

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN RESEARCH REPORTS, MINI-DISSERTATIONS, DISSERTATIONS AND THESES

Research component requirements and terminology

Qualification	Honours degree	Coursework Master's degree	Professional Master's degree with clinical /professional component	Master's degree	Doctoral degree
Research Component	Research Report (Afr – Navorsingsverslag)	Mini-dissertation (Afr – Miniverhandeling)	Mini-dissertation (Afr – Miniverhandeling)	Dissertation (Afr – Verhandeling)	Thesis (Afr – Proefskrif)
Credits (as per HEQF)	30 of 120	60 of 180 (minimum ito HEQF)	60 of 180 (minimum ito HEQF)	180 of 180	360 of 360
Approval of research proposal by Faculty's Postgraduate Committee	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Approval of research proposal by Faculty's Ethics Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
External examiner required	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Article for publication	Not compulsory	Not compulsory, but draft article required	Not compulsory, but draft article required	Yes, draft article required	Yes, proof of submission to journal required or preparation of manuscript for submission to a recognised publisher

Suggested outline for a research proposal

- Title /Area
- Abstract
- Introduction /Background
- Research problem
- Research objective(s)
- Conceptual framework
- Previous work – comprehensive and critical appraisal of literature
- Proposal of new model /technique /idea /approach
- Suitability of the approach for the level
- Hypothesis and anticipated results
- Milestones and timelines for completion
- Conclusion
- References

[Taken from S 4723/09]