

Appendix A: Higher Degree by Research Scholarships - Scoring Matrix

		Student		Student & Supervisor	Supervisor
		Criterion 1 Academic Achievement	Criterion 2 Research Capability	Criterion 3 Research Project and Environment	Criterion 4 Supervision Team
		Weight 40% Quality of the candidate's academic performance.	Weight 20% Evidence of research preparedness and capability	Weight 20% Quality of the research project and environment.	Weight 20% Quality of advisory team including record of successful supervision, appropriate advisory load, complementary expertise.
Score		The following scoring descriptors are to be used as a guide to score an applicant against each of the assessment criteria. The descriptors are indicative rather than exhaustive. Evaluation of performance will take into account opportunity and research discipline.			
6-7	An exceptionally strong application with essentially no weaknesses. The application meets all or most of the criteria	<i>Relative to opportunity the applicant:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates outstanding academic achievement as evidenced by high GPA, rank within class, academic prizes and awards Has Honours I (or equivalent) and/or research Masters with outstanding thesis grade or Coursework Masters with outstanding performance, particularly in research related courses. 	<i>Relative to opportunity the applicant:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has high quality research outputs as lead author Substantial extracurricular experience in a research setting Has excellent to outstanding referees' reports 	<i>Outstanding research environment demonstrated by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record of sustained research excellence as measured by high quality outputs and ongoing external research support consistent with the discipline expectations. Project aligned with University research strategic plan High quality project with clear path to impact Well-funded/resourced project 	<i>Strong advisory team:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Supervisor has sustained track record of timely HDR completions. No or minimal progress issues with current HDR candidates. Strong mentoring and demonstrated support for HDR candidate development
4-5	A strong application with only minor weaknesses	<i>Relative to opportunity the candidate:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates consistently strong academic achievement with good GPA. Strong performance in research related subjects 	<i>Relative to opportunity the applicant:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has peer reviewed research outputs Some extracurricular experience in a research setting Has good to excellent referees' reports 	<i>Strong research environment demonstrated by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record of sustained research as measured by outputs Project aligned with University research strategic plan Good quality project with clear path to impact Project has sufficient funding to complete 	<i>Suitable advisory team:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Supervisor has HDR completions. Some progress issue(s) with current HDR student(s) but manageable. Some concerns with current supervisor team load Demonstrated support for HDR candidate development
1-3	The application has identified weaknesses	<i>Relative to opportunity the candidate:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates adequate academic achievement with moderate GPA. Limited research related subjects 	<i>Relative to opportunity the applicant:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No record of research outputs No research experience Some concerns expressed by referees 	<i>Marginal research environment demonstrated by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited or inconsistent research productivity Insufficient support for research costs Project has no strategic fit Minimal support from Enrolling Unit 	<i>Inadequate supervisory team</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No record of HDR completions within the supervisory team. Progress issues with current HDR students and record of consistent withdrawals. Supervisory team lacks adequate expertise require for the proposed research. Already high supervisory load. No engagement with HDR candidate development.