THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Master of Commerce (Honours) (MCom(Hons))

1. The degree of Master of Commerce (Honours) may be awarded by the Council on the recommendation of the Higher Degree Committee of the Faculty of Commerce and Economics (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) to a candidate who has satisfactorily completed a program of advanced study.

2. Qualifications

1) A candidate for the degree shall have been awarded an appropriate degree of Bachelor from the University of New South Wales or a qualification considered equivalent from another university or tertiary institution at a level acceptable to the Committee.

2) In exceptional cases an applicant who submits evidence of such other academic and professional qualifications as may be approved by the Committee may be permitted to enrol for the degree.

3) If the Committee is not satisfied with the qualifications submitted by an applicant the Committee may require the applicant to undergo such assessment or carry out such work as the Committee may prescribe, before permitting enrolment.

3. Enrolment and Progression

1) An application to enrol as a candidate for the degree shall be made on the prescribed form which shall be lodged with the Registrar at least two calendar months before the commencement of the session in which enrolment is to begin.

2) In every case, before permitting a candidate to enrol, the head of the school* in which the candidate intends to enrol shall be satisfied that adequate supervision and facilities are available.

3) An approved candidate shall be enrolled in one of the following categories:

   a) full-time attendance at the University;

   b) part-time attendance at the University;

   c) external - not in regular attendance at the University and using research facilities external to the University. Before permitting a candidate to enrol externally, the head of the school in which the candidate intends to enrol shall be satisfied that the candidate can be adequately supervised on an external basis. Formal subjects may not be taken externally.

4) A candidate shall undertake such formal subjects and, except in exceptional circumstances, pass at the first attempt such assessment as prescribed, and shall demonstrate ability to undertake research by the submission of a thesis embodying the results of an original investigation on a topic approved by the Committee.

5) A candidate shall maintain an average of credit or better in the formal subjects prescribed for the degree. A full-time candidate shall undertake not more than four subjects in any session. A part-time candidate shall undertake not more than two subjects in any session.

*School is used here and elsewhere in these conditions to mean any teaching unit authorized to enrol research students and includes a department where that department is not within a school, a centre given approval by the Academic Board to enrol students, and an interdisciplinary unit within a faculty and under control of the Dean of the Faculty. Enrolment is permitted in more than one such teaching unit.
6) A candidate may also be required to undergo such assessment and perform such other work as may be prescribed by the Committee.

7) The work on the topic shall be carried out under the direction of a supervisor appointed by the Committee from the full-time academic members of the University staff.

8) The progress of a candidate shall be reviewed annually by the Committee following a report by the candidate, the supervisor and the head of the school in which the candidate is enrolled and as a result of such review the Committee may cancel enrolment or take such other action as it considers appropriate.

9) No candidate shall be awarded the degree until the lapse of four academic sessions from the date of enrolment in the case of a full-time candidate or six academic sessions in the case of a part-time or external candidate. In the case of a candidate who has been awarded the degree of Bachelor with Honours or a qualification considered equivalent or who has had previous research experience the Committee may approve remission of up to two sessions for a full-time candidate and three sessions for a part-time or external candidate.

10) A thesis shall be submitted not later than five sessions after the completion of the prescribed formal subjects. In special cases an extension of this time may be granted by the Committee.

4. Thesis

1) On completing the program of study a candidate shall submit a thesis embodying the results of the investigation.

2) The candidate shall give in writing to the Registrar two months notice of intention to submit the thesis.

3) The thesis shall present an account of the candidate’s own research. In special cases work done conjointly with other persons may be accepted, provided the Committee is satisfied about the extent of the candidate’s part in the joint research.

4) The candidate may also submit any work previously published whether or not such work is related to the thesis.

5) Three copies of the thesis shall be presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the University for the preparation and submission of project reports and theses for higher degrees.

6) It shall be understood that the University retains the three copies of the thesis submitted for examination and is free to allow it to be consulted or borrowed. Subject to the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1968 the University may issue the project report or thesis in whole or in part, in photostat or microfilm or other copying medium.

5. Examination of Thesis

1) There shall be not fewer than two examiners of the thesis, appointed by the Committee, at least one of whom shall be external to the University unless the Committee is satisfied that this is not practicable.

2) At the conclusion of the examination each examiner shall submit to the Committee a concise report on the thesis and shall recommend to the Committee that:

   a) the thesis be noted as satisfactory

   b) the thesis be noted as satisfactory subject to minor corrections as listed being made to the satisfaction of the head of the school

   c) the thesis requires further work on matters detailed in the report. Should performance in this further work be to the satisfaction of the Higher Degree Committee, the thesis would be noted as satisfactory; or

   d) the candidate be noted as unsatisfactory but that the candidate be permitted to resubmit the thesis in a revised form after a further period of study and/or research; or

   e) the thesis be noted as unsatisfactory and that the candidate be not permitted to resubmit the thesis.
3) If the performance at the further examination recommended under (2)(c) above is not to the satisfaction of the Committee, the Committee may permit the candidate to re-present the same thesis and submit to further examination as determined by the Committee within a period specified by it but not exceeding eighteen months.

4) The Committee shall, after consideration of the examiners, reports and the results of any further examination or prescribed course of study, recommend whether or not the candidate may be awarded the degree. If it is decided that the candidate be not awarded the degree the Committee shall determine whether or not the candidate may resubmit the thesis after a further period of study and/or research.

6. Fees

A candidate shall pay such fees as may be determined from time to time by the Council.