

Operationalising the REF Criteria					
Rating	REF - definition	Characteristics of Submission	Originality: Offers new ideas, perspectives or methods to the field; develops existing perspectives; critiques established perspectives; generates crucial data	Significance: The consequences of the contribution for current thinking/practice	Rigour: The quality of argument, observation or analysis
4*	World-leading	A primary or essential point of reference, of profound influence in the field	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposes a new concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>2. Builds on or develops an existing concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>3. (New) systematic review/evaluation of a concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>4. Outstandingly novel, innovative and/or creative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Leads in the development of new forms, methods or approaches</li> <li>2. Forces thoroughgoing critical reflection on existing frameworks</li> <li>3. Leads to major expansion and re-design of practice</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research contribution and analysis are thoroughly and thoughtfully presented</li> <li>2. Research process and methodology are thoroughly recorded and articulated</li> <li>3. Creative and critical lineage is evident and thoroughly engaged with</li> </ol>
3*	Internationally excellent	An important point of reference, of lasting influence in the field	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Calls for a new concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>2. Elaborates (fine tunes) or offers some critique to a concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>3. Significantly novel, innovative or creative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contributes to development of existing or nascent concepts/methods/forms/approaches</li> <li>2. Significantly contributes to critical debate on a specific type or strand of creative practice</li> <li>3. Leads to significant expansion and re-design of practice</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research contribution and analysis are clearly presented</li> <li>2. Research process and methodology are clearly recorded and articulated</li> <li>3. Clear engagement with creative and critical lineage</li> </ol>
2*	Recognised internationally	A recognised point of reference, of some influence in the field	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tests a method/approach or new form</li> <li>2. Offers additional data or testimony for/to existing perspectives</li> <li>3. Somewhat novel, innovative or creative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirms and advances thinking on existing or nascent concepts/methods/forms/approaches</li> <li>2. Contributes to critical debate on specific type or strand of creative practice</li> <li>3. Of some influence to the field of practice</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research contribution and analysis are identified</li> <li>2. Research process and methodology are identified</li> <li>3. Evidence of creative and critical lineage</li> </ol>

1*	Recognised nationally	A useful contribution of minor influence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follows well-defined, and routine, uses of concept/method/form/approach</li> <li>2. Connections to key debates are implied rather than explicit</li> <li>3. Using existing thinking or creative practice</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirms and reiterates thinking on existing or nascent concepts/methods/forms/approaches</li> <li>2. Based on existing critical debates on specific types or strands of creative practice</li> <li>3. Of limited influence to field of practice</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research contribution and analysis are identified in a limited manner</li> <li>2. Articulation of research process and methodology is limited</li> <li>3. Limited evidence of creative and critical lineage</li> </ol>
U	Below standard for national recognition/not research	Unlikely to be of influence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Artistic practice without research dimensions identified</li> <li>2. Prepared for media/public consumption</li> </ol>		-