

MR-PHILABP Master of Philosophy - Architecture, Building and Planning

Year and Campus:	2012 - Parkville
CRICOS Code:	061947K
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Level:	Research Higher Degree
Duration & Credit Points:	Students are expected to complete this research in 1.50 years full time, or equivalent part time. Credit Points: 150
Coordinator:	-
Contact:	<p>Environments and Design Student Centre Ground Floor, Baldwin Spencer (building 113)</p> <p><i>Enquiries</i> Phone: 13 MELB (13 6352) Website: http://www.msd.unimelb.edu.au (http://www.msd.unimelb.edu.au)</p>
Course Overview:	<p>The MPhil is an internationally recognised masters (by research) degree. It is designed for students to develop advanced skills in carrying out independent and sustained research. The thesis should demonstrate a critical application of specialist knowledge and make an independent contribution to existing scholarship in the area of research.</p> <p>The normal length of an MPhil thesis is 30,000-40,000 words, exclusive of words in tables, maps bibliographies and appendices. Footnotes are included as part of the word limit.</p>
Objectives:	<p>On completion of the course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # demonstrate advanced learning in research skills and mastery of appropriate techniques, such as the use of archival or primary evidence, analysis of data, judgment of conflicting evidence etc; # demonstrate specialist knowledge in the area of their research; # present the results of their research in publishable quality or work towards incorporating their findings in further research; # gain access to certain types of employment through this specialist qualification; # demonstrate an understanding of, and commitment to, research ethics or code of practice.
Course Structure & Available Subjects:	<p>All candidates for the MPhil will be examined on the basis of their thesis. A candidate will have appropriately experienced supervisor/s and an Advisory Committee who in consultation with the candidate, arranges a course of supervised research designed to suit the individual requirements and interests of the candidate. A candidate may be required to supplement their research program by attendance at, or enrolment in, additional subjects if considered necessary by the supervisor(s).</p>
Entry Requirements:	<p>MPhil applicants will be assessed using the criteria described below. The measures include an assessment of a candidate's knowledge of the discipline and evidence of their ability to complete a rigorous research project. Applicants are required to meet the minimum standards described for each of the 6 measures.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, the RHD Committee may consider for admission a person who does not have qualifications equivalent to a four-year honours degree, if it is satisfied that the person's experience in research and the results of that experience are so outstanding that the person is likely to have the ability to pursue the course successfully. In such cases, or where other minimum standards as specified below are not all met, the department may present an evidence-based case for admittance to the Chair Research Higher Degrees Committee.</p> <p>Normally, the evidence of research equivalence would take the form of a research publication record and/or additional significant research experience that would be equivalent to a fourth year. In the case of a three-year honours degree from the United Kingdom the sponsoring</p>

Department may also provide evidence about the quality of the institution and the quality of the degree, compared with a four-year honours degree.

Criteria for assessing applicant's eligibility for MPhil candidature

1. Minimum qualifications

Applicants are normally required to have completed at least a four-year honours degree at H2A standard from an Australian university, or a qualification or combination of qualifications considered by the RHD Committee to be equivalent.

2. Minimum level of academic achievement

Applicants should have achieved an overall H1 (80-100%) or H2A (75-79%) grade in the relevant honours or Masters degree.

Applicants who have completed certain professional degrees such as MBBS, BVSc, LLB, JD, BPhysio, BProp&Const, BUrbPI, BArch and BLArch will be assessed individually.

3. Relevance of the Degree

The completed degree must be in an area that is relevant to the intended MPhil, including sufficient specialisation such that the applicant will have already developed an understanding and appreciation of a body of knowledge relevant to the intended MPhil. Professional experience in the area of the intended MPhil may be deemed equivalent.

4. Evidence of research ability

Applicants are normally required to have completed a research project, component, subject or group of subjects that accounts for at least 25% of their work (i.e. Honours year), or 25% of one year accumulated over the length of a Masters course, and which has, or have, been conducted, and assessed, individually. Research carried out in groups should at least have been graded individually. This project, component, or subject(s) may include:

(a) any obviously research oriented project, subject or sustained piece of scholarly writing conducted for assessment, such as small theses, research essays, long essays, or studios;
AND/OR

(b) any less-obviously research subjects, including practice-based subjects such as performance or fieldwork, where there is also scholastic rigor as documented in a sustained piece of writing analogous to (a); AND/OR

(c) any subjects directed at the formation of research skills, such as methodology and reasoning, such as scientific reasoning, or legal reasoning, where a sustained piece of writing has also been produced.

5. Currency of applicant's knowledge of the discipline

The applicant's degree/s and/or professional experience must demonstrate that their knowledge of the discipline in which they plan to undertake their research higher degree is current. It is therefore expected that an applicant will have completed their tertiary studies and/or any relevant professional experience in the 10 years immediately prior to their intended entry to the MPhil.

6. Assessment of level of suitability

Based on interview or other verbal communication, an assessment should be made of the level of understanding, motivation and time commitment of the student for the proposed program of study. For example, a full-time student would be expected to devote at least 40 hours a week and a part-time student about half of this.

Core Participation Requirements:

The Melbourne School of Design is the graduate school of the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning. It offers professional entry programs in Architecture, Construction Management, Landscape Architecture, Property and Urban Planning. It offers specialist development programs in Property Valuation, Planning and Design and in Urban Design. The Melbourne School of Design welcomes applications from students with disabilities. It is the University and Faculty (Architecture, Building and Planning) policy to take reasonable steps to make reasonable adjustments so as to enable students' participation in degrees offered by the Melbourne School of Design (MSD). A candidate for degrees offered in the MSD must have abilities and skills which include the following: observation; communication; motor; conceptual, integrative, and quantitative; and behavioural and social. Adjustments can be provided to minimise the impact of a disability, however, particularly at Masters level, students need to be able to participate in programs in an independent manner and with regard to their safety and the safety of others. (i) Observation: Candidates must be able to read text, diagrams, maps, drawings and numerical data. Candidates should be able to observe details at a number of scales and to record useful observations of environmental contexts. (ii) Communication: Candidates should be able to communicate with fellow students, professional and academic

	<p>staff, members of relevant professions and the public. Candidates must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively. Communication includes not only speech but also reading and writing. (iii) Motor: Candidates should have sufficient motor function to elicit information from environmental contexts. Off campus investigations may include visits to construction sites, urban, rural and/or remote environments. Candidates should have sufficient motor ability to prepare documentation of analytic texts, drawings and models of findings and for the preparation of proposals for environmental interventions via digital or other means. Candidates should have the ability to actively participate in appropriate site and/or design studio-based activities. (iv) Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities: These abilities include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, synthesis and, importantly, the ability to interpret results of such work. Problem resolution, the critical skill demanded of graduates, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, given the disciplines pursued in the MSD, candidates should be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships in environmental structures of a wide range of scales –from smaller than the individual through individual buildings and urban spaces to large geographic areas. Further, graduate study entails learning to master one's own abilities and skills and to deploy them strategically. This requires further developing skills in both reflective and reflexive thinking and being able to practice these skills. (v) Behavioural and Social Attributes: A candidate must possess behavioural and social attributes that enable them to participate in a complex learning environment. Students are required to take responsibility for their own participation and learning. They also contribute to the learning of other students in collaborative learning environments, demonstrating interpersonal skills and an understanding of the needs of other students. Assessment may include the outcomes of tasks completed in collaboration with other students. Students who feel a disability will prevent them from meeting the above academic requirements are encouraged to contact the Disability Liaison Unit.</p>
<p>Graduate Attributes:</p>	<p>Research Masters degrees at the University of Melbourne seek to develop graduates who have a capacity for defining and managing a research project characterised by originality and independence. Their training equips them for more sustained and original work at the doctoral level or for applied research positions in a wide variety of contexts. The University expects its research Masters graduates to have the following qualities and skills: an ability to initiate research projects and to formulate viable research questions; a demonstrated capacity to design, conduct and report independent and original research on a closely defined project; an ability to manage time to maximise the quality of research; an understanding of the major contours of international research in the research area; a capacity for critical evaluation of relevant scholarly literature; well-developed and flexible problem-solving abilities appropriate to the discipline; the ability to analyse research data within a changing disciplinary environment; the capacity to communicate effectively the results of research and scholarship by oral and written communication; an understanding of and facility with scholarly conventions in the discipline area; a profound respect for truth and intellectual integrity, and for the ethics of research and scholarship; a capacity to cooperate with other researchers; an ability to manage information effectively, including the application of computer systems and software where appropriate to the student's field of study.</p>
<p>Notes:</p>	<p>Application Procedure Detailed information for prospective MPhil students regarding the application process, including the application form is available at http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/grad/research (http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/grad/research) . It is important to note that there is a separate application form for local and international students. MPhil applicants should discuss their research interests with a potential supervisor at the department in which they would like to enrol prior to submitting an application. The Find an Expert (http://www.findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/) website may assist you to find an appropriate supervisor. Prospective MPhil candidates should also investigate department websites for information on current research and contact details. Department websites are easily accessed from faculty homepages (http://www.unimelb.edu.au/az/faculties.html) . Applications are accepted year-round. Which scholarship can I apply for? Students can find information about graduate research scholarships offered by the University of Melbourne at the Melbourne Scholarships Office (http://cms.services.unimelb.edu.au/scholarships/pgrad) . Facilities and Supports:</p>

The Melbourne School of Graduate Research makes available a broad range of **Programs & Services** (<http://www.gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au/programs/>) available to graduate research students.