

## Activity: My thesis and the assessment criteria

The criteria below are taken from the University's *Regulations Governing Academic Programmes*, and outline what the examiners 'look for' when examining a PhD. Use the space between each individual criterion to make notes on how your thesis meets each of these criteria.

**i) The creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship, of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication.**

*Think about your thesis as a product. What is new or different about my thesis, compared to the existing literature? What have I shown? How have I ensured quality in my work?*

**ii) A systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of an academic discipline or area of professional practice.**

*Think about what you have learned while writing your thesis. What theories, concepts, and knowledge have you had to become familiar with in order to succeed in writing a thesis at this level?*

**iii) The general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems.**

*Think about your thesis as a process. How have you carried out your research on a day-to-day basis, and how different is your research now in comparison to a few years ago? How did you go about building your project?*

**iv) A detailed understanding of applicable techniques and advanced academic enquiry.**

*Think about the methodologies that you have adopted during your thesis. How have these helped you in your research?*

**v) A satisfactory level of literary presentation.**

*Put yourself in the shoes of the examiners, and imagine them receiving and reading your thesis. Is it structured clearly? Are the connections between sections evident? Is your referencing consistent?*