

Summary of Changes to the PhD by Published Work Regulations (2025 Update)

(Summary of changes from June 2023 Regulations & Guidance)

1. Single Consolidated Document

The former Regulations (June 2023) and Guidance (June 2023) have been merged into one unified regulations document (October 2025). This eliminates duplication and provides a single reference point for applicants and staff.

2. Eligibility – Clarifications Introduced

Eligibility now explicitly states current academic staff only, excluding those on honorary contracts. The requirement to have been in post for at least five years is retained but exceptions allowed with AD PGR approval.

3. Advisor → Supervisor: Terminology Change

The supporting academic role has been renamed from Academic Advisor to Academic Supervisor across all stages.

4. Duration & Extensions (New Policy)

Registration remains 12 months, but an extensions policy has been introduced for serious, unforeseen mitigating circumstances. Candidates must notify the supervisor and Faculty Doctoral Academy early.

5. Thesis Requirements & Presentation

Formatting, language requirements, and the critical appraisal (up to 15,000 words) are now incorporated directly into the regulations.

6. Examination Process – Clarified and Integrated

Details such as examiner criteria, conflicts of interest, viva procedures, and correction timelines are now embedded within the regulations. Minor corrections are capped at 4 weeks (exceptionally 12). The independent Chair may now be the supervisor where appropriate.