

POSTGRADUATE INFORMATION SHEET

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC



MUSIC COMPOSITION

Eligibility

An Honours degree (1st class or IIA) or Masters degree in Music or professional equivalent.

Duration

Normally 4 years full-time OR 8 years part-time

Program

1. Structured Program

The University requires completion of the Core Component of the Structured Program usually in the first six months (full-time) of candidature. This includes compulsory attendance at University, Faculty and School inductions and the development of a detailed Research Proposal and timeline for study. International students must also undertake the Integrated Bridging Program. The IBP is designed to introduce new international students to the academic, social and cultural conventions of study at the University of Adelaide.

2. Program of Study

Candidates complete a self-directed program of study that includes a high level of engagement with music scholarship within the context of a conservatorium and lively community of musicians in Adelaide. Candidates will work closely with one or more supervisors.

It is expected that the outcomes of the research will include:

- The capability to conduct research independently at a high level of originality, quality and creativity.
- The demonstration of a deep understanding of the field of study leading to a significant and original contribution to knowledge of the discipline.
- The ability to communicate research significance clearly and concisely with audiences at all levels and to demonstrate its relevance to the broader community through a variety of media - including through publication, performance, portfolios of works.
- The close integration of composition or performance activity and scholarly research.
- The production of material worthy of publication and public dissemination whether performance, creative works or scholarly articles.

The Program of study culminates in the submission of:

- A Portfolio of compositions of 75 mins duration including a major work of 30 minutes duration; AND
- An Exegesis (10,000 words)

The Exegesis is intended to provide a commentary on the ways in which the development of the portfolio is underpinned by the research. It should also demonstrate how the submission as a whole represents an original contribution to knowledge. The portfolio and exegesis are examined as a package by examiners who are external to the University

Fees

The PhD is classified as a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) under the Research Training Scheme (RTS). Domestic students, if accepted, have fees covered by the RTS. There are no other upfront tuition fees. International applicants must pay full international tuition fees, and should check current fees with the University's International Office.

Remote Candidature

The School does not normally accept applications for Remote Candidature. The School will, however, negotiate residency requirements for interstate or international candidates on a case-by-case basis.

Applications

1. Application form

University of Adelaide Application forms for local students for Higher Degrees by Research are available from the Adelaide Graduate Centre, The University of Adelaide.

Website: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/programs/pg/>

Telephone: (08) 8303 5882

Address: Level 6, 115 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

International students must use the application form designed especially for them. It can be downloaded from: http://www.international.adelaide.edu.au/future/what/pdf/pg_application.pdf

Alternatively, a Prospectus (which contains an application form) can be requested by emailing the Student Centre on student.centre@adelaide.edu.au.

International students' applications for admission are due by **31 August**

Local students' applications for admission are due by **31 October**

2. Supporting material:

In addition to the University Application form, the School requires:

(i) RESEARCH PROPOSAL

A statement (approximately two pages) describing:

- a) *GENERAL CONTEXT: What is the context of your research? What work has already been done in your area of research?*
- b) *AIM: What is the primary aim of the proposed research?*
- c) *RESEARCH QUESTIONS: What research question(s) are to be investigated? Why do you consider your area of research to be important? What is original or innovative about your research? What new approach can you offer? How will your work enhance knowledge or understanding?*
- d) *METHODS: How will you conduct your research? What method(s) will you use? Are you familiar with such methods? If not, would you like to use methods with which you are not yet familiar?*
- e) *SOURCES: What types of sources are to be used?*
- f) *OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH: What is the format of the outcomes of your research e.g portfolio and exergesis. Please provide provisional list of works for the portfolio including instrumentation, duration, and if the work addresses the research questions.*
- g) *FEASIBILITY OF STUDY PROGRAM: Can your research be completed in three years (fulltime)? Could you focus your topic further such as focus on a particular place, time frame, theoretical concept e.g. tempo, genre, composer.*
- h) *LOCATION: Why is Adelaide a good place to conduct your research? Will you need to spend a period of time studying elsewhere? Is this feasible?*

(ii) RESEARCH TRAINING

What research training have you already had and what further training might you require? Please provide evidence of previous research experience e.g. Masters or Honours level research paper.

(iii) PERFORMANCE:

Please provide evidence of performance skills if relevant .e.g. CD recording.

Selection

Applications for admission are considered by the School's Selection Committee. Members of the Committee include:

- Associate Professor Kimi Coaldrake (Head, Postgraduate Programs - Convenor)
- Professor Charles Bodman Rae
- Professor David Lockett
- Professor Graeme Koehne

The following criteria are used by the Postgraduate Selection Committee in their deliberations.

POSTGRADUATE SELECTION CRITERIA	
GENERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic record ▪ Specialist area record e.g. audition material or portfolio ▪ Other specialist activities
RESEARCH PROPOSAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research proposal question and outcomes ▪ Research experience
SUPERVISOR AVAILABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principal ▪ Co-Supervisor
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialist equipment ▪ Tuition (1:1)
SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES	e.g. Honours equivalence

Assessment Criteria for Research Proposal

A: Excellent - meets following criteria:

- Shows clear, valid research question and process in terms of intellectual conception and practical application to submission outcome e.g. repertoire performance; folio of compositions or standard thesis.
- Demonstrates an engagement with existing commentaries of the discipline.
- Demonstrates good writing skills.
- Has the potential to make original contribution if PhD, or contribution to discipline if Masters.
- Is achievable within three years (fulltime) for PhD, or 18 months for Masters.
- The proposal matches the skill set of academic and specialist areas.

Outcome: acceptable for an offer.

B: Provide feedback for revision and resubmission of research proposal

Outcome: proposal will be reconsidered.

C: Does not address the above criteria

Outcome: no offer will be made.

Special Circumstances: Honours Equivalence

If an applicant does not hold an Honours degree, the Committee will consider, on a case by case basis, a request for consideration of Honours equivalence. The applicant should provide a separate statement and include evidence that helps the Committee to assess whether the applicant has research experience equivalent to one year's study in the Honours programs in Music e.g. extended research project (10,000-15,000 words) or publications, professional recordings or performance experience in professional ensembles, commissions for compositions or other awards.

Scholarships

The PhD falls under the Research Training Scheme. Australian citizens wishing to study full-time are eligible to apply for scholarships funded under the Australian Postgraduate Award and other University scholarships which provide a tax exempt living stipend. Applications are available from the Adelaide Graduate Centre (contact details as above). International students' applications are automatically considered for a scholarship.

Note: One application can be used to apply for both admission and scholarships. This applies to local or international students.

International students' scholarship applications are due by **31 August**

Local students' scholarship applications are due by **31 October**

Offers and Enrolments

The Adelaide Graduate Centre administers offers and enrolments for local students.
The International Office administers offers and enrolments for international students.

Other Available Programs

A Master of Music is available as a Higher Degree by Research program. The Conservatorium also offers Postgraduate Coursework programs – see <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/programfinder/pgcw/music/>

Supervision

Supervisors are allocated by the Head of Postgraduate Programs in consultation with the Selection Committee and in line with University policy.

Further information

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