CANTERBURY CHRIST CHURCH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Code of Practice for Quality Assurance (Research Students):
Approval of New Research Programme

Education: MPhil

1.1 Award and Title
MPhil in Education

1.2 Length and Mode of Registration
Two years full time
Three years part time

1.3 Entry Requirements
A good Upper Second Class Honours Degree from a British University (or equivalent) in an appropriate subject e.g. BA in Educational Studies, Social Science with Education etc. Holders of other qualifications will be considered on an individual basis. Students are expected to register for the MPhil in the first instance and may be upgraded to PhD candidate status in accordance with the University regulations.

1.4 Anticipated Total Student Registrations
It is anticipated that 6 fte will be recruited to Research Degrees in Education each year.
1.5 **Programme Management**

The programme will be managed by the Director of Research at Canterbury Christ Church University College in consultation with the Head of the Centre for Educational Research for the Faculty of Education.

1.6 **Proposed Start Date**

September 2002

1.7 **Opportunity and Need**

The Faculty of Education has an established record of supervising MPhil students to completion. Members of staff within the Faculty are experienced in supervision and have published extensively in their fields within Education. The Faculty receives growing numbers of applications and enquiries about research programmes from students aware of the opportunities the University College offers in educational research.

1.8 **Aims and Objectives**

The programme aims to equip students to design and carry out research that will contribute new knowledge to the discipline. In order to be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Philosophy (by research and thesis) a candidate is required to show in the thesis appropriate ability to conduct an original investigation, to test ideas, whether the candidate's own or those of others, and to understand the relationship of the theme of his/her investigation to a wider field of knowledge. The candidate is also required to show appropriate ability in the organisation and presentation of his/her material in the thesis.
This will equip them to be employed in a variety of advanced research and educational contexts e.g. in Higher Education, Educational administration, Teaching. The majority of students who are already registered are school teachers.

1.9 Programme Outline

- **Research Training**
  Students will be expected to participate in the College Research Training Programme (see *Introduction*: Section K).

- **Seminars**
  Research students will be expected to attend the Faculty and College seminar programme. As the students progress in their research they will host a seminar within the Faculty to improve their presentation skills.

- **Progression**
  Students will be required to meet with their supervisory team on a regular basis to ensure that they are making satisfactory progress. Students will submit a portfolio of research work (see *Introduction*: Section J), which includes their written work to-date together with an up-dated research methodology and plan for future research activities.

- **Assessment**
  The final assessment of the MPhil will be done by examination of a written thesis and performance in an oral Viva Voce Examination.

1.10 Approved Supervisors

Twenty members of the Faculty have currently received approval as First Supervisors (see Table 1). Detailed documentation is attached.

1.11 Research Environment

- The Faculty has an established and well-resourced research environment. All members of staff within the Faculty are research active and publish and present papers at conferences. Within the Faculty research students will be housed in the Centre for Educational Research whose staff consist of the Professors and Readers in Education together with Research
Fellows and Research Assistants. A new centre equipped with computers and seminar rooms for the exclusive use of Education research staff and students has been established through a HEFCE grant. In addition to these facilities, students will have access to the College Research Office, which also has computing and word processing facilities and is opened on a 24 hour basis. Students have two rooms within the Faculty dedicated to their use and a limited number of offices for individual work.

- The Faculty is currently in receipt of research grants in excess of £300,000 per annum from external bodies (such as the Home Office and the DfEE) and is involved in collaborative research with at least five other HE institutions.
- The Faculty also offers a varied seminar programme through external speakers visiting the College and this supplements the programme of outside speakers offered by the College Director of Research.
- Research students are expected to present papers at national and international conferences and assistance with preparation of papers is available, together with some funds to attend.
- Students are expected to be in the research centre at least once a week, unless otherwise agreed with their supervisors, and should maintain regular contact with their supervisory team.

1.12 Student Support and Guidance

- Students are allocated a supervisory team of three members – First and Second Supervisor together with a Chair. It is the expectation that the student should meet with the supervisory team once a fortnight. It is also expected that the supervisory team will help students make use of the College facilities in guidance, welfare etc.
- The student’s progress will be officially monitored by means of an Annual Review and Report (see Introduction: Section G), where both the student and supervisory team will be expected to comment on the progress made over the preceding year. The Head of Educational Research will also comment on progress. These reports will be reviewed by the College Director of Research.
- If students have difficulties with their supervisory team they are advised to take the matter up in the first instance with the Chair of the panel or, alternatively, with the Head of Educational Research. They also have the opportunity to consult the College’s Director of Research.
1.13 Departmental Quality Assurance and Enhancement

- The Faculty runs a staff/student liaison committee that meets once a term and two research students are members of the Centre for Educational Research’s departmental committee which also meets once a term. There is opportunity for students to give feedback to the Faculty and Centre about their courses. It is also an opportunity for the Faculty to inform students about future developments to the programmes.
- There is an active staff development committee in the Faculty and two days are given over to Research Training within the Faculty each year in addition to the obligatory programmes arranged by the College Research office.

1.14 Departmental Resource Implications

The MPhil programme is well established in Education and new resources have recently been made available to the Centre for Educational Research as indicated above.

1.15 Professional Accreditation

Not applicable for this programme
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Code of Practice for Quality Assurance (Research Students):
Approval of New Research Programme

Education: PhD

1.1 Award and Title

PhD in Education

1.2 Length and Mode of Registration

Three years full time

Four years part time

1.3 Entry Requirements

A good Upper Second Class Honours Degree from a British University (or equivalent) in an appropriate subject e.g. BA in Educational Studies, Social Science with Education etc. Holders of other qualifications will be considered on an individual basis. Students are expected to register for the MPhil in the first instance and may be upgraded to PhD candidate status in accordance with the University regulations.

1.4 Anticipated Total Student Registrations

It is anticipated that 6 fte will be recruited to Research Degrees in Education each year.
1.5 Programme Management

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1.6 Proposed Start Date

September 2002

1.7 Opportunity and Need

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1.8 Aims and Objectives

The programme aims to equip students to design and carry out research that will contribute new knowledge to the discipline. The PhD thesis should be an original contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field under investigation and should demonstrate the candidate’s ability to test ideas, whether his/her own or those of others, and to understand the relationship of the theme of the investigation to a wider field of knowledge. It should be of such scholarly merit as would on that ground justify its publication either as submitted or in an abridged form.
This will equip them to be employed in a variety of advanced research and educational contexts e.g. in Higher Education, Educational administration, Teaching. The majority of students who are already registered are school teachers.

1.9 Programme Outline

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- **Seminars**
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- **Progression**
  Students will be required to register for the M.Phil in the first instance. Students will be required to meet with their supervisory team on a regular basis to ensure that they are making satisfactory progress. In order to transfer to the PhD programme, students will be required to attend an ‘Upgrading’ Review which will take place after 18 months (fte) of study. The upgrading panel will normally consist of the supervisory team (normally First and Second Supervisor), the chair of the supervisory team and the Head of Educational Research. The student will submit a portfolio of research work (see *Introduction: Section J*), which includes their written work to-date together with an up-dated research methodology and plan for future research activities. The student will be interviewed on this evidence by the panel. Once the panel is satisfied that existing and proposed work is of PhD standard, it will make a recommendation to the Director of Research of the University College for upgrading the student to the PhD programme. The Director of Research will present the case to the College’s Research Degrees Committee. If ratified by the University of Kent, the Director of Research will then write formally to the student confirming the new PhD status.

- **Assessment**
The final assessment of the PhD will be done by examination of a written thesis and performance in an oral Viva Voce Examination.

1.10 Approved Supervisors

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