

Higher Doctorates

Introduction: The degrees of Doctor in Divinity (D.D.), Doctor in Laws (LL.D.), Doctor in Letters (Litt.D.), Doctor in Music (Mus.D.), and Doctor in Science (Sc.D.) are awarded to candidates who are judged by the University Council to have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of knowledge, as evidenced by the publication of their work. The level of attainment required for a higher doctorate is substantially higher than that required for the degree of Ph.D.

The following are the major criteria used by the Graduate Studies Committee Higher Doctorates sub-committee and the assessors when judging an application:

- a) By their publications, candidates are recognised as being of international standing in their field.
- b) Their contribution has been sustained over a number of years.
- c) Their contribution has led to major innovations or major new additions to knowledge in their discipline.
- d) Their contribution contains seminal publications that have led to developments by others.

Admission Requirements: Applicants must be graduates of the University of Dublin, of not less than eight years' standing to be eligible for application to these degrees.

Application Procedure: Application must be made to the Dean of Graduate Studies on the prescribed form, and include seven copies of the following:

- 1) A covering letter including the name of the degree applied for and a *curriculum vitae*.

- 2) A statement about the nature and extent of the applicant's contribution to the field of study.
- 3) A list of publications that the applicant intends to submit.
- 4) A statement that the work has not been submitted as an exercise for a degree at this or any other university.
- 5) A statement that the listed publications are the applicant's original work. Where work done in co-operation with others is to be submitted, the applicant should comment on his/her role in the work.

Applications are assessed by the Higher Doctorates sub-committee of the Graduate Studies Committee. On its recommendation, candidates are admitted to the register once a year in September. If admitted to the register, the candidate must submit to the Dean of Graduate Studies when requested three full sets of the corpus of publications which are to be assessed. The publications should be accompanied by a short commentary not exceeding one thousand words indicating how each publication contributes to the total corpus of the candidate's research. All materials other than books must be secured in one hardback folder, or more if necessary, each containing a title and contents page. A candidate should clearly state which part of the submission, if any, has been submitted for any other academic award. Materials submitted may not be returned. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. The onus is on the candidate to ensure that his/her submission is in the required format.

An application fee of €500 (non-refundable) is payable on applying to establish a *prima facie* case. On admittance a fee is payable by all candidates on a one-off basis. If the appraisal is not completed by the end of the academic year, the candidate will not be required to pay a further fee; however, it will be necessary for him/her to register for the next academic year.

Assessment: Appraisal is made by scholars distinguished in the particular area of research. Should it prove impossible for the Dean of Graduate Studies to secure the services of appropriate scholars the University reserves the right not to proceed with the examination and all fees will be refunded to the candidate. Two assessors, who

must be external to the University of Dublin, are appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies in consultation with the appropriate Dean of the Faculty who also submits a list of at least three suitable assessors from which the Dean of Graduate Studies will choose two.

The assessors have the power to question the candidate upon his/her work, either in writing or by *viva voce*.

The degree will be awarded on the independent and unequivocal recommendation of both assessors to Council. In the event of a disagreement between two assessors, the Dean of Graduate Studies shall appoint a third assessor whose recommendation shall be final. There is no appeal against the decision of Council.

Closing date: Application must be made on the prescribed form to the Dean of Graduate Studies to reach the office by 1 September of the proposed year of entry. Late applications are not considered.

Enquiries should be sent in the first instance to the Administrative Officer, Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies at genadgso@tcd.ie