Departmental guidelines for MSc thesis research
The MSc thesis comprises original research carried out by the candidate under the guidance of the supervisory committee. Its scope and quality should be commensurate with a first-authored peer-reviewed scientific publication* appropriate to the field of study.

Departmental guidelines for PhD thesis research
The PhD thesis comprises independent and original research carried out by the candidate under the guidance of the supervisory committee. Its scope and quality should be commensurate with at least two, usually three first-authored peer-reviewed scientific publications* appropriate to the field of study.

*Output need not be published, and could take forms other than journal articles such as reports, conference papers, book chapters, maps, software, etc.