

## Institute for Social and Economic Research: Standard Milestones for PhD Students (2018/2019)

Milestones	Criteria for progress	Deliverables	Deadline	
M1: Confirmation and Progress to Year 2 (or equivalent for part-time students)	A: Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research for Paper 1 B: Choose research topic for Paper 1 and demonstrate potential significance/impact of research	<ul> <li>Training Needs Analysis to be completed</li> <li>Attend Proficio courses and plan for further courses to attend, as appropriate</li> <li>Regular attendance at ISER research seminar and research group meetings</li> <li>Research Project Proposal, including (dependent on subject area):</li> <li>Produce a clear statement of the central research problems/questions to be answered.</li> <li>Methodological considerations.</li> <li>Feasibility Report – identifying data sources, access and ethical considerations (especially if experimental work involved)</li> <li>Create project plan,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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> <li>By Confirmation Board (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</li> </ul>	
	C: Demonstrate understanding of chosen topic within the context of the field	<ul> <li>outlining objectives for each stage</li> <li>Critical Literature Review (where relevant)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By Confirmation Board (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</li> </ul>	
	D: Demonstrate the ability to produce work of the quality and quantity in order to complete within the standard period	<ul> <li>Evidence that academic writing is at (or close to) the standard expected at PhD level, including adequate referencing and language skills</li> <li>It should be clear that the student is on track to produce a</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By Confirmation Board (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</li> </ul>	

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	E: Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities	<ul> <li>complete draft of Paper 1 by the end of Term 4 (for full-time students; Term 7 for part-time)</li> <li>Create a detailed, realistic plan of work/ timetable for Year 2.</li> <li>Produce supervisory board report written in a clear and self- reflective style</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By Confirmation Board (Term 3 for full-time students; Term 6 for part-time students)</li> </ul>
M2: Progress from Year 2 to Year 3 (or equivalent for part-time students)	A: Review training needs and knowledge required to continue with Paper 2	<ul> <li>Training Needs Analysis to be reviewed</li> <li>Attend Proficio courses and plan for further courses to attend, as appropriate</li> <li>Regular attendance at ISER research seminar and research group meetings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Term 4 for full-time students; Term 8 for part-time students</li> <li>By end of Term 6 for full-time students; Term 12 for part- time students</li> </ul>
	B: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected at the end of Year 2	<ul> <li>Produce two draft papers: a full draft of Paper 1; a draft of the research undertaken to date for Paper 2</li> <li>Evidence that academic writing is at the standard expected at PhD level, or is very close to achieving it.</li> <li>Report on research undertaken to date</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Full draft of Paper 1 by Term 4 (Term 7 for part-time students). All else by end of year Supervisory Board (Term 6 for full-time students; Term 12 for part-time students)</li> </ul>
	C: Review significance and impact of research and articulate output	<ul> <li>For example:</li> <li>Deliver workshop</li> <li>Present research to students and staff at seminars/conferences</li> <li>Write journal articles</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By end of year Supervisory Board (Term 6 for full-time students; Term 12 for part-time students)</li> </ul>
	D: Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities	<ul> <li>Create a detailed, realistic plan of work/ timetable for the work on Paper 3 to be carried out in Year 3</li> <li>Create a detailed, realistic plan of work/ timetable for Year 3 which demonstrates</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>By end of year Supervisory Board (Term 6 for full-time students; Term 12 for part-time students)</li> </ul>

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		<ul> <li>the ability to submit within the three year standard PhD period (six year for part-time students)</li> <li>Produce supervisory board report written in a clear and self- reflective style</li> </ul>		
M3: Year 3 (or equivalent for part-time students)	A: Ability to reflect on skills and knowledge development and its application to the research project	<ul> <li>Training Needs Analysis reviewed</li> <li>Regular attendance at ISER research seminar and research group meetings</li> </ul>	•	By the Term 7 progress board for full-time students; Term 15 for part- time students
	B: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected when nearing submission	<ul> <li>Research completed (experimental, empirical and theoretical work, where relevant)</li> <li>Produce full drafts of all three Papers to PhD standard</li> <li>Enter completion</li> </ul>		By the Term 7 progress board for full-time students; Term 15 for part- time students
	C: Clear evidence of progress towards submission	<ul> <li>Draft of chapter 1 (introduction) and chapter 5 (conclusion)</li> <li>Completed final draft of thesis for supervisor(s)/ supervisory board comment</li> <li>Produce a realistic completion year plan.</li> <li>Produce supervisory board report written in a clear and self- reflective style</li> </ul>	•	By interim Supervisory Board prior to submission/Term 7/8 for full-time students; Term 15 - 16 for part-time students)
If Required M4: Request to enter Completion period	A: Clear plan to submission	<ul> <li>Final polishing of all chapters.</li> <li>Timeline of work needing to take place before submission</li> <li>Submission date agreed</li> </ul>	•	Timeline agreed by Supervisory board.