Postgraduate Research milestones are used to ensure students are making sufficient progress during their studies, and to provide a supportive framework to guide students through the various stages of their research. The Milestones should also help to keep students on track to submit within the appropriate period. PGR supervisors should talk through the relevant milestones during supervisory meetings and they should be referred to on a regular basis.

Supervisory Panels and Research Students’ Progress Boards will use the milestones to reflect on the level of progress being made, ahead of making a recommendation. Whilst the milestones are specific for each department and type of course, it is recognised that every research journey is different, and that whilst the milestones provide an overarching framework of expectations, a degree of flexibility should be given, based on the trajectory and scope of research.

Students and supervisors are encouraged to supplement these milestones with individual research plans which take into account the specifics of an individual research project and the individual circumstances of the PGR student.

### Year 1 (Full time)
### Year 1 and 2 (Part time)

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<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Term to undertake work (To be used as a guide only)</th>
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| **Ahead of the first Supervisory Panel** | **M1.1 Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research project and complete the thesis.**  
  - Training Needs Analysis to be completed.  
  - Identify if there are any modules you wish to attend and audit  
  - Courses to attend.  
    - What are Milestones and panel boards  
    - How to use library resources  
    - Why and how to apply for ethics  
    - How to write a proposal  
    - Complete courses on critical reading and PG study skills in STEM.  
    - Student support and Well-Being. | FT 1 PT 2 |
| **Ahead of the second Supervisory Panel** | **M1.2 Clarify research topic and demonstrate an understanding of topic and relevance to wider research**  
  Research Project Proposal, including (dependent 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. | FT 1 PT 2/3 |
| **M1.3** | **Demonstrate the ability to produce work of the quality and quantity in order to complete a Masters by Dissertation within the standard period.**  
  - Evidence that academic writing is of a standard and ability expected at | FT 2 PT 4 |
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| C1.1      | Clear evidence of progress towards submission  
|           | - Submit approval of title form.  
|           | - Submit a plan of work and corresponding timeline, outlining the work to be undertaken ahead of submission  
|           | - Supervisor should add a supporting statement confirming the suitability and feasibility of the work plan and timeline for completion. | Timeline agreed by Supervisory panel. |