Statements (not compulsory)**

a. PGRs who wish to make their Examiners aware of the impact COVID-19 has had on their research plans and dissertation may include an Impact Statement for consideration during the examination process.

b. The COVID-19 Impact Statement should be inserted into the examination and/or resubmission dissertation immediately following the electronically generated cover-page and before the title page (it should be removed from the final version of the dissertation post-examination).

c. The Impact Statement should include the following information:

- i. Details on how disruption caused by COVID-19 has impacted the research (for example, an inability to collect/analyse data as a result of travel restrictions/restricted access to labs/additional caring and health responsibilities - 500 words maximum);
- ii. A description of how the planned work would have fitted within the dissertation's narrative (e.g. through method development, development of analytical skills or advancement of hypotheses - 500 words maximum);
- iii. A summary of any decisions / actions taken to mitigate for any work or data collection/analyses that were prevented by COVID-19 (500 words maximum).

d. PGRs are encouraged to discuss the statement with their supervisory team before submitting the statement alongside the dissertation.