

## Changes to the Ordinances and Regulations April 2023

Updated Ordinances and Regulations:

<https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=31475>

### The update to section 5 of the [Ordinances and Regulations: Degree of Doctor of Philosophy](#) in relation to Annual Review expectations

An amendment to the PhD regulations to correct a discrepancy between the regulations and policy was agreed at the January MDCSG meeting.

Currently the PhD regulations refer to formal annual review meetings being held at the end of year 1 and year 2 only whereas the Policy on the progress and review of postgraduate [researchers](#) states that they will 'normally take place at least once a year' e.g., beyond year 2 for those on 3.5 / 4-year programmes.

Also updated to refer to PGRs rather than students throughout.

#### 5. Progression

- a. ~~Students~~All PGRs admitted to the degree of PhD shall demonstrate satisfactory progress before the end of the first year of their research degree by submission of a substantial progress report which will be discussed at a formal progress meeting with the supervisory team and an independent assessor. Satisfactory performance in the report and progress meeting by those registered for MPhil in the first instance will normally result in transfer to registration for PhD.
- b. The progress report shall be of sufficient length to demonstrate the ~~student~~PGR's understanding of the subject, and ability to pursue doctoral level research.
- c. Successful completion of the agreed programme of skills development and training will be a condition of progression between each year of study.
- d. All candidates for the degree of PhD shall maintain a record of their progression and personal development throughout their degree.
- e. ~~tudents~~PGRs who are not able to demonstrate satisfactory progress before the end of their first year of registration, will not be permitted to register for the second year of the degree. They may, at the discretion of the supervisory team and independent assessor, be offered the opportunity to submit a thesis for the degree of MPhil.
- f. ~~Formal progress meetings will then normally be conducted at least annually. At the end of the second year of research the student shall submit a short progress report which will be discussed at a formal progress meeting with the supervisory team and an independent assessor. Students~~PGRs who are not able to demonstrate satisfactory progress ~~after two years of registration~~ will not be permitted to ~~register for the third year of~~continue on the degree, but may be offered the opportunity to submit a thesis for the degree of MPhil.

- g. Part-time ~~students~~PGRs shall submit a progress report on an annual basis, with a major report occurring after the equivalent of one year's full-time registration. PGRs who are not able to demonstrate satisfactory progress will not be permitted to continue on the degree, but may be offered the opportunity to submit a thesis for the degree of MPhil.