

## Research Components Submitted in Te Reo Māori Protocol

### Summary

AUT is committed to enabling a student to write a research component<sup>1</sup> either in part or wholly in te reo Māori (the Māori language). This must be discussed with the faculty at the time of submission of the research proposal in order to ensure that appropriate resources, supervisors and examiners will be available.

### Purpose

This protocol outlines the requirements and procedures for undertaking research components in te reo Māori. Students can present all or part of the research component in te reo Māori.

### Scope

This protocol is to be used for students intending to undertake their research component in te reo Māori.

### Application

AUT recognises that writing research components in te reo Māori is a choice for students to make and in so doing, recognises that te reo Māori is one of the three official languages in New Zealand/Aotearoa. Any work submitted for assessment should only be assessed in the language of submission and the assessor's response must also be in the same language.

A student submitting their research component in te reo Māori are required to undertake their confirmation of candidature (for doctoral students) and submission for examination in te reo Māori. Completing in English then translating into te reo Māori will not be accepted.

### Translation

Where translations from Māori to English are required, the student should not be requested to undertake additional work in order to provide translations other than the summary of the confirmation of candidature. It is the responsibility of the faculty to arrange and cover the cost of translations services for the submission of the research proposal, progress reports, examination, and any other submitted documentation.

### Admission

#### *Research Proposal*

Any student intending to undertake their research component in te reo Māori is required to clearly indicate this on the Research Proposal forms (Admission to Doctoral Programme form/ Postgraduate Research Proposal forms). It is recommended that preliminary discussions are had with the Faculty Associate Dean Postgraduate (ADP) to ensure that there are suitable supervisors, examiners and resources available. The content and application of the research proposals should still follow normal admission processes.

#### *Appointment of Supervisors*

The supervisor of the research component submitted in te reo Māori is required to have knowledge in the topic field. Supervisors must also be competent in the language and have the relevant expertise and knowledge about te ao Māori (the Māori world view) including tikanga (customary lore, values), mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and indigenous research ethics. It is also expected that students wishing to submit their research component in te reo Māori will be sufficiently competent in the language to exercise academic scholarship.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'research component' may include a thesis, dissertation, research project or exegesis.

Appointed supervisors are required to meet the supervisory eligibility criteria outlined in the Postgraduate Handbook.

Supervisors are likely to need twice the supervision time to ensure that the student's academic research is portrayed accurately in te reo Māori. Often the student has to grapple with non- Māori thought and ideas and then convey these in a way compatible with te reo Māori in their writing.

Supervisors will sign an attestation form confirming that the research component is the student's work as a way of managing conflicts of interest given the small pool of academics eligible to supervise students writing in te reo Māori.

## Progression

### *Progress Reports*

Students undertaking their research component in Te Reo Māori may complete their progress reports in Māori. For further information see the Progress Report Protocol.

### *Confirmation of Candidature (Doctoral)*

Students are required to complete their confirmation of candidature, presentation and receive their reviews in te reo Māori. An English version of the summary section only is required to be supplied. Refer to the *Confirmation of Candidature in Te Reo Māori Protocol* for further details on the submission, content and process of completing the confirmation of candidature in te reo Māori.

## Examination

### *Appointment of Examiners*

Examiners are expected to meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the Appointment of Examiners Protocol as well as the following:

- Examiners for doctoral examinations will be proficient in te reo Māori and normally have a PhD or equivalent to be eligible to examine a doctoral thesis.
- Examiners for masters will normally have a minimum of a research masters or equivalent to be eligible to examine a master's thesis.
- Examiners who do not have a research masters or a doctorate must have demonstrated that they have examined a dissertation or thesis.

Where a PhD thesis is submitted in te reo Māori, the University will waive the requirement for an international examiner.

### *Requirements of Examiners*

Examiners of a research component written in te reo Māori will not be expected to examine the quality of the language as this is not an exercise in language competency, but rather an exercise in scholarship. Research components are examined on the quality of the argument and research, original knowledge, clarity of presentation and scholarship.

It is expected that examiners reports will be written in te reo Māori.

### *Doctoral Examination*

#### Oral Examination

AUT has a policy of requiring oral examinations for doctorates, therefore, it is proper that the oral examination be conducted in te reo Māori where the students have written their theses in te reo Māori.

The venue or location of the oral examination will be culturally appropriate and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The location will be recommended by the respective supervisors to their Faculty Board and thereafter to the University Postgraduate Research Board.

The format of the oral examination will observe cultural protocols as well as those university procedures identified in the Postgraduate Handbook.

Whānau may accompany the student and will be acknowledged accordingly either through a pōwhiri (ritual of encounter) or mihi whakatau (welcome). However, whānau cannot participate in the actual oral examination. The Graduate Research School, in consultation with the relevant ADP will coordinate the arrangements and refreshments for the pōwhiri or mihi whakatau.

#### Process for non-speaking Te Reo Māori Convenor

Translation of the research component is not required given that the Māori language is one of the three official languages in Aotearoa/New Zealand. However, for doctoral students whose Convenor is unable to speak te reo Māori the Graduate Research School will:

- Advise the Convenor that the thesis is written in te reo Māori;
- Contact the faculty for an appropriate translator/interpreter;
- Contact the translator inviting them to participate.
  - Translator will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement form before copies of the examiners' reports and thesis abstract are sent.
- Coordinate travel arrangements for panel members and translator where required.
- Contact the faculty to confirm the arrangements and refreshments for the pōwhiri/mihi whakatau.

#### Convenor Responsibilities

##### *Pre-oral examination (Pre-Meeting)*

Convenor will meet with the student and supervisor(s) to discuss the formalities of the oral examination. The pre-meeting will normally be held in English unless the Convenor is fluent with te reo Māori.

##### *Oral examination*

The Convenor will discuss the format and a suitable translation process with the translator prior to the oral examination. The translator will assist the Convenor to confirm the examination panel's final recommended outcome and any amendments required of the student.

Once the outcome is decided, the Convenor will consult the examiners to agree on who will specify the amendments required and report on this.

##### *Post-examination*

The Convenor will send the translator their report prior to submitting to the University Postgraduate Board to ensure that the report is a fair and accurate summary of the oral examination.

#### Translator Responsibilities

The translator will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement form.

##### *Pre-examination*

The translator will provide a written translation of the examiners' reports written in te reo Māori to English for the Convenor.

### *Oral examination*

The translator will provide translation services for the Convenor throughout the oral examination e.g. writing down key points during the defence for the Convenor

### *Post- examination*

The translator will confirm that they agree with the content provided in the Convenor's report.

### Turnitin

Research components presented in te reo Māori are not required to be submitted to Turnitin prior to submission for examination as Turnitin does not recognise te reo Māori.

### Outcome

Students who undertake their research components are aware of the requirements and procedures for successfully completing research undertaken in te reo Māori.

### Review

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