



NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF EXAMINERS OF DOCTOR OF EDUCATION THESIS

STANDARD FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE

The degree of Doctor of Education (*EdD*) is established under the University's Higher Degree Research Policy and is awarded for an integrated program of professional work which contributes to the generation of new knowledge and/or conceptual advances.

Candidates are encouraged to publish results of their research during candidature and may include one or more papers in the body of the thesis. The thesis preparation guidelines detail the requirements for [inclusion of papers within the thesis](http://www.griffith.edu.au/higher-degrees-research/current-research-students/thesis/preparation/inclusion-of-papers-within-the-thesis) (<http://www.griffith.edu.au/higher-degrees-research/current-research-students/thesis/preparation/inclusion-of-papers-within-the-thesis>).

COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The EdD program of study consists of a minimum of two years full-time work, half of which consists of an extended supervised research project.

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

The EdD course prepares graduates for specialised practice in teaching and managerial careers in education. Its graduates will have highly developed skills in the critical analysis of educational issues and practices, and in the application of research, policy and future perspectives to the identification and solution of practical educational problems.

THE THESIS

The supervised research project will result in a piece of work of approximately 50,000 words which demonstrates an original contribution to knowledge and understanding in the relevant field of study as judged by independent experts applying accepted contemporary standards. A thesis is considered to be a report on a scholarly project based on or manifested in rigorous experimental, theoretical, creative, empirical and/or design inquiry.

THE EXAMINATION BOARD

At least two external expert examiners of international standing, are appointed to assess the thesis. A member of staff of the University is appointed as Chairperson of Examiners, whose task is to consider the reports of the examiners and make a recommendation to the University on the outcome of the examination.

The thesis examination process is conducted online through the Examiner's Evaluation Workcentre located in the Griffith University home page: www.griffith.edu.au>Griffith Portal>Research>Academic Resources>Evaluation Workcentre:

- Examiners are asked to provide their recommendation on results of examination.
- Examiners are asked to provide a justification for their recommendation and a general evaluation of the thesis. Please note that in the case of competing recommendations, a recommendation may need to be set aside if not supported by a report detailing the justification for the recommendation.

Examiners must make an independent report and recommendation and are asked not to communicate directly with the candidate, the candidate's supervisor/s or each other.

Candidates are provided with copies of reports of the examiners and Chairperson of Examiners with their identity expunged. The identity of the examiners and Chairperson of Examiners will be revealed to the candidate when the examination is concluded. If this policy causes you concern, you are asked not to accept the task of examiner or Chairperson of Examiners.

THE EXAMINATION

In summary, the University's Higher Degree Research Policy enables an examiner to recommend that:

- the research component be awarded a pass; or
- the research component be awarded a pass subject to minor revisions; or
- the research component be awarded a pass subject to additional work on the thesis being undertaken by the candidate; or
- the candidate be required to submit to an oral or written defence of the thesis or other work; or
- additional work be undertaken, the research component revised and then resubmitted; or
- the research component be failed.

Where there is substantial disagreement between the examiners, the University may appoint a third or an adjudicator examiner to consider and report on the thesis and any other work submitted and on the reports of the examiners.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Any questions about the thesis or the examination procedure may be directed to:

Thesis Examinations Office
Griffith Graduate Research School
Griffith University
Bray Centre (N54) 0.21
Nathan QLD 4111
Australia

Email: thesisexams@griffith.edu.au
Phone: +61 7 373 53817

* * * * *