# Statement of Research Intent for Doctoral Study in the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries

This information is supplementary to your [Application for Admission (AfA)](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/applications-and-admissions/how-to-apply/postgraduate-admission/doctoral-applications.html) to Doctoral Study at the University of Auckland. The purpose is to have sufficient information for the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries to assess your application for admission and scholarship consideration (see [funding your doctoral study at Creative Arts and Industries](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/creative/study-with-us/study-options/doctoral-study/funding-your-doctoral-study.html)) and to consider which supervisors are best able to support your area of research. This is not intended to be a definitive statement of your research intentions: developing your research towards a full thesis proposal is a major task undertaken by doctoral candidates in their first year of study.

Please complete the table below and expand each field as you think it suits the description. Please ensure your responses are brief and precise.

## General Information

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| **Name of Applicant** |  |
| **Is your most recent qualification a taught degree or a research degree?**1 |  |
| **Which Doctoral programme you are applying for:**  1) Architecture 2) Heritage Conservation 3) Planning  4) Urban Design 5) Dance 6) DocFA Fine Arts  7) PhD Fine Arts 8) Design 9) Music. |  |
| **Are you applying for PhD with scholarly creative practice or Doctor of Fine Arts (DocFA)?** | Yes/No |
| 1. *A ‘research degree’ would normally involve the writing and examination of a thesis or dissertation. A ‘taught degree’ will have a number of courses or subjects, but may include a research task.*  *Where an applicant’s most recent qualification in a relevant subject area does not satisfy the requirements of clause 4 of* [*Doctoral Candidate Research Capacity Policy and Procedures*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/policy-hub/research-innovation/doctoral-study/application-candidature-registration/doctoral-candidate-research-capacity-policy-procedures.html)*, meaning not having “a sole-authored postgraduate (or undergraduate honours or equivalent) research component of no less than 30 points at the University of Auckland with at least a B+ result, in a subject area relevant to the proposed doctoral research project – or the equivalent,” clause 8a or 8b may be used to satisfy clause 4 as determined by the Board of Graduate Studies (or delegate). Applicants who do not have “a sole-authored postgraduate (or undergraduate honours or equivalent) research component” are very likely to be directed to undertake a ‘bridging programme’, and they* *must achieve at least a B+ (grades are not averaged) in both the coursework and the independent academic research of their bridging programme to meet the entry requirement into the PhD.* | |

## Preliminary Research Proposal

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| ***Proposed supervisor (if known)***  *If you have made contact with a staff member from the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries and achieved an agreement on the supervision of your doctoral study, please provide the name of the staff member below.*  ***IMPORTANT:***  *Having a confirmed supervisor is not mandatory for application into the doctoral programmes. A Postgraduate Advisor will allocate supervisors best able to support your area of research as described in this form. Having a confirmed supervisor is mandatory if you would like to be considered for the Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries, University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarships (see* [*funding your doctoral study at Creative Arts and Industries*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/creative/study-with-us/study-options/doctoral-study/funding-your-doctoral-study.html)*). Applicants must contact a potential main supervisor and initiate a discussion about the potential to work with the supervisor and possible projects (at least one month prior to the application closing date). This completed Statement of Research Intent form must be approved by the supervisor for scholarship consideration.* |
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| **Assessment for Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries, University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarships**  *Please carefully read the Eligibility and Process of the* [*Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries strategic objectives for scholarship awarding*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/creative/study-with-us/study-options/doctoral-study/funding-your-doctoral-study.html)*. Then, work closely with your nominated supervisor and explain how your proposed research addresses the objectives of Taumata Teitei | Vision 2030 and Strategic Plan 2025 and the Faculty’s Strategic Objectives. Please be very explicit and specific on how your research is aligned with the listed priorities. This section is only required if you wish to be considered for this specific scholarship.* |
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| **Provisional title of the proposed research**  *It is important that the title be as specific and precise as possible, noting that it can be changed when you develop the research proposal once admitted. The title should be brief, and reflect the main question or potential argument of the proposed research. Unnecessary over-long or technical words should be avoided.* |
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| **Provisional topic description for the proposed research**  *This is a provisional working topic that can be changed when you develop the research proposal once admitted. Please clearly identify the focus and significance of your proposed research, including the intellectual hypothesis, position, problem or question(s) that drive the proposed research. This section should reference relevant examples of theory and/or practice that contextualize your research.* |
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| **Research context and/or background**  *Briefly outline the context or background to which your intended research relates or from which it emerges. Set out what you see as the key issues around which your research is framed. Demonstrate awareness of the field in which you are working. By situating your research within the relevant and contemporary work that relates to your field of investigation, explain the distinct feature of your research that will make it potentially original.* |
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| **Aims and objectives of the research**  *What are you aiming to achieve in your research? This might be a better understanding of some issues or practice, enhancing the quality of outcomes, improving how things are done, etc. You might find it helpful to think of the aim (big picture) as the most significant questions or problems you hope to address or explore. The objectives (how to/what/why) are the steps by which you will meet this aim. The proposal should normally have one or two aims, followed by a series of objectives.* |
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| **Research question(s)**  *From the context and research aims above, what is your key provisional research question or questions?* |
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| **Research methodology and design**  *Identify the key method or methods relevant to addressing the research proposal and, specifically, the research question(s) you have framed above. Describe the rationale for using particular methods or process of experimentations and procedures you will adopt in discovering and recording research information.*  *If you are applying for PhD-Including Scholarly Creative Work or DocFA, please describe: 1) How the scholarly creative practice, philosophical paradigms and critical theories will inform the research project; and 2) how the written document and examinable scholarly creative work will form an integrated and rigorous approach to the research topic.* |
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| **PhD - Including Scholarly Creative Work and DocFA**  *Complete this section ONLY if you wish to pursue the option of the PhD - Including Scholarly Creative Work or DocFA.*  *The University of Auckland offers the option of a PhD with a Scholarly Creative Work and requires the writing of around 60,000 words. The PhD research undertaken, and the work submitted for examination in fulfilment of the PhD thesis requirement, must present an integrated as well as rigorous approach to the intellectual hypothesis, position, problem or question(s). Please carefully read the* [*PhD - Including Scholarly Creative Work Policy and Procedures.*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/policy-hub/research-innovation/doctoral-study/application-candidature-registration/phd-including-scholarly-creative-work-policy-procedures.html)  *The* [*DocFA*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/find-a-study-option/doctor-of-fine-arts-docfa.html) *requires you to undertake a specific research project with creative practice and a written thesis of maximum of 30,000 words.*  *Please discuss with your proposed supervisor and respond to all 5 points below*  *1) Scope: Please provide a brief description of the type of creative work that you intend to submit for examination (such as a composition, performance, exhibition or artefact) at the conclusion of your research.*  *2) Experienced Supervisor: Please name your relevant supervisor of your creative work here. At least one member of the supervisory team must have extensive professional experience in the relevant area of creative practice. Please note the supervisor details below, as well as their experience in the field related to the creative practice component.*  *3) Resource: Please detail how the creative practice component intends to be undertaken and resourced.*  *4) Examination: Please explain when examination of the creative component will be undertaken (prior to, or following the initial thesis submission)? If a candidate is to have an aspect of their Creative Component examined prior to the the initial thesis submission, it must be noted here, as it will permit the School of Graduate Studies adequate time to receive and process the nomination of examiners outside of the standard processing schedule.*  *5) Confirmation Milestones: The PhD-Including Scholarly Creative Work Policy and Procedures  require the establishment of one or more confirmation milestone(s) pertaining to the progress of creative practice research (for candidates presenting scholarly creative work as part of the thesis requirement for the PhD).* *As per the* [*Doctoral Confirmation of Candidature Policy and Procedures*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/policy-hub/research-innovation/doctoral-study/application-candidature-registration/doctoral-confirmation-candidature-policy-procedures.html)*: “Confirmation milestones are the activities that a candidate must complete, to the satisfaction of the named party or at the required standard, in order to be confirmed in their doctoral programme.” As per Clause 27 of the* [*PhD Statute*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/policy-hub/research-innovation/doctoral-study/phd-statutes/phd-statute.html)*: “Candidature is provisional until confirmed, and is subject to the confirmation of candidature policy and procedures, the continuation of confirmed candidature policy and procedures, and the candidature intervention policy and procedures.”*  *The DocFA requires additional milestone as per clause 28* [*Doctor of Fine Arts (DocFA)*](https://www.calendar.auckland.ac.nz/en/progreg/regulations-creative-arts-and-industries/docfa.html?_gl=1*1boockq*_ga*MTUxMTM5OTU5Ni4xNzE2Nzc3MjIz*_ga_SJ5FRP7YTL*MTcxNjkzMzQ4Mi4yNi4xLjE3MTY5Mzc5MTQuMjguMC4w&_ga=2.49118944.779917413.1716777223-1511399596.1716777223)*.*  *Please provide your creative practice milestone information below.* |
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| **Key readings/bibliography**  *Please provide key references to published work that informs your proposed area of research. This may include those sources that were key ones in your Master degree if relevant. Also, include what you consider to be sources of key knowledge or seminal work related to your proposed topic. Citations must be consistent and adopt a recognised standard system, for example Chicago, APA, MLA, Harvard.* |
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| **Brief description of expected resources**  *Include a description of the essential equipment or resources necessary to complete the research. For DocFA applications, you must indicate at this point if you need studio space for your work.*  *For PhD-Including Scholarly Creative Work, you must identify your expectations of how the production of this scholarly creative work will be resourced.* |
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***IMPORTANT:*** *When completed, please upload this information into your* [*Application for Admission (AfA)*](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/study/applications-and-admissions/how-to-apply/postgraduate-admission/doctoral-applications.html) *to the doctoral studies programme.*