



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) for HDR Submission with Publications

## Authorship

### Can any paper to which I have contributed be included in my thesis?

This is a matter for discussion with your supervisors, however, it is expected that only those publications that contribute to your research narrative would be included in the main body of work. Furthermore, in the majority of cases, it is expected that you will have contributed at least 50% of the content of each publication and are the “primary author” i.e. were primarily responsible for the planning, execution and preparation of the work for publication.

### How do you know the publications are my work?

All co-authors must sign the declaration of authorship to indicate they agree that your stated contribution to the publication (in both quantitative and qualitative terms) is accurate.

### Do I need to be the first author?

Whilst you do not need to be the primary author on all publications, this would normally be the case having contributed more than 50 per cent of the work. The primary author is primarily responsible for the planning, execution and preparation of work for publication. The primary author may not be the first named author.

### How many publications are required?

There is no defined number of publications. There will be variation by discipline. The main consideration is that the material presented for examination should equate to that which would otherwise be presented using the traditional thesis format. This is a matter of professional judgement for yourself and your supervisors.

### What if I can't obtain a co-author's signature?

If a co-author is not in Adelaide and is unable to physically sign the Statement of Authorship, the following options are acceptable on condition that the co-author has been provided with a copy of the proposed Statement and agrees with the claims therein:

- I. A scanned or electronic signature; or
- II. Sign-off by your Principal Supervisor in place of the co-author, after citing evidence of the co-author's agreement (e.g. via email).  
In this circumstance, whilst it is not necessary to include evidence of the co-author's agreement in your thesis, it is important that you retain an appropriate record.

In the event that a co-author cannot be contacted despite best endeavours to do so, it is acceptable for your Principal Supervisor to sign in place of the co-author, as long as all other co-authors have accepted the proposed Statement of Authorship.

To minimise the possibility of being unable to obtain a co-author signature, it is essential to discuss authorship issues and prepare a Statement of Authorship as each publication is developed, rather than leaving this task until the end of your candidature.

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## Format of the Thesis

### A literature survey is included in each of the papers. Is an additional literature survey required?

Yes. Within the contextual statement for your thesis you should include a literature review that clearly details the research question, and a general discussion that demonstrates how your work is integrated to form a cohesive whole. It is important to note that a collection of disparate publications, no matter what their quality, is not appropriate for the award of the degree.

Additional papers authored by you that do not relate to the main thrust of the thesis, raw data, programs, questionnaires and other material as deemed appropriate for each discipline may be included in appendices.

### If I have to revise and resubmit my thesis for second examination can I include a new publication?

Yes. Revised and resubmitted theses are examined in their entirety and the inclusion of a new publication may strengthen your response to examiners.

### Does my thesis have to include publications?

No. You can determine the most appropriate format for your thesis in consultation with your supervisors. Refer to the Specifications for Thesis for further information: <http://calendar.adelaide.edu.au/agc>

## Publication Suitability

### I published work which is relevant to my thesis prior to my enrolment. Can I include this publication in my thesis?

No. Only work completed during your candidature can be included in the thesis in its published form. You can cite your earlier work just like you would any work that is relevant to your research.

### Are all publications given equal weight by examiners?

No; examiners are likely to be influenced by the fact that articles have been published in respected, refereed journals of good standing in the relevant field of scholarship. Therefore, a thesis by publication is expected to contain predominantly articles published in reputable, peer-reviewed, journals considered in the top half of those relevant to the overall theme of the thesis.

You should consult with your supervisors regarding the appropriate journal(s) for publication.

### I have published a review of the literature in my research area. Can I use this paper in my thesis?

Yes, but you must be the principal author of the literature review.

The following considerations must be taken into account when including a literature review publication in your thesis:

- I. The literature review in a thesis would normally discuss the literature in light of the particular research questions to be addressed by the thesis. A published literature review, particularly if written some time ago, may not of itself adequately detail and support the research question whilst supporting thesis cohesion. Students considering including a published literature review will need to, include an additional analysis of any relevant publications generated since the publication of their literature review in the 'Literature Review' chapter.
- II. The contextual statement should be carefully prepared to ensure that the thesis, including the published literature review and any subsequent literature analysis, presents as a cohesive piece of work to the examiners.
- III. In some circumstances, presentation of the thesis may be improved by inclusion of a published literature review in an Appendix.

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## Can I include a systematic review of a specific research question as a publication in my thesis?

Yes, if the systematic review is to be used as a results chapter and is separate to the literature review.

## Can I include my published protocol paper in the methods section of the thesis?

Yes, but only if your protocol paper involves novel method development.

## Do I need to provide the Graduate Centre with proof that my paper has been accepted and in press, or has been published?

No. You should provide this evidence to your supervisors when you are discussing the proposed format for your thesis and retain your own records in case of future queries.

## Are there any copyright considerations I need to be aware of?

Yes, you should check the copyright status of all papers you plan to include in your thesis. Most publishers require transfer of copyright to them in order to publish, but will allow a paper to be included in a thesis. Some state this explicitly, whereas others do not.

Further information is available at: [www.adelaide.edu.au/legalandrisk/copyright/study-research/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/legalandrisk/copyright/study-research/) and in the University's copyright policy: [www.adelaide.edu.au/policies/2643/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/policies/2643/)

In addition, the University's Copyright Coordinator may be contacted for advice:  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/library/library-services/copyright-advice/copyright-and-theses](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/library/library-services/copyright-advice/copyright-and-theses)

[www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre)

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