Examiner’s Independent Report on a Postgraduate Research Thesis

All postgraduate research awards at the University of Southampton are governed by the [Regulations for Research Degrees and Higher Doctorates](https://www.southampton.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations-policies/research-students/general/candidature-supervision) and the [Code of Practice for Research Degree Candidature and Supervision](https://www.southampton.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations-policies/research-students/general/candidature-supervision). The [Guidance for Examiners of Postgraduate Research Awards](https://www.southampton.ac.uk/~assets/doc/quality-handbook/Guidance%20for%20Examiners%20of%20PGR%20Awards.pdf) supplements the information from these sources and should be consulted to aid the completion of this form, but the Regulations and the Code of Practice must be consulted where clarification is required or where dispute arises during the examination process.

In advance of the *viva voce*, and without consultation with other examiners, all members of the examining team are required to conduct an initial assessment of the thesis which is to be examined and to complete the *Examiner’s Independent Report on a Postgraduate Research Thesis*. Although the independent report is not usually shared with the research student, examiners should note that, in the event of a request through the Freedom of Information of Act or from the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, the research student may access all documentation and email communications relating to their examination.

The completed report should be returned to the Doctoral College (Faculty) Team, Faculty of [insert Faculty name, address and email address] **not less than 5 working days** before the data of the *viva voce*.

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| Name of research student |  |
| Date of *viva voce* |  |
| Title of thesis |  |
| This report refers to the submission of a revised thesis or an additional *viva voce* | Yes󠄀 󠄀󠄀 | No󠄀 󠄀󠄀 |

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| The report should include a brief description of the work carried out by the research student, its strengths and weaknesses, and should relate the work to the wider context of the research student’s chosen field of research. Examiners may wish to use the report to:* consider whether the research student has demonstrated a broad knowledge and understanding of their discipline and its associated research technique;
* assess whether the research student has applied the techniques, as appropriate, to their thesis;
* comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the thesis;
* highlight any particular issues that the examiner would like to draw out in the *viva voce*.
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| Name of Examiner |  | Internal Examiner 󠄀External Examiner󠄀 | 󠄀󠄀 |
| Institution and Department |  | Date |  |