

Honours equivalence information sheet

The minimum level entry qualification for a PhD is a Bachelor degree with Honours second class, division one. Many candidates do not go through the Australian or New Zealand education systems, the [HDR Admissions and Pathways Guideline](#) on the Governance site at UNSW is designed to help supervisors, PGCs and ADRTs determine what Honours 'equivalence' means. The following table is an extract of these guidelines and can be used as a quick check point to determine whether your applicant is eligible for PhD admission:

Honours 2/1 – Australian Qualification
3 year bachelor degree from an Australian University followed by a discrete Honours year including an appropriate research component with Honours 2/1 result
4 year (or more) bachelor degree from an Australian University incorporating an Honours qualification including an appropriate research component with Honours 2/1 result
Honours 2/1 Equivalence - formal academic qualifications
3 year (or more) Bachelor degree followed by completion of a MRes where the research component is no less than 2/3 of the program. If the MRes is considered equivalent to UNSW, this may be considered Honours 1 equivalent
3 year (or more) Bachelor degree followed by a Masters (Coursework) with a research component sufficient to allow assessment of research potential at the disciplinary level and where weighted average grades for the research component and the coursework results are at least equivalent to 75/100
3 year (or more) Bachelor degree followed by a postgraduate qualification that contains a research component sufficient to allow assessment of research potential at the disciplinary level and where weighted average grades for the research component and the coursework results are at least equivalent to 75/100
4 year (or more) Bachelor degree with a research component included sufficient to allow assessment of research potential at the disciplinary level and where weighted average grades for the research component and the coursework results are at least equivalent to 75/100
A combination of academic and professional qualifications that demonstrate achievement at Bachelor and/or Master level including appropriate research components that allow assessment of research potential at the disciplinary level and where weighted average grades for the research component and the coursework results are at least equivalent to 75/100
Qualifications undertaken more than 5 years before application
A qualification assessed as honours 2/1 equivalent and completed more than 5 years prior to the proposed date of HDR commencement requires additional evidence of appropriate work and/or research experience not undertaken as part of an award course and demonstration of research potential via a written research proposal and support confirmed by appropriate referees and the proposed supervisors