

## Sociology: Standard Milestones for Masters by Dissertation Students

Milestones	Criteria for progress	Deliverables	Deadline
M1: Progress to Completion year (or equivalent for part-time students)	A: Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research project and complete the thesis.	<ul> <li>Training Needs         Analysis to be         completed.</li> <li>Attend Proficio         courses and plan for         further courses to         attend, as         appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Beginning of term 1 for full-time students;         Term 2 for part-time students</li> <li>By end of Term 3 for full-time students;         Term 6 for part-time students</li> </ul>
	B: Clarify research topic and demonstrate an understanding of topic and relevance to wider research	Research Project Outline, including (depending on subject area):  Write central research problem/questions to be answered.  Methodological considerations.  Feasibility Report — identifying sources, access and ethical considerations  Create project plan, outlining objectives for each stage and start research.	By first Supervisory     Panel and RSPB     (end of term 1 for     full-time students;     Term 2 for part-time     students)
	C: Demonstrate the ability to produce work of the quality and quantity in order to complete a Masters by Dissertation within the two year maximum period.	<ul> <li>Evidence that academic writing is of standard and ability expected at Masters by dissertation level, including adequate referencing and language skills.</li> <li>Write critical literature review</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By end of year 1         Supervisory Panel         and RSPB (Term 3)         for full-time students;</li> <li>By end of year 2 SP         and RSPB (Term 6)         for part-time         students.</li> </ul>
	D: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected for Masters by Dissertation	<ul> <li>Research completed (empirical and theoretical work, where relevant)</li> <li>Produce half of the draft chapters, including any substantive/empirical ones</li> </ul>	By end of year     Supervisory Panel     (Term 3 for full-time     students; Term 6 for     part-time students)
	E: Demonstration of effective project management through	<ul> <li>Create a detailed, realistic completion plan (if required)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By end of year</li> <li>Supervisory Panel</li> <li>(Term 3 for full-time</li> </ul>



	the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities.	Produce Supervisory Panel report written in a clear and self- reflective style		students; Term 6 for part-time students)
M2: Completion Year (if needed)	A: Clear evidence of progress towards submission	Completed final draft of thesis for supervisor(s)/ supervisory panel comment	•	By Supervisory Panel prior to submission.