

Criteria for the Degree of Master of Research (MRes)

At its meeting on 23 November 2005, Senate agreed that:

1. the criteria for the use of the MRes title be as follows:
 - programmes to comprise 180 credits at postgraduate level
 - programmes to include a research dissertation (or series of mini research projects) of a minimum of 60 credits (and maximum of 90)
 - programmes to include a minimum of 60 credits of research training/methodology/skills modules that might be generic or discipline specific
 - the balance of the programme credit to be derived from advanced taught modules in the discipline.

A typical MRes programme might comprise 60 credits in each category.

2. The preparation of a paper in a format appropriate for publication in a journal in the relevant subject could provide an excellent training exercise and departments should be encouraged to include such a requirement within an MRes degree programme.
3. Departments introducing MRes programmes should be mindful of the guidelines of the Research Councils on the recognition of Masters programmes offering research training,
4. A set of generic ILOs might be produced that could be incorporated in any MRes programme.
5. The use of the MRes degree title should not signify that the programme had research council recognition.
6. Departments should not be compelled to use the MRes title for programmes that met the appropriate criteria.

At its meeting on 1 March 2006, Senate agreed that:

The lesser awards of PG Diploma and PG Certificate for an MRes programme should be styled as the PGDip or PGCert in Advanced Studies in [subject named in the relevant MRes title].