## SOLES HDR Milestones

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| Research plan                | The written document should be **8-10 pages** for PhD, or **5-7 pages** for Masters Degree, of polished text that represents the achievements and understanding of the topic and effectively communicates the activities and timeframes for how the research will be achieved. The specific format and content should reflect the most useful approach, as agreed to by the student and their supervisory team. This plan should be reviewed by at least two experts in the field of the research **at least one external to the supervisory team.** | Full-time: 5 months after your start date               | Full-time: 5 months after your start date                | All research plans must include a detailed risk assessment. The risk assessment must reference the below risks, as well as any other identified risks related to your research:  
- Q-fever  
- Diving  
- Fieldwork  
If these are not relevant to your research, mark as not applicable.                                                                 |
|                              |                                                                             | Part-time: 10 months after your start date              | Part-time: 10 months after your start date               |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Research seminar | As part of school activities (e.g. Postgrad. Showcase, School seminars etc), the candidate is required to deliver a seminar to a group larger than the research group of the candidate. Schools will ensure feedback is delivered to the student, and (s)he will be required to keep a record of feedback and how it may be addressed in the future. | Full-time: 10 months after your start date  
Part-time: 18 months after your start date | Full-time: 10 months after your start date;  
Part-time: 18 months after your start date | SOLES will run two Postgraduate Showcase events per year (June/November). You will be invited to present an oral or poster at the Showcase. You can present at the Showcase, or at any other seminar approved by your Postgraduate Coordinator. We encourage students to deliver the research seminar around 6 months after start date (full-time). Discuss the timing of this milestone with your supervisor. The Postgraduate Showcase research seminar is a 15 minute presentation that cover the background to the problem that will be addressed, why it’s important, and what are the relevant theories behind the approach to be taken. The seminar should also outline your specific aims and then explain, in detail, the methods and approaches taken to address these aims. Any early data collected so far can also presented. Generally an introductory seminar closes with a statement of the likely outcomes of the research. Posters can be used as an alternative to spoken presentation. |
| First year report | This should be a **substantial** research report, detailing the research activities done in the first **10** months of candidature. Owing to large variety of research topics and approaches within the Faculty of Science, specifications of content and format of these reports will be set at School level. The schools will also set the level and scope of feedback on this report; the Faculty will not prescribe who reviews the work except to say that the report must be read by a member of academic staff and written feedback provided to the candidate in a timely manner. | Full-time: **10** months after your start date  
Part-time: **20** months after your start date | Full-time: **10** months after your start date  
Part-time: **20** months after your start date |
| Intermediate research presentation | Here, candidates will present an aspect of their research to a whole-school audience. The exact format and requirement of these will vary among schools within the Faculty. With permission of the Postgraduate Coordinator or Head of School as appropriate, candidates may substitute a presentation (oral or poster) at an national or international conference, providing that the candidate has obtained feedback from members of the school, prior to presenting at the conference. | Full-time: 12-24 months after your start date  
Part-time: 24-48 months after your start date | Not Required | SOLES will run two Postgraduate Showcase events per year (June/November). You will be invited to present an oral or poster at the Showcase. You can present at the Showcase, or at any other seminar approved by your Postgraduate Coordinator. 

The Postgraduate Showcase intermediate research seminar is a 10 minute presentation (+2 minutes of questions) that focuses on a specific quantum of research conducted. It is not inteded to be merely an updated introductory seminar or progress report. Instead it should be of the format of that given at a research conference. It is understood that some research may be work in progress. Posters can be used as an alternative to spoken presentation. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Final research report | The different disciplines in Science may have different approaches to this activity. Some may want a pre-submission report/thesis outline, others may want a summative seminar. Each school will provide a written set of guidance notes as to what is required from candidates at this stage in the progression within their school. | Full-time: 36 months after your start date  
Part-time: 72 months after your start date | Full-time: 18 months after your start date  
Part-time: 36 months after your start date | This 'report' takes the form of an 'exit' seminar. This can be delivered during a Postgraduate Showcase event, or another seminar approved by your Postgraduate Coordinator. 

The Postgraduate Showcase final research report is a 30 minute presentation that provides an overview of the outcomes of the research during the past three years. It is inteded to showcase the outcomes of the research. |
| Human Ethics (General) | Human Ethics (General) is the default mandatory module for all HDR students; in projects where either Animal Ethics or Human Medical Research Ethics is the better suited ethics course, School can approve either of those in lieu of Human Ethics (General) | Full-time: within 12 months after your start date  
Part-time: Within 24 months after your start date | Full-time: within 12 months after your start date  
Part-time: Within 24 months after your start date | Animal Ethics is mandatory for any student undertaking an animal related project |