The Graduate School

The Graduate School at Loughborough University delivers a unique doctoral experience to over 1500 research students. All postgraduate research students are members of the Graduate School, and are welcomed into our research community.

With our brand new Graduate House planned to open in 2015/16, we will have dedicated facilities to offer all research students:

- Comprehensive academic and professional skills training
- A careers programme offering resources, training and careers events
- The opportunity to apply for Graduate School funding to support your studies, travel and extra-curricular projects
- A vibrant schedule of conferences, workshops and collaborative events
- Postgraduate training rooms, common room and events space

What is a Doctorate?

A Doctorate is one of the highest academic qualifications you can attain.

At Loughborough University we offer two types of Doctorate:

- PhD (Doctor of Philosophy)
- EngD (Doctor of Engineering)

The PhD is a three or four year programme (five years part time), and the EngD is a four year programme.

With a PhD from Loughborough University you will be recognised as an expert in your field. You can build a career in academia or industrial research, or you can enter many other careers – from management to teaching to starting your own business.

The PhD Process

A research degree programme can take on a variety of forms, but a typical PhD might look like this:

- Develop research question
- Conduct research
- Review existing research
- Write up thesis (around 80,000 words)

‘A key role of the Graduate School is to foster intellectual and social links between postgraduate students across the disciplines. Our students benefit from a range of networking opportunities and social events in addition to our formal training programme.’

Professor Andrew Dainty
Director of the Graduate School

‘I get to attend several international conferences and summer schools as part of my PhD. I believe that having studied a PhD has made me a much more employable person’

Adam Hughes, PhD candidate in Mathematical Sciences
Why Loughborough University?

‘The staff at Loughborough University have inspired me to take on a career in academia; my love for sociology has only grown during my time at Loughborough.’

Michael Cotter, PhD candidate in Social Sciences

The Loughborough PhD Experience

Jade Markham, PhD
Department of Chemistry

‘I wouldn’t be able to do my research without the guidance of my supervisors and the support from staff and my PhD colleagues. During my application process for my placement the Careers and Employability Centre were really helpful at looking at my CV and helping me to improve it.’

Agis Skarlas, PhD
Department of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering

‘The University is at the forefront of research in both the automotive and aeronautical sector, running multimillion pounds worth of projects for various industrial associates. I am overjoyed to see the very good relationship that exists between all the members of staff. It creates a very pleasant working environment and collaborations.’

Nikola Tomic, PhD
Department of Politics, History and International Relations

‘My degree has included traveling to academic conferences across Europe and the US, and fieldwork in Brussels where I conducted interviews with high-ranking diplomats for my research. The Graduate School was very useful in providing additional courses, for example Teaching Skills training. The library staff also organised research training courses and how to conduct research more effectively.’

Sophie-Louise Hyde, PhD
Department of English and Drama

‘The skills that I will leave Loughborough with are some that will have a lasting effect on my life and see me through a successful career in an industry that I have an overwhelming passion for. I am really keen to go into Academia – in both research and teaching. However, I am also open to industry possibilities too. I know that my time here at Loughborough will help me in my next move.’

Michael Cotter, PhD candidate in Social Sciences

Research
Top 10 English university for research excellence

Collaboration
156 research groups and 6 interdisciplinary research themes

Community
Training, networking and events in Graduate House

Careers
Dedicated careers advice and support for research students

Experience
Voted Best Student Experience 6 years running

Location
Within 90 minutes of London and other major cities

Cost of Living
Affordable and family-friendly town of Loughborough

LU in London
Second campus in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London

Campus
438-acre campus with state-of-the-art facilities

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Research at Loughborough University

Our world-leading research takes place across eleven Schools...

- School of Aeronautical, Automotive, Chemical and Materials Engineering
- School of the Arts, English and Drama
- School of Business and Economics
- School of Civil and Building Engineering
- School of Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering
- Loughborough Design School

- School of Science (Chemistry, Computer Science, Physics, Mathematical Sciences and the Mathematics Education Centre)
- School of Social, Political and Geographical Sciences
- School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences
- Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

and six interdisciplinary Research Challenges:

- Changing Environments and Infrastructure
- Energy
- Communication, Culture and Citizenship
- Health and Wellbeing
- Enabling Technologies
- Secure and Resilient Societies

Find out more about our Research Challenges at www.lboro.ac.uk/research/challenges

Tuition Fees and Funding

Information on tuition fees can be found on our website. You may be able to secure sponsorship from your employer, government, a charitable foundation or a UK Research Council to help fund your studies. Loughborough University also offers a wide range of funded PhD studentships, which can be found on our website:

www.lboro.ac.uk/study/finance/research/studentships/

Many PhD students also work part time while studying, and the Graduate School offers advice on finding such work at the University.
How To Find Us

Located in the centre of England, Loughborough University has one of the largest single campuses in the country, 90 minutes from London and other major cities, and close to East Midlands Airport, at Loughborough you will be in the centre of everything.

Loughborough University in London is located at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, East London. Find out more at www.lborolondon.ac.uk

‘I had already spent four years at Loughborough during my undergraduate and postgraduate degree. The social atmosphere and experience at Loughborough University is great.’

Han Lin Li, PhD candidate in Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering

Contact Us

You can find more information on our website at: www.lboro.ac.uk/graduateschool

The Graduate School will be happy to answer your questions about studying at Loughborough University:
E: graduateschool@lboro.ac.uk   T: +44 (0)1509 228593

Contact the Research Student Office for information on applying for a PhD:
E: pgresearch@lboro.ac.uk   T: +44 (0)1509 228292