

Research Degree Precepts 2022-23

Precept 1: Interviewing

All prospective students must be interviewed before an offer of a place is made. Interviews may be conducted remotely if it is not possible for the candidate to visit the department. The Selection Panel must comprise at

Responsibilities for supervisors are outlined in the [Mutual Expectations for the Research Degree Student Supervisor](#)

The College provides [induction and continuing professional development](#) for supervisors through the [Cornerstone Programme](#).

The Graduate School will be able to provide a list of all who attended the [on Best Practice in Supervis](#) workshop.

Precept 6: Supervisory Arrangements

All students must have a supervisor who is identified as the main single point of contact and it must be made clear to the student who is their alternative contact if that individual is unavailable. The main supervisor must ensure that adequate contact with and support for their research student(s) is maintained throughout the research degree programme. Where a student has more than one supervisor, it is important that the student understands their respective roles.

Guidance

As a minimum, all Imperial research students can expect to be allocated a main supervisor;

Guidance

The Graduate School provides a central induction for all research students during Welcome Season.

inductions for their students.

Departments must ensure that a comparable induction programme is organised for students registering after October.

Supervisors are responsible for a significant part of the orientation process. More information is available in the guidance [Mutual Expectations for the Research Degree Student Supervisor Partnership](#)

Collaborative programmes: The induction programme for new students on collaborative programmes should include the procedures and requirements for their particular programme, including the timelines for completion of the various stages of the research degree and the professional skills development and Doctoral Academic Communication requirement, and details of the relevant members of staff involved, both at Imperial and the partner institution.

Precept 8:

Guidance

Departments are free to decide which support network / model they would like to adopt in their department subject to the following:

The network should involve individuals who will support the Senior Tutor (PGR) in their role. The individuals should be the _____ and _____ the Senior Tutor (PGR) and should raise concerns with the Senior Tutor (PGR), when these arise. The purpose of this system is to ensure that the role of Senior Tutor (PGR) is pro-active rather than reactive and that a network of support and community is developed within departments.

Collaborative programmes: Each joint/collaborative programme must have a Joint Management Committee (e.g. EngD Boards, Joint PhD Academic Boards etc.) which meets at least annually to review procedures, student progress, good practice etc.

Precept 13: Assessments/Appeals and Complaints

Assessment procedures and the mechanisms for complaints and appeals should be clearly communicated to research students, supervisors and examiners. Students and supervisors should have a clear and mutually understood mechanism to raise concerns at a departmental level.

Guidance

[Assessment procedures](#) are available on the Registry website.

[Appeals information for students](#) is available on the Registry website.

[Procedures for handling student complaints and appeals](#) are available on the Registry website.

Collaborative programmes: All students on joint and collaborative programmes are subject to the same assessment procedures as programmes based solely at the College unless an alternative approach is agreed by the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee and QAEC/Senate, as appropriate.

Collaborative programmes: Departments at the partner institution/organisation must have a suitable protocol which should include directions to staff and students about the appropriate channels for raising particular concerns, complaints and appeals. There must also be appropriate disciplinary procedures in place. Students on joint and collaborative programmes, including those programmes with industrial partners, must be made aware of the protocol at both institutions. It must also be made clear to the students which procedures they should follow and when.

Guidance

Further information can be found in the [Staff-Student Committees Good Practice Guidelines](#).
Collaborative programmes: Suitable mechanisms must exist at both partner institutions/organisations for obtaining feedback on the programme from supervisors and from

students at

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