

# School of Law Annual Review Guidance

# Law and Criminology PhD and MPhil Programmes

# 2015-16

This guide should be read in conjunction with information in the online PGR handbook available at: <u>http://www.law.manchester.ac.uk/pgr-handbook</u> and the University policy on the Progress and Review of PGR Students: <u>http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/Doculnfo.aspx?DocID=612</u>

### School of Law Annual Review Guidance – Law and Criminology PhD and MPhil Programmes

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• You are advised to read the entire process contained in this guidance document in order to gain a full understanding of Annual Reviews and the steps that must be followed.

If you have any questions, please email <a href="mailto:lawpgr@manchester.ac.uk">lawpgr@manchester.ac.uk</a>

## 1. Introduction to the Annual Review

Towards the end of each academic year, all postgraduate research students (MPhil, PhD) must undergo an Annual Review. This will involve submission of a substantial report on their studies to date, together with a sample of written work, to a Review Panel. All students must undergo this procedure in order for progress to be reviewed and to determine whether registration onto the next year of study should be permitted.

The purpose of the annual review is to provide you and your supervisors an opportunity to reflect on the progress you have made over the academic year and to ensure that you are on track to meet the milestones at the end of the year. The review enables you to share experiences as a research student with two independent reviewers (members of academic staff) who are not formally involved in your studies and to gain advice from them about your progress and future plans. The review will also give you the chance to ask advice and share your thoughts on the supervision you have received.

The length of the programme sets the parameters for the project. The thesis represents what can realistically be achieved, in terms of scale and scope, over three years of full-time work or six years of part-time work. In line with your supervisors' advice, you are expected to plan a project for the period of your degree programme and devise a timetable of work. The annual review enables the School to see whether you are keeping on track and meeting expectations for each year of the programme.

Expectations are described within this document with reference to each year of the full-time programme. Those expectations apply proportionately to part-time students, at the second, fourth and sixth calendar years. However, part-time students do have an annual review meeting each calendar year.

Annual Reviews will take place in June during a two-week period. The PGR Office will inform all students of the two week period in which reviews will take place as soon as possible. The PGR Office will send an individual email to each student confirming the time and date of their review, and also confirm who will make up the student's annual review panel. A more detailed timescale of the annual review process and be found in later pages of this document.

#### Structure and Responsibility of the Review Panel

The Review panel will consist of two members of academic staff independent from the supervisory team. It will be the responsibility of the Panel to review your progress to date and to make a recommendation to the School PGR Committee as to whether you should be allowed to register for the next year of study, subject to any additional work being completed to its satisfaction. The review panel will consult with your supervisory team with regards to your progress.

### 2. Before the Review

#### Students – What You Need to Do Before the Annual Review

You and your supervisor must meet to discuss the review and then complete your respective sections of the annual review form on eProg (see appendix 4 for eProg guidance). You and your supervisors should agree on a 5,000-word sample of your writing towards your thesis during the year and you must attach this to the annual review form. You do not need to produce a piece of writing specifically for this review. The only original text that you need to produce is some brief additional text to accompany the 5,000 words that explains how the material in the sample contributes to the thesis.

The appendices provide more detailed guidance on the requirements for the written work for the annual review.

The sample of writing will assist your reviewers in assessing your progress to date.

Note that full-time students will need to indicate on the annual review form how they have met the 70 hours of training for the current academic year. Part-time students should indicate how they have met 35 hours of training for the current academic year.

When you have completed all questions in Section A of the eProg form, you should click the 'save and notify supervisor' button.

Please note you should click 'save' on your eProg annual review form regularly, as the form will time out after 20 minutes.

You must have completed section A and uploaded your sample of work to the eProg form by **Wednesday 18 May 2016.** 

#### Supervisors – What You Need to Do Before the Annual Review

The supervisory team should meet with the student to discuss the review and then complete your respective sections of the annual review form on eProg (see appendix 4 for eProg guidance). You and the student should agree on a 5,000-word sample of the student's writing towards their thesis during the year, for submission to the annual review.

A member of the supervisory team should also consult with the reviewers about the student's progress so far.

Section B of your student's eProg review form should be completed by Wednesday 25 May 2016.

Remember the Annual Review forms will time out after 15-20 minutes, so save the form regularly.

Once the supervisor has completed all questions in Section B on the annual review form, you should click the *'save draft'* button. Please do not click the *'submit'* button, as this will prevent the reviewers entering any information onto the form.

## **3. After the Review**

Students will be given an initial indication of the recommendation that the reviewers will be making to the PGR Committee regarding progress. Once the annual review period has concluded, the next PGR Committee will consider the progress of all students and determine whether they are making satisfactory progress to register for the next year of their programme.

Students will receive a letter sent from the PGR Office confirming the outcome of the review. The following possible outcomes of an annual review are listed below:

#### **Possible Outcomes of Annual Reviews**

#### **Doctoral degrees**

Students initially registered on a doctoral degree:

- Continuation The student has met the required doctoral standards and the recommendation is made for the student to continue registration on the doctoral degree
- Further Review The student has not met the required doctoral standards and a recommendation is made for the student to produce further work for a further review prior to registration for the next academic year
- Transfer The student has not met the required doctoral standards and a recommendation is made for the student to be transferred from the doctoral degree to MPhil
- Withdrawal The student has not met the required standard for doctoral degrees or MPhil and the recommendation is made for the student's registration to be terminated

#### **MPhil degrees**

Students initially registered on an MPhil degree:

- Transfer The student has met the required doctoral standards and a recommendation is made for the student to be transferred from MPhil to the relevant doctoral degree
- Continuation The student has not met the required standard for transfer to doctoral level and the recommendation is made for the student to register for the MPhil submission pending period
- Withdrawal The student has not met the required standard for the MPhil and the recommendation is made for the student's registration to be terminated.

It is a requirement of registration that all students successfully progress via the Annual Review process each year.

You will not be permitted to re-register until the School PGR Office has received confirmation from the Review Panel that your academic progress is satisfactory

#### Students – What You Need to Do After the Annual Review

#### **Satisfactory Progress - Non-final Year Students**

Once you receive confirmation of satisfactory progress, and that you may progress to the next registration year for your studies, you should arrange a meeting with your supervisory team as soon as possible to discuss the outcome of your review and any comments made by the reviewers or the PGR Office on your programme to date. You and your supervisors should complete part D of the relevant Annual Review form on eProg to confirm this meeting has taken place by **Wednesday 31 August 2016**.

Once the Annual Review form is fully completed and all parties are in agreement with its content your supervisor will submit the form. Once the form has been submitted the compulsory authorisations on the form will need to be completed. An eProg authorisation is a signature to confirm that the form is complete and all relevant parties have read its content. To authorise the form, you need to input your central account username and password; these are the same details you used to log into eProg. The authorisations are at the bottom of the form. Once submitted and all compulsory authorisations are complete the annual review milestone will become 'green'. The authorisations that are to be completed on the annual review form are: supervisor, co-supervisor and student.

#### **Satisfactory Progress - Final Year Students**

Once you receive confirmation of satisfactory progress, and that you may progress to submission of your thesis, you should arrange a meeting with your supervisory team as soon as possible to discuss the outcome of your review and any comments made by the reviewers or the PGR Office on your programme to date. You and your supervisors should complete part D of the relevant Annual Review form on eProg to confirm this meeting has taken place by **Wednesday 31 August 2016**. If you are ready to submit your thesis by your thesis submission date, remember to complete your notice of submission on eProg six weeks before submission.

If you are not ready to submit your thesis by your thesis submission date, you will need to request permission to register for the submission pending period, if you have not already done so. To do this you should complete the Request Permission to Register for the Submission Pending Period form and return this to the PGR Office as soon as possible and no later than six weeks prior to your current submission date.

Once the Annual Review form is fully completed and all parties are in agreement with its content your supervisor will submit the form. Once the form has been submitted the compulsory authorisations on the form will need to be completed. An eProg authorisation is a signature to confirm that the form is complete and all relevant parties have read its content. To authorise the form, you need to input your central account username and password; these are the same details you used to log into eProg. The authorisations are at the bottom of the form. Once submitted and all compulsory authorisations are complete the annual review milestone will become 'green'. The authorisations that are to be completed on the annual review form are: supervisor, co-supervisor and student.

#### **Unsatisfactory Progress**

If you have received notification that you have not yet made satisfactory progress to enable you to proceed to the next registration year for your studies, the PGR Committee will recommend that you either i) are instructed to complete a further piece of work/meet particular aims to be assessed at a Further Review meeting within 10 weeks; ii) transfer to the MPhil degree (for students registered on a PhD only); or iii) are to be withdrawn from the University as you have failed to meet the standards of a doctoral or MPhil programme. You should arrange a meeting with your supervisory team as soon as possible to discuss the outcome of your review and the comments of your reviewers/the PGR Committee.

#### Supervisors - What You Need to Do After the Annual Review

#### **Satisfactory Progress - Non-final Year Students**

Once a decision has been made on your student's progress, you will be copied into the notification to the student from the PGR Office. A meeting should be arranged with the student and the supervisory team as soon as possible possible to discuss the outcome of their review and any comments made by the reviewers/ the PGR Committee on your programme to date. Students and supervisors should complete part D of the relevant Annual Review form on eProg to confirm this meeting has taken place by **Wednesday 31 August 2016**.

#### **Satisfactory Progress - Final Year Students**

Once a decision has been made on your student's progress, you will be copied into the notification to the student from the PGR Office. A meeting should be arranged with the student and the supervisory team as soon as possible possible to discuss the outcome of their review and any comments made by the reviewers/ the PGR Committee on your programme to date. Students and supervisors should complete part D of the relevant Annual Review form on eProg to confirm this meeting has taken place by **Wednesday 31 August 2016.** 

If your student is ready to submit by their thesis submission date, you should make sure arrangements are in place to support them in the lead up to submission, such as agreed dates for feedback on drafts etc. If your student isn't ready to submit by their submission date they will need to complete the Request Permission to Register for the Submission Pending Period (SPP) form and return this to the PGR Office as soon as possible and no later than six weeks prior to your current submission date. This application will require your comment and agreement on a timetable for SPP.

#### **Unsatisfactory Progress**

Once a decision has been made on your student's progress, you will be copied into the notification to the student from the PGR Office. A meeting should be arranged with the student and the supervisory team as soon as possible to discuss the outcome of their review and any comments made by the reviewers/ the PGR Committee on your programme to date. If your student has not yet made satisfactory progress to enable them to proceed to the next registration year for their studies, the PGR Committee will recommend that they either i) are instructed to complete a further piece of work/meet particular aims to be assessed at a Further Review meeting within 10 weeks; ii) transfer to the MPhil degree (for students registered on a PhD only); or iii) are to be withdrawn from the University as they have failed to meet the standards of a doctoral or MPhil programme. Please note that the exact timeframe in which the further review work must be completed and submitted will be confirmed in the Annual Review Outcome letter.

# 4. Expected Timescale for Preparing for and Undergoing Annual Reviews

The PGR Office will endeavour to keep to the schedule below. Please enable us to achieve this by taking note of and meeting the deadlines assigned to your particular tasks/actions. In the event that the timescale slips, we will work with you to minimise onward delays.

Task / action	Deadline	By Whom
Confirm two-week annual review period to students and staff.	Mid-March 2016	PGR Office
Inform students and supervisors of confirmed annual review details, and send a reminder regarding deadline for submitting documents, etc.	End of April 2016	PGR Office
Student's deadline to submit Part A of the Annual Review Form <b>in eProg</b> and upload sample document for review (agreed by supervisor).	Wednesday 18 May 2016	Student
Supervisors' deadline to complete Part B of the Annual Review Form <b>in eProg</b> , pending the Review	Wednesday 25 May 2016	Supervisory Team
Annual Review Period – All annual reviews should take place in this timeframe	Monday 30 May – Friday 10 June 2016	Students and Annual Review Panel
Chair of annual review panel to complete Part C of the annual review form in eProg.	Wednesday 29 June 2016	Chair of Annual Review Panel
PGR Committee to consider outcome of annual reviews for each student.	Mid-July 2016	PGR Committee
Confirmation of outcome of annual review to be sent to students and supervisors, and ensure recommendation recorded on eProg	End of July 2016	PGR Office
Students to meet with supervisory team to discuss outcome of annual review, and plan further action and future plans. Part D of the eProg form should be completed. If the student is progressing satisfactorily, the form should be submitted and then authorized by the student and supervisory team	Students requiring a further review - Friday 12 August 2016 Students with satisfactory progress – Wednesday 31 August 2016	Student and Supervisory Team
Student to submit work for Further Review and submit Further Review Form to PGR Office – only for students who have not yet met satisfactory progress	Friday 9 September 2016	Student (Supervisors should complete relevant section of further review form)
Further Review to take place and Further Review form to be completed by reviewers	Tuesday 20 September 2016	Students and Annual Review Panel
Chair of PGR Committee to consider the outcome of the Further Review	Thursday 22 September 2016	PGR Director
Confirmation of outcome of annual review to be sent to students and supervisors, and ensure recommendation recorded on eProg	Monday 26 September 2016	PGR Office

# APPENDICES

# Requirements of the Written Work and eProg Guidance

# Appendix 1 - Annual Review Requirements for Year One Full-time Students (Year Two Part-time Students)

At the end of the first year of the programme, students can be expected to have completed the following tasks:

- Surveyed the field and appraised the key bodies of literature that are likely to be relevant to the thesis.
- Refined the research question(s).
- Critically identified a set of tasks to answer the question(s).
- Critically identified appropriate methods to carry out those tasks.
- Prepared for the tasks.
- Decided how the tasks will be timetabled over the next two years.

For all projects, preparing for the tasks will include the organising of appropriate research training. For empirical projects, where sources are restricted in some way, preparation will also include obtaining access to materials and subjects, and securing ethics approval.

By the time of the first year annual review, nine months into the programme, students can be expected to have a clear idea of what they want to achieve in conducting the research and writing the thesis.

Students can also be expected to be writing draft material, in line with their supervisors' advice. That may consist of their own critical notes about themes discovered in the literature, or perhaps briefing papers requested by supervisors, or in some cases passages intended in due course to form early chapters in the thesis (such as a literature review or a discussion of methodology). At the end of the first year, the expectation is that 25,000 words of material will have been drafted for use in the ultimate thesis.

At the first year annual review, reviewers will be looking for evidence that you are on track to meet these expectations.

Therefore, in the first year, it will be helpful for the 5,000 word sample of work to include a narrative which deals with the following:

- A summary of what you want to achieve.
- An explanation of your research questions.
- Your provisional timetable for dealing with the various tasks needed to complete the project.

A cover note which gives the thesis title and a brief overview and plan should be included in the work you submit for review.

The narrative might take (roughly) 1,000 words. If you wish, it could include some reflection on what has and has not gone well up to now. You can then illustrate the work that you have been doing by supplying one or more samples of the writing drafts described above. There is no need to write anything especially for the review. But if you provide more than one sample of writing, you must provide an explanation about the links between multiple passages.

# Appendix 2 - Annual Review Requirements for Year Two Full-time Students (Year Four Part-time Students)

In the second year, the expectation is that students will be building the foundations of their argument, by working through the tasks they have set themselves in their timetable. For empirical projects, this is also typically the year in which data collection is conducted and its analysis started.

Reviewers will be looking for evidence that, by the end of the year, you will have completed a proportionate number of the tasks identified in your timetable and will have drafted a further 25,000 words to reflect that. Crucially, in line with your supervisors' advice, they will be expecting you to show that you are aware of the requirements of a PhD (originality, independent critical judgement, and an addition to knowledge) and are reflecting those in your critical analysis.

Your 5,000 word sample of work should therefore consist of a brief indication of the progress with your timetable, again including (if you wish) some reflection on what has and has not gone well over the year, together with one or more draft passages (with short, linking explanations, if more than one) which illustrate(s) your analysis.

A cover note which gives the thesis title and a brief overview and plan should also be included in the work you submit for review. If you provide more than one sample of writing, you must provide an explanation about the links between multiple passages.

# Appendix 3 - Annual Review Requirements for Year Three Full-time Students (Year Six Part-time Students)

In the final year, the expectation is that students will continue to work through the remainder of the tasks that they have set themselves. In line with their supervisors' advice, they will also be assembling the thesis more explicitly, by reviewing the outcomes of their tasks and articulating the steps and sequence of their argument. By the end of the year, the expectation is that a maximum of 80,000 words will have been written and the thesis completed.

A cover note which gives the thesis title and a brief overview and plan should also be included in the work you submit for review. If you provide more than one sample of writing, you must provide an explanation about the links between multiple passages.

Reviewers will be expecting you to show the same kind of analysis as in the second year, but with greater maturity. They will also be expecting you to explain how all the work is coming together to demonstrate (in the words of the criteria that will be used by your examiners):

- How successful you will have been in achieving your aims and objectives.
- How the results of your research, as reported in the thesis, will show evidence of originality and independent critical judgement.
- How the research will constitute an addition to knowledge.

Your 5,000 word sample may take the same form as that for the second year.

In addition, it will be helpful if you can now provide a draft abstract of the thesis.

### **APPENDIX 4 - Student eProg Guidance for Annual Reviews**

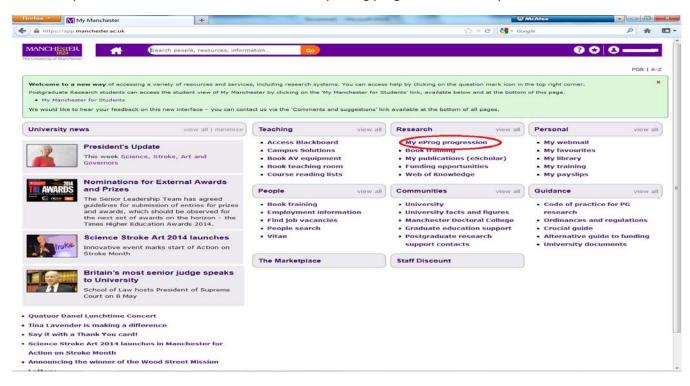
#### How to access eProg

Access *eProg* via the student portal: https://www.portal.manchester.ac.uk/ go to the Teaching and research tab at the top select access eProg from the drop down menus or directly at www.manchester.ac.uk/eprog

Type in your central account username and password

#### Accessing your annual review form

To access your annual review form, click on either My eProg progression in the My Manchester screen:



Or by clicking on your name in the top right hand corner of eProg and then selecting My progression from the left hand menu:

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Attendance and Engagement			your school administrator. For questions about research	er development please con	tact a member of your Faculty
	researcher develop	ment team.			
My Pathway My Publications	An Additional Meetin student's progressio		ne of any meetings between a student and a member of	their supervisory team othe	er than those prescribed on the
My Document Store	Email alerts will be	sent to your University email address 5 (	days before milestone and form deadlines - Edit Alert Pr	references	
My Examination Summary	Unit Code	Title		Deadline	Status
Related links	FOHFTM1000MBS	Introductory Planning Meeting		31/10/2013	
eProg Services		Faculty of Humanities (MBS FT) Introdu	uctory Planning Meeting Form	31/10/2013	Last saved on 29/1/2014
criteg bertices	UVEXM0001	Expectations 1		30/11/2013	
Training catalogue		Expectations 1		30/11/2013	Last saved on 29/1/2014
CALL FOR POSTERS - now	PGR-IND001	PGR Student Health and Safety Inducti	on Mandatory Module 1	30/11/2013	Attended 13/12/2013
open to all UoM research students for PG Research	FOHFTM1144MBS	Researcher Development Faculty of Humanities (MBS ft year 1) I	Researcher Development Form	31/01/2014	Submitted 14/2/2014 Authorised 1 of 2
showcase 2014	FOHFTM1134MBS	Mid-year Review - Year 1		31/03/2014	
My Teaching		Faculty of Humanities (MBS PhD FT) Mi	id year review year 1 Form	31/03/2014	Submitted 30/4/2014 Authorised 2 of 3
My Training &	BMANM0170	Ethical Declaration		31/05/2014	
Dévelopment		Research Ethics Declaration Farm		31/05/2014	Form available
My Library	FOHFTM1990MBS	formual review meeting - year 1		31/07/2014	
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My Services	PGR-IND005			31/07/2014	Attended 13/12/2013
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🚩 Add to Favourites	FOHFTM2990MBS	Annual review meeting - year 2		31/07/2015	
		Faculty of Humanities (MBS PhD FT) Ar	nnual review year 2 form	31/07/2015	Form available
	UVEXM0003	Expectations 3		30/11/2015	
		Expectations 3		30/11/2015	Form available from 30/8/2015
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		Faculty of Humanities (MBS PhD FT) Ar	nnual review year 3 form		Form available
					Glossary (Last Updated: 27/03/2014

To access the form click on the link above.

#### Uploading a document to the form

You will have been asked to submit a piece of work or several pieces of work for consideration at your Annual Review. You can upload your work to the Annual Review form. Once uploaded, it will become accessible to your review panel in the review form and in your 'My Document store' in eProg (My Document Store is in the left hand menu). The boxes highlighted below are to be used to upload documents:

Progression Form	
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Please remember these simple guidelines when you upload documents into eProg either via the document upload boxes within the eProg forms or directly into the document store.

1. Do not use 'double extensions' when uploading documents into eProg, for example:

MyFilename.doc.pdf MyFilename.docx.doc

2. Do not use multiple dots within filenames, for example:

MyFilename.05.02.2014.pdf My.Filename.05.02.14.ver.2.doc

3. The maximum file size that can be uploaded is 20M (20Megabyte).

4. As a general rule when naming files there are a number of special characters that should be avoided, these include:

\/:\*?"<>|

#### The box below lists the file types that are accepted:

fileExtension	contentType
accdb	
aiff	audio/x-aiff
au	audio/basic
avi	video/x-msvideo
bin	
	application/octet-stream
с	text/plain
C++	text/plain
сс	text/plain
CSV	text/plain
doc	application/msword
docx	
dump	application/octet-stream
eps	application/postscript
gif	image/gif
h	text/plain
hin	chemical/x-hin

htm	text/html
html	text/html
ibooks	application/x-ibooks+zip
jar	application/java-archive
jpeg	image/jpeg
jpg	image/jpeg
kin	chemical/x-kinemage
mov	video/quicktime
тра	video/mpeg
mpe	video/mpeg
mpeg	video/mpeg

#### Submission of the form and authorisations

Once the Annual Review process has been completed, the form is fully completed and all parties are in agreement with its content your supervisor will submit the form. Once the form has been submitted the compulsory authorisations on the form will need to be completed. An eProg authorisation is a signature to confirm that the form is complete and all relevant parties have read its content. To authorise the form, you need to input your central account username and password; these are the same details you used to log into eProg. The authorisations are at the bottom of the form - please see an example screenshot below. Once submitted and all compulsory authorisations are complete the annual review milestone will become 'green'. The authorisations that are to be completed on the annual review form are:

- Student
- Main supervisor
- Co supervisor

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	16. Please outline your targets for the next 6 months			
	Part B			
	to be completed by the supervisors.			
		Grod	Satisfactory Un-	TREE FOR
	17. How would you describe your student's progress?		П	
	10. Please comment on the student's progress over the reporting peri- written work as well as research training and researcher developmen		er progress on the research, qualit	ty of
	19. Please comment on the student's plans and largets for the next 6			
	If applies the comment specifically on facilities k plans			
	Part C			
	To be completed by the student, supervisors and other attendees if a	pplicable.		
	20. Please record the outcome of the discussion and the date of the m	neeting.		
	21.			
	[No document uploaded]			
	22. Enter the date the report was uploaded to the form:			
	23. Enter the date of the meeting here:			
	24. Any other issues or actions agreed during the meeting			
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### eProg support

If you have any questions about eProg, please email <u>lawpgr@manchester.ac.uk</u> in the first instance.