

475AA Doctor of Philosophy - Victorian College of the Arts

Year and Campus:	2015 - Southbank
CRICOS Code:	059249K
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 3.00 years full time, or equivalent part time. Credit Points: 300
Coordinator:	Associate Professor Dr Barb Bolt
Contact:	<p>VCA & MCM Faculty Research Office Faculty of the VCA & Music Ground Floor, Elisabeth Murdoch Building (Bldg 860) Southbank Campus 234 St Kilda Road, Southbank, 3006 Enquiries: Phone: 13 MELB (13 6352) or 9035 9175 Email: 13MELB@unimelb.edu.au or vcamcm-research@unimelb.edu.au</p>
Course Overview:	<p>The degree of Doctor of Philosophy signifies that the holder has undertaken a substantial piece of original research, which has been conducted and reported by the holder under proper academic supervision and in a research environment for a prescribed period.</p> <p>The PhD thesis demonstrates authority in the candidate's field and shows evidence of command of knowledge in relevant fields. It shows that the candidate has a thorough grasp of the appropriate methodological techniques and an awareness of their limitations. The thesis also makes a distinct contribution to knowledge. Its contribution to knowledge rests on originality of approach and / or interpretation of the findings and, in some cases, the discovery of new facts. The thesis demonstrates an ability to communicate research findings effectively in the professional arena and in an international context. It is a careful, rigorous and sustained piece of work demonstrating that a research 'apprenticeship' is complete and the holder is admitted to the community of scholars in the discipline.</p> <p>In scope, the PhD thesis differs from a research Masters thesis chiefly by its deeper and more comprehensive treatment of the chosen subject. It is written succinctly, in English, unless approval has been given for the thesis to be written in a language other than English. The normal length of a PhD thesis is 80,000 words, exclusive of words in tables, maps, bibliographies and appendices. Footnotes are included as part of the word limit. The thesis should not exceed 100,000 words (or equivalent) without special approval from the Research Higher Degrees Committee.</p> <p>Further information and forms are available at: www.gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au (http://www.gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au) and http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/info/research (http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/info/research). Initial contact should be made through the VCA & MCM Faculty Research Office by calling +61 3 9035 9175 or by emailing vcamcm-research@unimelb.edu.au and Faculty information on applications can be found at: http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/research (http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/research)</p>
Learning Outcomes:	The creative work may take the form of performance, exhibition, writing (poetry, fiction, script or other written literary forms), film, video, design multimedia, CD Rom or other New Media technologies and modes of presentation. The creative work and dissertation will be examined as an integrated whole.
Course Structure & Available Subjects:	-
Entry Requirements:	1. In order to be considered for entry, applicants must have completed:

- a four-year bachelor degree in a relevant discipline which includes a substantial research component equivalent to at least 25% of one year of full-time study and have achieved a minimum weighted average of 75% in the final year subjects or (University of Melbourne) equivalent (for the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS), a minimum weighted average of 80% in the final year subjects or (University of Melbourne) equivalent); or
 - a masters degree in a relevant discipline which includes a substantial research component equivalent to at least 25% of one year of full-time study and achieved a minimum weighted average of 75% or (University of Melbourne) equivalent; (for the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS), a minimum weighted average of 80% or University of Melbourne equivalent); or
 - a qualification and professional experience considered to be equivalent;
- and
- a research proposal;
 - referee reports (except for applicants who have graduated from the University of Melbourne within the last 5 years); and
 - the endorsement of a prospective supervisor

Meeting these requirements does not guarantee selection.

2. In selecting applicants, the selection committee will consider applicants':

- prior academic performance and, if relevant, professional qualifications;
- understanding of the research question to be explored;
- demonstrated ability in the creative discipline;
- performance at an interview;
- motivation and capacity to complete the course in a timely manner;
- relevant prior research and/or professional experience; and
- the referee reports.

3. The selection committee may seek further information to clarify any aspect of an application in accordance with the **Selection and Admission into Graduate Research Courses Policy**.

4. Applicants are required to satisfy the university's English language requirements for graduate courses. For those applicants seeking to meet these requirements by one of the standard tests approved by the Academic Board, the following performance bands are required: Doctor of Philosophy - PhD – Victorian College of the Arts **Band 6.5** (http://about.unimelb.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1245740/Resolutions_of_the_Academic_Board_-_selection_-_RHDs_-_19August2014.pdf)

Core Participation Requirements:

All candidates are required to complete the equivalent of at least one-third advanced study and research at the University (unless studying at an approved outside institution). The RHDC will not approve entirely distance supervision or entirely on-line supervision for research higher degree students. Throughout their candidature candidates are expected to attend the University in order to benefit from planning, conducting and writing up their research within a University community and environment. The residency requirement is deemed especially important during the period of probationary candidature. During probationary candidature the student is expected to interact on a regular basis with the supervisor, the department (including staff and other research students) and the University, so as: to build the skills and knowledge necessary to carry out the proposed research program to acquire an understanding of the standards and requirements for a PhD awarded by the University to make use of support programs and facilities provided by the Melbourne School of Graduate Research throughout candidature. For the purposes of considering requests for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this course are articulated in the Course Overview, Objectives and Generic Skills sections of this entry. It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this course are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and the Disability Liaison Unit: <http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/>

Graduate Attributes:

Doctoral degrees at the University of Melbourne seek to develop graduates who demonstrate academic leadership, increasing independence, creativity and innovation in their research

	<p>work. The University expects its doctoral graduates to have the following qualities and skills: an advanced ability to initiate research and to formulate viable research questions; a demonstrated capacity to design, conduct and report sustained and original research; the capacity to contextualise research within an international corpus of specialist knowledge; an advanced ability to evaluate and synthesize research-based and scholarly literature; an advanced understanding of key disciplinary and multi-disciplinary norms and perspectives relevant to the field; highly developed problem-solving abilities and flexibility of approach; the ability to analyse critically within and across a changing disciplinary environment; the capacity to disseminate the results of research and scholarship by oral and written communication to a variety of audiences; a capacity to cooperate with and respect the contributions of fellow researchers and scholars; a profound respect for truth and intellectual integrity, and for the ethics of research and scholarship; an advanced facility in the management of information, including the application of computer systems and software where appropriate to the student's field of study; an understanding of the relevance and value of their research to national and international communities of scholars and collaborators; an awareness where appropriate of issues related to intellectual property management and the commercialisation of innovation; and an ability to formulate applications to relevant agencies, such as funding bodies and ethics committees. The University provides a variety of opportunities in addition to the supervised research program, to facilitate a students' acquisition of these attributes.</p>
<p>Links to further information:</p>	<p>www.gradresearch.unimelb.edu.au</p>
<p>Notes:</p>	<p>Application Procedure Detailed information for prospective PhD students regarding the application process, including the application form is available at http://vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees (http://vca.unimelb.edu.au/study/degrees)</p> <p>PhD applicants should discuss their research interests with the Graduate Reserach Coordinator and/or potential supervisor at the department in which they would like to enrol prior to submitting an application.</p> <p>The Find an Expert (http://www.findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/) website may assist you to find an appropriate supervisor, along with the Faculty Staff Pages (http://vca-mcm.unimelb.edu.au/vcamcmstaff) . Prospective PhD candidates should also investigate department websites for information on current research and contact details.</p> <p>Applications are accepted year-round, except for the School of Art, which has one annual deadline of 31 October for study commencing the following year.</p> <p>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://services.unimelb.edu.au/scholarships/research) .</p> <p>Facilities and Supports: 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.</p>