

Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF)

Level 7, Master's Degree

A master's degree demonstrates an in-depth, and significant advanced specialised theoretical or applied knowledge, which is current and with some at the forefront of a specific field of study or with inter/multi-disciplinary approach; or professional practice. The learners demonstrate critical, evaluative and cognitive skills, and applied research skills or advanced professional practice to solve complex issues and problems with reasonable degree of originality and independence. Dependent on the type of programme, the learners are competent to inform, share views on contemporary and new issues in related fields or advise new solutions or improved innovations to a range of audience and to conduct further research besides practicing.

In summary, the candidate's profile will demonstrate a mastery of knowledge in specific field/fields of study/work and through further learning, research, and/or professional practice; and buttressed by a comprehension of strong theoretical knowledge, critical thinking, creative and innovative skills. They will also be able to generate new solutions to problems. They operate with confidence, knowledge and skills both in Malaysia / ASEAN as well as the wider world.

Level 8, Doctoral Degree/PhD

This is the highest level of learning in the MQF leading to conferment of a doctoral degree. It involves substantial, advanced, independent and original research and scholarship in a most advanced area of knowledge and emerging issues of a specific area of study in a discipline or multidiscipline, assessed against international standards. They demonstrate innovative and advanced research skills, critical reflections, and competent to conceptualise, design and implement projects. They continue to lead, share and contribute new knowledge/innovations/practices in the related field and its emerging issues, and towards the social, technological and cultural progress in the academic and professional contexts, and concurrently deals with complex ethical issues. In addition, the learner must be capable to provide informed judgments and advice to a range of audience.

In summary, the candidate's profile will demonstrate critical understanding of the most advanced knowledge at the frontiers of a field of study or professional practice. Independently conduct, manage and lead advanced research which contributes to substantial, new and original knowledge, and/or professional practice. Produce research outputs in the form of a thesis, patents, products, new advanced professional practice or advanced technologies, creative models or works of art, or music. Demonstrate capacities to present and defend points of view, thesis and ideas in area(s) of expertise with knowledge and confidence.