

PGR COVID-19 PHD IMPACT STATEMENT

Purpose of the PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement

The PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement provides recognition of the effect of COVID-19 on the PGR's research and the limited access to campus available to UL PGRs since March 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement takes into account the disruption suffered by UL PGRs in terms of their research plans, design and scope, as well as the restricted conditions that currently prevail for many researchers with regard to travel, the gathering of empirical data, and the conduct of fieldwork.

Furthermore, the Impact Statement can take cognisance of how a UL PGR may have had to request an extension to their PhD programme and/or to their thesis submission timeline as a result of the pandemic.

The PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement is **optional** for PGRs and its sole purpose is to make your Internal and External Examiners aware of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on your research.

The **PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement (Maximum 800 words)** may include the following information:

- A description of your original PhD project prior to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- An outline of the challenges that restrictions imposed as a result of Covid-19 presented for your research;
- A description of how the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted your research project (e.g. ability to undertake fieldwork, access to laboratories and/or desk space, limitations of technology, capacity to travel, Covid-19-related illness, caring responsibilities etc.)
- A description of how the research you could not undertake due to Covid-19 would have fitted within the narrative of the submitted pre-examination copy of your thesis;
- The steps you took to mitigate and address some or all of the above challenges.

HOW TO SUBMIT THE PGR COVID-19 PHD IMPACT STATEMENT

- Before submitting the pre-examination copy of your thesis, you may complete the PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement ensuring that the information contained therein is accurate and up-to-date.
- The PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement is to be sent along with the pre-examination copy of your thesis. The Impact Statement will **NOT** be included in the final thesis submitted to GPS after the student's *viva voce*.
- You should upload your completed PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement as a PDF file, along with the 'soft-bound' (pre-examination) copy of your thesis to marie.beaumont@ul.ie and gpsresearch@ul.ie
- GPS will forward your PGR Covid-19 PhD Impact Statement to your Internal and External Examiners, along with a copy of your thesis.