**APPLICATION FOR CONFIRMATION OF STATUS AS A STUDENT**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

**(Mathematical, Physical & Life Sciences Division only)**

**General notes for completion:**

This form together with any supporting and subject-specific documentation required, should be sent to your [departmental contact](http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/graduate/contacts/).

Please complete SECTION 1 and SECTION 2, and then ensure that SECTION 3 and SECTION 4 are completed by your supervisor and college. You should make sure that you are aware of the maximum [fee liability](https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/fees-and-other-charges/fees) you will incur in your proposed new status, and consult your college or Graduate Studies Assistant if in doubt.

Please save this form in **Word format** only so that it can be completed by all parties (**please do not convert to PDF**).

Students are reminded that there is a [checklist](https://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk/graduate-school/information-for-postgraduate-research-students/progression) available on the MPLS Graduate School website to help prepare for Confirmation of Status.

Students who require adjustments to the assessment arrangements for Confirmation of Status due to disability, under Section 6 of the [General Regulations for Research Degrees](https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Contents) should also complete [the GSO.19 Application for Adjustment to Assessment Arrangements](https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/graduate/progression.). Guidance for Directors of Graduate Studies on such adjustments is available in Annex C of the [Policy and Guidance on Research Degrees](https://academic.admin.ox.ac.uk/research-degrees).

**Staff notice:** This form contains personal data and may contain sensitive information. Please ensure that downloaded or printed copies are stored securely. Please retain information only for as long as you need it and then dispose of it confidentially. Please refer to [handling student data](https://academic.admin.ox.ac.uk/student-data) for further advice.

**Student notices:** Please refer to the current edition of the [Examination Regulations](https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Contents), or relevant departmental or divisional guidance notes or handbooks, where full details of the relevant confirmation requirements are given.

**SECTION 1 –** to be completed by the student

**Declaration of consent**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| I understand that the information and any materials that I supply in support of this application will be processed by the University in accordance with the [Student Privacy Policy](https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/student-privacy-policy). I consent to my information being used for the purposes of this application. | | |
| **I consent to disclosure within the above limits** | | ❑   **Yes**           ❑   **No** |
| **Signature of Student:** |  | |

**SECTION 2 –** to be completed by the student.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Surname: | |  | | Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/etc.): |  |
| First Name (in full): | |  | | Student Number: |  |
| College/Hall: | |  | Department: |  | |
| Date of admission as graduate student: | | | / / | | |
| Date / term transferred to D.Phil. status: | | |  | | |
| Title of thesis proposed or branch of study: | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| ❑ | I am aware that I must [deposit a digital copy](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora/oxford_etheses) of my thesis following successful completion of my degree, and am aware of copyright issues. | | | | |

**RESEARCH ETHICS APPROVAL (Please tick or insert an X by one box only)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ❑ | I confirm that no human participants were involved and no personal data was used in my research and therefore ethical approval was not required. | | |
| ❑ | I confirm that my completed CUREC1/1A was approved by the appropriate REC. | | |
| ❑ | I confirm that my completed CUREC2 (or NHS REC or OXTREC application) was approved by the appropriate REC. | | |
| **RESEARCH INTEGRITY**  **Students are reminded that they need to have completed the University’s online research integrity training. This should normally have been completed before applying for transfer of status, but must be completed before applying for confirmation of status.  The training is available at** [Research Integrity: introductory course](https://cosy.ox.ac.uk/accessplan/clientinput/course/coursebooker.aspx?dcdid=S/LpS/XWRGRf+qlbfUhd+ZcZB1zggr6PBzfHzTVCiwg=)  The [University’s research integrity policies](https://researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity/policy.). The University takes seriously any concerns raised about research practice, and those found to have engaged in research misconduct may face disciplinary action. | | | |
| ❑  ❑ | | I confirm that I have completed the online research integrity training and attach the emailed certificate of completion as evidence of this. [You do not need to provide this if it has already been provided at Transfer of Status]. If you have not yet completed the training, please do so before submitting this form  N/A - as I am on one of the CDT programmes listed below: | |
| Students on the following CDT programmes are not required to complete the online training, as the required training is already completed as part of the CDT programme:   * Autonomous Intelligent Machines and Systems CDT * Inorganic Chemistry for Future Manufacturing (OxICFM) CDT * Future Propulsion and Power CDT * Modern Statistics and Statistical Machine Learning CDT | | | |
| ❑ | | I confirm that I understand my responsibility to the principles of research integrity as set out in the University’s policies, in particular those listed below (cross out one or both of the last two topics on the list if they do not apply): | |
| * Research data and records management (including data protection and information security) * Authorship and intellectual property * Plagiarism, copyright and proper referencing * Conflicts of interest (e.g. with respect to examining, recruitment, licences) * Health and safety (including fieldwork) * Research misconduct * Human participants in research (cross out if not applicable) * Research involving animals (cross out if not applicable) | | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **INTERNSHIPS AND PLACEMENTS** | | | Does your funding or degree programme require that you complete a compulsory internship or research placement (e.g. iCASE, BBSRC DTP) as part of your DPhil studies? | ❑ Yes ❑ No | | If yes, please state whether you have completed or are in the process of completing this internship/placement and provide further details, including the date. If you have not yet undertaken this please briefly explain your plans for the internship/placement, including timing. | | |  | | | | | | |
| **ADJUSTMENTS TO ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS** | | | |
| **Special Arrangements**  In addition to assessing your written work, assessors are appointed to meet with you to discuss your work. Please indicate if you would like to request any special arrangements for your interview (e.g. as a result of a Student Support Plan or other circumstances) and provide details in the form [GSO.19 (Application for Adjustments to Assessment Arrangements)](https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/graduate/progression). | | | **(Please tick or put an X by ONE box only)**  ❑ I do not require adjustments to my assessment arrangements  ❑ I [require/have had] adjustments to my assessment arrangements [please delete as appropriate] |

**PROGRESS REPORT:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **(i)** | **Please give a brief indication of the nature and progress of your research to date (please refer to any departmental or divisional guidance notes or handbooks that you have received for additional requirements):** | |
|  | | |
| **(ii)** | **Your proposed timetable for submission:** | |
|  | | |
| **Permission to submit thesis in an integrated format**  (Departments who permit students to submit an integrated thesis are: Biology (nee Plant Sciences and Zoology), Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Engineering and Statistics) | | |
| I wish to seek approval to submit my thesis in an integrated format (if permitted under [special regulations](https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Contents)) | | ❑ **Yes** ❑ **No** ❑ **N/A** |
| Please provide reason(s) for your request: | | |

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY THE STUDENT**

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| --- | --- |
| The University recognises that the identification of particular areas of skills training and development is a regular aspect of a student’s work with their supervisor(s). It regards confirmation of status as an appropriate point at which to ask the student, with the help of their supervisor(s), to:   * record those subject-specific and personal and professional skills which the student has already acquired; * identify any such skills which might require further development or refinement; * note any other related activities, e.g. presentation of posters, attendance at conferences, etc., which have made a contribution to the development of the student’s work.   In making this record available to confirmation assessors and to those responsible for approving applications for confirmation, the University does not wish to make this a formal aspect of the confirmation process, but to acknowledge the importance of such activities in a research student's training and to provide assessors and others with a fuller picture of an individual student’s progress. It also aims to help individual students cope with the increasing expectation on the part of research councils and other funding bodies that, in conjunction with their supervisor(s), they will maintain a record of such skills and achievements throughout the course of their career as a research student. | |
| **A** | **Please describe briefly any subject specific research skills that you have developed or improved in the course of your time as a research student. For example, these might include: research methodology; data analysis and management; record keeping; bibliographical skills; presentation of research.** |
|  | |
| **B** | **Please describe briefly any personal and professional skills in which you have received training or which you have enhanced during the course of your time as a research student. For example, these might include: time management; language skills; IT skills; team work; problem solving; presentation skills; teaching skills; career planning.** |
|  | |
| **C** | **Please identify any subject-specific or personal and professional skills in which you (and your supervisor(s)) foresee the need for further development or training.** |
|  | |
| **D** | **Please list any other activities which have contributed to the development of your work. For example, these might include courses attended, conference presentations given, publications, opportunities to undertake teaching etc**. |
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| Signature of student: |  | Date: |  |
| Full name: |  | | |

**SECTION 3** – to be completed by the supervisor[[1]](#footnote-2)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Comments (please include comments on the progress of the student’s research and the proposed timetable for submission). | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| In addition to the comments above, please tick or put an X by **one** of the following options: | | | | | |
| ❑ | I have no concerns regarding this student’s readiness to apply to confirm status. | | | | |
| ❑ | I have mild concerns regarding this student’s readiness to apply to confirm status, and have discussed these with the student. | | | | |
| ❑ | I have serious concerns regarding this student’s readiness to apply to confirm status, and have discussed these with the student. | | | | |
| I also support the student’s request to submit their thesis in an integrated format: | | | | | ❑ **Yes** ❑ **No** ❑ **N/A** |
| Supervisor Signature: | |  | Date: |  | |
| Full Name: | |  | | | |

**SECTION 4** – to be completed by the college’s Tutor for Graduates (or equivalent)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Does the college support the application? | | | | | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| Comments on behalf of the college: | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| College Signature: |  | | Date: |  | |
| Full Name: |  | | | | |
| Position (if not Tutor for Graduates): | |  | | | |

**SECTION 5** – to be completed by the Director of Graduate Studies (or equivalent)

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| **DGS Comments**: | | | |
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| I approve for the student to submit their thesis in an integrated format. | | | ❑ **Yes** ❑ **No** ❑ **N/A** |
| I confirm that the student is ready to be assessed for confirmation of DPhil status and certify that this application has the approval of the candidate’s department | | | ❑ **Yes** ❑ **No** |
| Signature of DGS (or equivalent): |  | Date: |  |
| Full Name: |  | | |

**NOTES**

Confirmation of D.Phil. status was introduced to give faculties and departments an opportunity to monitor the direction and progress of a D.Phil. student’s work in the period between transfer of status and submission of thesis. It is intended both to assess the progress of the research work and to support the work of a student and their supervisor(s) by ensuring that other members of the faculty or department with a responsibility for graduate students are aware of the state of the research in progress, and the likely timetable for submission.

While all candidates seeking confirmation of status are required to complete the form in full, further detailed requirements vary from subject to subject. You should find the specific requirements relating to your subject set out in the Examination Regulations or in the relevant departmental or divisional guidance notes or handbooks.

For candidates admitted to the status of Probationer Research Student, it is the University’s expectation that a D.Phil. thesis will be submitted within twelve terms (the work representing ‘what may reasonably be expected of a capable and diligent student after three or at most four years of full-time study’). Candidates may apply for extensions of time beyond twelve terms, within a maximum of six further terms. Faculty/department boards or other committees will require such applications to include full explanation of the reasons for the request, as well as the support of the student’s supervisor and college. Approval of applications is not automatic, and most bodies will give not more, and may give less, than three terms’ extension at any one time. MPLS policy is to approve only one term at a time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Candidates who are in receipt of Research Council awards must ensure that they know the date by which they are expected to submit. It is essential for the award of studentships to future generations of graduate students that every effort is made to submit by this date, or, if there are good reasons for suspension of status or extensions of time, these are **always** approved by the Research Council concerned as well as by the faculty or department. Such approval is necessary within the required submission period **even if a student is no longer receiving financial support**.

GSO.14 MPLS Updated January 2024

1. Within Section 3, supervisors are asked to provide a statement containing their view of the progress of the student’s research. A supervisor may delay an early application in the interests of the student but must enable students to apply for their assessment within the prescribed time limits. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)