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10.3. Where a student would like to submit their thesis in an alternative format, such as a thesis containing one or more journal articles as submitted to a journal or as published, and this is permitted by their Graduate School, they should seek permission for this from their supervisor as early as possible during their period of study. Journal format theses are currently only permissible in the Colleges of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences and Science and Engineering. Students in other Colleges with queries about this should contact the Dean of Graduate Studies in their College.

10.4. Students should be aware that while publishing in a peer reviewed journal may be an indicator of the quality of the work for specific journals, this is no guarantee of success in an examination context.

10.5. The format of the thesis has no bearing on the requirements for originality, criticality and the student’s own contribution to knowledge in the discipline or requirements for minimum or maximum word counts. Therefore, where students submit a thesis containing work that has been previously published or is in the process of being published, they must address the following within their thesis:

10.5.1. a justification for considering the body of work presented as a coherent whole or for the contribution of particular pieces of work to this whole;

10.5.2. an explicit statement as to what their contribution has been where others have been involved in the work or where there are named co-authors. Students are expected to have made the primary contribution to any work presented within a thesis;

10.5.3. an elaboration, if needed, to address any gaps in a published piece, e.g. to be clear about research design or methods used or present supplementary data;

10.5.4. confirmation that permission has been obtained from a publisher where this is required, e.g. to ensure that the copyright of the publisher has not been violated;

10.5.5. provision of clear formatting to ensure that examiners are able to follow the structure and content of the thesis despite the existence of chapters that may be formatted according to a published version.