

Department of Sociology: Standard Milestones for Masters by Dissertation Students – 2019-20 Entry

Requirement	Action
<p>M 1: During Year 2 (Years 1 and 2 for part-time students) Deadline: by the Term 3 Supervisory Board (Term 6 for part-time students) for all requirements, except that the Training Needs Analysis must be completed by the end of Term 1. And B must be completed by the first Supervisory Board (term 1 for full-time students; term 2 for part-time students)</p>	
A: Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research and complete the thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training Needs Analysis to be completed. ▪ Attend Proficio courses and/or plan for further courses to attend, as appropriate
B: Clarify research topic and demonstrate understanding of topic and relevance to wider research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students chosen to produce a monograph: Write central research problem/questions to be answered • Students chosen to produce 3 journal papers: Write three main research questions for each paper • Write central research problem/questions to be answered. • Methodological considerations. • Feasibility Report – identifying sources, access and ethical considerations • Create plan outlining objectives for each stage
C: Demonstrate understanding of chosen topic in the context of the field.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Critical Literature Review and Research Proposal together should be at least 10,000 words
D: Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity to complete a Masters by Dissertation in the 2 year Standard period (3 years for part-timers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence that academic writing is of standard and ability expected at PhD level, including adequate referencing and language skills. ▪ Start data collection
E: Demonstrate effective project management by setting research goals and prioritisation of activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a detailed, realistic plan of work for Year 2. ▪ Produce supervisory board report written in a clear and self-reflective style
F: Professionalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attend First Year PhD Colloquium
G. If completion period required, clear plan to submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed plan for submission agreed by end of year 1 Supervisory Board (year 2 for part-time students)
<p>M3: If required, request to enter Completion Period. Completion periods will be approved on a termly basis and will be for a maximum of 11 months in total.</p>	
A: Clear evidence of progress towards submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress checked regularly by supervisor(s) ▪ Timeline of work to take place before submission