

Criteria	Outstanding Score - 5	Excellent Score - 4	Very Good Score - 3	Good Score - 2	Satisfactory Score - 1
CANDIDATE – REQUIRED					
GPA in most recent, relevant qualifying degree	GPA above 6.4, high Hons Class I, completed MPhil or equivalent.	GPA above 6.2, low Hons Class I, or equivalent.	GPA above 6.0, high Hons Class IIA, or equivalent.	GPA above 5.8, low Hons Class IIA, or equivalent.	GPA below 5.8, low Hons Class IIA, or equivalent.
Quality of qualifying degree	Degree from an institution that has international recognition for research and/or training in the discipline.	Degree from an institution that has national recognition for research and/or training in the discipline.	Degree from an institution with some recognition for research and/or training in the discipline.	Degree from an institution with limited recognition for research or training in the discipline.	Degree from an institution with minimal or no research or training in the discipline.
Referee reports	At least two reports convincingly describing outstanding research potential.	At least one report convincingly describing outstanding research potential.	At least one report convincingly describing excellent research potential.	At least one report describing very good research potential.	At least one report describing good research potential.
CANDIDATE – OPTIONAL					
Relevant research experience (within or outside of formal study) and/or relevant professional experience (e.g. paid work, volunteer work, professional training, workshops/seminars)	More than 4 cumulative years relevant experience.	3 - 4 cumulative years relevant experience.	2 - 3 cumulative years relevant experience.	1 - 2 cumulative years relevant experience.	Up to 1 cumulative year relevant experience.

High-quality research outputs (e.g. peer reviewed papers, creative work with critical analysis, conference presentations, patents, nontraditional research outputs, book/chapter)	Lead/senior author or significant contribution on two or more high-quality research outputs.	Lead/senior author or significant contribution on one high-quality research output.	Contributed as an author to one or more high-quality research outputs.	Contributed to one high-quality research output.	No contributions to high-quality outputs.
Academic, research or professional awards	One or more prestigious awards indicating exceptional achievement or impact (e.g., international or national competitive scholarship or fellowship, best presentation at international conference, lead CI on competitive grant, etc.)	One or more quality awards indicating excellent achievement or impact (e.g., institutional-level scholarship, university medal, CI on a research grant, best presentation at national conference, Employee of the Year, etc.)	One or more awards recognizing very good performance or impact (e.g., Deans award for semester performance, best presentation at local conference, industry certification, etc.)	Nominated for a prestigious award, or received a minor award (e.g., conference travel bursary, Employee of the Week, etc.)	None
Institutional Support and Alignment					
Quality of project	Adequate resourcing Strategic fit Potential impact				
Advisory Team	Team's track record of HDR supervision Complementarity of advisor team expertise with project Team demographics (ECRs, gender, etc)				
Research Environment	Quality of research infrastructure and support Presence of dynamic and supportive research culture Accessible, inclusive & collegial research culture enabling equity for underrepresented and minoritised groups				