

Learning Outcomes for the award of research degrees

	Doctoral (PhD, EdD and Professional Doctorate)	MPhil	MA/MSc by Research and MRes
Learning Outcomes On successful completion of a research degree programme, students will have demonstrated:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship, of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication a systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of an academic discipline or area of professional practice the general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems a detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research and advanced academic enquiry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline a systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, most of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline or area of professional practice the general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research or advanced scholarship in the relevant field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a systematic understanding of a body of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline or area of professional practice a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research or advanced scholarship in the relevant field originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline conceptual understanding that enables the student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to design and implement a project for the generation of knowledge, applications or understanding of the discipline to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and,

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			where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.
Transferable (Key) Skills Students will have had the opportunity to acquire the following abilities through the research training and research specified for the programme:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the skills necessary for a career as a researcher and/or for employment in a senior and leading capacity in a relevant area of professional practice; evaluating their own achievement and that of others; self-direction and effective decision making in complex and unpredictable situations; independent learning and the ability to work in a way which ensures continuing professional development; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the skills necessary to undertake research at a higher level, for a future career as a researcher and/or for employment in a higher capacity in industry or area of professional/clinical practice; evaluating their own achievement and that of others; self-direction and effective decision making in complex and unpredictable situations; independent learning and the ability to work in a way which ensures continuing professional development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the skills necessary to undertake research at a higher level, for a future career as a researcher and/or for employment in a higher capacity in industry or area of professional/clinical practice; evaluating their own achievement and that of others; self-direction and effective decision making in complex and unpredictable situations; independent learning and the ability to work in a way which ensures continuing professional development.
Learning Context	<p>This will include the critical analysis of, and decision making in, complex and unpredictable situations. The structure of the programme will provide research and/or professional training, breadth and depth of study and opportunities for drawing upon appropriate resources and techniques. Opportunities will be provided for students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop to a high level interests and informed opinions develop to a high level their design and management of their learning activities develop to a high level their communication of their conclusions make an original contribution to the field 	<p>This will include the critical analysis of, and decision making in, complex and unpredictable situations. The structure of the programme will provide research training, breadth and/or depth of study and opportunities for drawing upon appropriate resources and techniques. Opportunities will be provided for students to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interests and informed opinions their involvement in the design and management of their learning activities their communication of their conclusions their ability to undertake critical analysis 	<p>This will include the analysis of, and decision making in, complex and unpredictable situations. The structure of the programme will provide research training, depth of study and opportunities for drawing upon appropriate resources and techniques. Opportunities will be provided for students to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interests and informed opinions their involvement in the design and management of their learning activities their communication of their conclusions <p>Students will be expected to progress to fully autonomous study and work.</p>

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	Students will be expected to engage in the exercise of autonomous initiative in their study and work in professional environments.	Students will be expected to progress to fully autonomous study and work.	
Assessment Unless otherwise stated in YSJU regulations for the award, a student's achievement will be assessed solely by the examination of the thesis and performance under oral examination to determine whether the learning outcomes have been met. Assessment will take account of the student's ability to present reasoned and well-informed judgements on highly complex and specialist issues. This will include the written style and overall presentation of the thesis.			

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2	Document format updated	May 2022	N/A
3	Change from Registry to PGR School	Sept 2024	N/A
4	PhD changed to Doctoral to reflect different degree titles	August 2025	N/A
5	Amended to encompass MRes degrees	December 2025	RDC Chair's Action