

Research Training Scheme Ranking Metric 2009 Autumn Session

This metric was designed by the UWS Research Studies Committee to rank applications for Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) and UWS Postgraduate Research Awards (UWSPRA) and Research Training Scheme (RTS) places.

APA scholarships are ranked on the basis of previous academic merit and performance using sections one, two and three of the metric: undergraduate GPA, level of B Hons or postgraduate award and research output. The highest possible score is 30. All applications are scored for these criteria and the highest ranked will be made an offer of APA scholarship and RTS place, subject to confirmation of the ranking by the UWS Research Studies Committee and confirmation by the College that there are adequate resources available for supervision and candidature.

UWSPRAs and RTS places without scholarship are allocated on a combination of the APA criteria above and alignment with areas of research concentration. Applicants may attain points for UWSPRAs and RTS places where they do not have Bachelor Honours or postgraduate qualifications, but do have extensive employment experience that is relevant to the intended area of study. Additional criteria for UWSPRAs and RTS places are under sections, four and five. Section six, "GPA Equivalence for Overseas Qualifications", is available to all applicants with undergraduate qualifications gained overseas.

The ranked lists are used to determine the next offer where one is not accepted.

Applicants should read the application carefully for information on how to apply, closing dates, presentation of documentation, the process and timeline. It is critical that the application and all associated documentation in the format requested arrive by 5:00pm, Friday 31 October 2008 at the following address:

Postal: University of Western Sydney
Postgraduate Research Administration
Kingswood Campus, Building K.1.35
Locked Bag 1797
PENRITH SOUTH DC NSW 1797

Street: University of Western Sydney
Postgraduate Research Administration
Kingswood Campus, Building K.1.35
Second Avenue
KINGSWOOD NSW 2747

Application Conditions

- Applicants using overseas postal services are strongly advised to certify or register their application package to ensure timely delivery.
- The University will not accept the application form in any electronic format (e.g. email or fax).
- Applications received at the address above after 5:00pm on the 31st October 2008 will not be considered.
- Additional documentation will also not be accepted after the closing date, except if the document relates to an outstanding result for a qualification listed in the application.
- No results will be accepted after the 30 November 2008.

Scores for sections 1, 2 & 3 will be allocated by the Office of Research Services based on the documentation presented by the applicant. Scores for sections 4, 5 & 6 will be determined by Colleges.

The final UWS ranked list for APAs, UWSPRAs and RTS places will be decided by the UWS Research Studies Committee and successful applicants will be notified after 4 December. For detailed information on the process and timeline see the "Research Admission and Scholarship Application" form: http://www.uws.edu.au/research/prospective_candidates/apply

**SECTION 1
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION - 4**

Studies below Honours Level (up to 4 points)

(1) Undergraduate Course for years <u>below</u> Honours.	Points
GPA Score >= 6.5	4
GPA Score >= 6.0	3
GPA Score >= 5.5	2
GPA Score >= 5.0	1

**SECTION 2
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION - 20**

Honours/Postgraduate Study (up to 20 points)

Only for completed or completion pending qualifications (where verifiable grades – both thesis and coursework - are available). If more than one postgraduate qualification, only one may be scored.

(2) Honours/Postgraduate Study	Level Awarded	Points
Masters by Research	Any	20
Undergraduate Honours # (End On)	1	20
	2-1	18
	2-2	15
UWS Embedded Undergraduate Hons (if equivalent to a UWS end on degree)	1	20
	2-1	18
	2-2	15
Embedded Undergraduate Honours from another institution	College recommendation up to 20 points (must be evidence based)	
Masters by Coursework with research component equivalent to 25% or more [^]	Any	15
Masters by Coursework	GPA >= 6.0	14
	GPA >= 5.0	13
	GPA >=3.0 but <5.0	10
UWS Graduate Certificate in Research	ATP* >=85%	14
	ATP* >=75%	12
	ATP* >= 65%	10

Any overseas qualification with an “honours” result will not automatically be considered comparable to an Australian Bachelor Honours degree and may not equate to the point allocation indicated here. Colleges will make a judgement on overseas qualifications based on the grades attained, NOOSR advice and discipline knowledge of the standing of the institution in the academic community.

* ATP = Advanced Thesis Preparation Unit No. 200361 or equivalent

[^] It is recognised that some institutions have designed specific coursework components to prepare students for entry into a research degree. Evidence must be provided from course documentation (i.e. calendar entries and promotional material - NOT course outlines) that this is the case. If this is established to the satisfaction of the Research Studies Committee, the applicant may be considered to have the equivalent of a coursework degree with a 25% research component and, therefore, score 15 points.

**SECTION 3
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION – 5**

Research Output

Maximum points for Research Output is 5 (irrespective of cumulative total).

Applicant's contribution to refereed research output. Applicants may be allocated up to five points from one or more of the following categories. Points will not be allocated where verification documents for each section have not been provided.

Research Book/Monograph	
Authored research book (not theses) - a substantial work of scholarship bound and offered for sale under the imprint of a recognised commercial press or publisher	5
Research Book Chapter	
Research Book Chapters in authored research publications, bound and offered sale under the imprint of a recognised commercial press of publisher	2
Major Creative Works	
Solo exhibition in a major gallery/museum, commercial or public – curated and accompanied by a published catalogue identifying the individual works -	5
Participation in Group exhibition in a major gallery/museum, commercial or public – curated and accompanied by a published catalogue	2
Written or Recorded Creative Work	
Novels, books of poetry, published play or films scripts, published scores of musical works, recordings of live music, theatre or dance performances, films, multimedia productions or sound production, recorded or bound/packageged creative work for sale and commercial distribution	College recommendation up to 5 pts (evidence based)
Refereed Journal Articles	
Refereed Journal Articles - substantial works of scholarship published in a scholarly journal following a formal process of peer review.	2
Refereed Conference Proceedings	1
Full written versions of conference papers which are published. Full papers must be peer reviewed and presented at conferences of national or international significance.	1
Commercial Patent	
Patents on specific products or processes granted for the first time, either in Australian or in an overseas country .	2

**SECTION 4
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION – 2**

Alignment with Research Concentration (up to 2 points)

Points are allocated to applicants intending to conduct research in a UWS University Research Centre (URC) or Research Group (URG). The Centre Director or Group Leader must provide written advice that the project and supervision will be located within the Centre/Group. If allocated points in this section, the candidate will normally be expected to remain enrolled in the Centre/Group throughout the candidature. May score for one Centre or Group only. No points for co-supervisors connected with the URC or URG.

(4) Alignment with UWS Research Concentration	
University Research Centre	2
University Research Group	0.5

**SECTION 5
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION – 2**

Employment Relating Directly to Research Training

(up to 2 points and scored in ADDITION to Section 2)

Professional Experience Points may be scored for employment experience where it relates directly to the proposed research training.	College recommendation up to 2 pts (evidence based)
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**SECTION 6
MAXIMUM POINTS FOR THIS SECTION – 4**

GPA Equivalence for Overseas Qualifications

ONLY TO BE used for applicants who have attained an overseas undergraduate qualification, IN ORDER to determine the equivalence of the awarded GPA in the Australian context. Colleges should be guided by the NOOSR judgement regarding the quality of individual institutions, the academic transcripts of the applicant and discipline knowledge of the academic standing of the institution.

GPA Equivalence	
Equivalence – up to 4 points in this category	4