Candidature Review Written Presentation Guidelines

The following information is provided as a guide only. There may be disciplinary differences. You should discuss your presentation with your research supervisors. The Candidature Review Proforma should also be completed and submitted to your supervisor.

1. It is expected that you will have successfully completed any coursework required by the College of Business (i.e., Research Methods and Data Analysis courses), unless exempted.

2. The Research Proposal would normally include the following areas (not necessarily in this order):

   - Background to, and statement of, the problem
   - Aim/Objectives/research questions
   - Motivation/significance of the study
   - Review of focal literature with conclusions to inform research
   - Context/setting of the study
   - Conceptual model/framework, such as theoretical explanations, themes, concepts, variables and their relationships
   - Methodology/Paradigm such as the choice of research design; methods such as data sources, sampling approach, analytical techniques, validity & reliability tests
   - Preliminary results, if any
   - Any ethical /intellectual property issues to be considered
   - Timeline to completion
   - Reference list

The proposal would normally be at least twenty pages in length.

3. Completion of draft thesis chapters, if any, and alternatives such as conference papers & journal articles may be appended to the research proposal.

Upgrades
Applications to transfer from Master to PhD candidature should clearly state the following:

1. the current state of progress in the Master program
2. the proposed work which makes the program doctoral level in extent
3. the significant and original contribution to knowledge of fact and/or theory which makes the proposed program appropriate to PhD level.

Presentation Timelines
For research students enrolling from Semester 2 2008 onwards, confirmation of candidature for Masters by Research programs is required within 6 months (effective full time) of the HECS Census date closest to enrolment and for PhD programs, within 12 months (effective full time) of the HECS Census date closest to enrolment. If candidates are ready for confirmation of candidature before these dates, they may apply to present earlier through their School.