

RESEARCH

APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

BIOANALYSIS, PHARMACEUTICALS AND HEALTH
DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

MASTER'S IN RESEARCH MRes/PG DIP/PG CERT

MASTER'S BY RESEARCH MA/MSc

POSTGRADUATE COURSES

CUT LINE



De Montfort University awarded Gold in
2017 Teaching Excellence Framework





APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES DOCTORAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

OVERVIEW

The majority of our research students are studying for a PhD through one of our Doctoral Training Programmes (DTPs), which support the professional development of postgraduate research students regardless of their discipline or subject area.

Our innovative approach allows students to develop skills through a defined, high-quality programme of training, placements and teaching. We offer all students a welcoming research community and access to networks and other skills to enhance their employability in the academic world and broader health and life sciences sectors. Although aligned with particular subject areas and disciplines, our DTPs are interdisciplinary in orientation, helping students to form collaborations to deliver their research projects.

COURSE CONTENT

This programme offers a framework for PhD study, providing research students with training, opportunities and support throughout their time at DMU. Students undertake a demanding programme in research methodology, involving classroom based and/or online learning and assessment. Students integrate into academic life and our research community through membership of a faculty research group, as well as by accessing faculty news. In addition, students are invited to take part in teaching and to access relevant networks, organisations and employers to help develop wider professional skills.

There are several elements to the Applied Social Sciences DTP:

The first is a programme of research methods training involving classroom-based and/or online learning with both modules and day-long workshops available. Your PhD supervisor will help you with decide while undertaking a Training Needs Analysis (TNA) to confirm which research methods training modules you will need to do.

The second is integration into the academic life of the community primarily through membership of a Faculty Research Group, access to Faculty news, participation in research seminars where relevant and association with a teaching team if desired.

The third is the provision of opportunities to develop wider professional skills through participation in teaching where you wish to undertake this and links to relevant networks, organisations and employers where this is possible.

The ASS DTP consists of four pathways:

- Applied Health
- Crime and Justice
- Ethnicity and Diversity
- Social Work and Social Justice

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COURSE CONTENT

This DTP links research elements of the Leicester School of Pharmacy and the School of Allied Health Sciences to provide a training programme tailored to the specific needs of each research student. We provide many opportunities to participate in broader interdisciplinary projects that seek to engage major research challenges in public

services and industry. It offers training in a series of customised programmes for the management, operation and applications of specialist instrumental laboratory facilities including high-resolution biomedical NMR and LC-MS ones, and workshops focused on experimental design, chemometrics, metabolomics, clinical trials and research ethics (as well as essential software). It also provides general support including valuable advice on time management, prioritisation, self-motivation and assertiveness, as well as scientific writing skills.

Students are offered a short rotation research project, which provides a 'breadth rather than depth' approach to solving research problems. Where appropriate, students will also be offered a 12-week full-time professional internship (or part-time equivalent) in a non-research environment at a collaborating institution, health service provider or an industrial/commercial site. The DTP follows four pathways: advanced bioanalytical science/chemistry for health; pharmacology (including cell biology/genomics); biomedical and environmental science; and pharmaceutical technologies.

Key Features:

- Free access to appropriate taught PG modules.
- Opportunities for the selection of cross-faculty and, where appropriate, inter-institutional PhD programmes.
- Personalised professional development programmes (PDPs).
- Access to travel to collaborating laboratories and relevant scientific conferences (both at national and international levels).

- Focus on translational research with other faculties, collaborating universities, industry, and clinical researchers.
- Provision of a high level of supervisory support for the publication of DTP student's research in reputable scientific and clinical journals.
- Opportunities to gain teaching experience.
- Combinations of two or more research themes: Exposure to 'real-life' research problems.

The major objectives of supervisory staff involved in this DTP are the design, development and applications of novel therapies, technologies, and bioanalytical diagnostics for application to a wide variety of clinical, clinically-related and pharmaceutical/pharmacological research problems at regional, national and international levels.

For more information on course research areas, please visit dmu.ac.uk/research/research-areas/





MASTER'S BY RESEARCH MA/MSc

COURSE OVERVIEW

Master's by Research offers you the opportunity to pursue an independent research project while benefiting from the support of expert supervision. Develop an understanding of research study, linking your research project directly to your current or future career interests, and obtain a taste of what PhD study might entail.

You'll benefit from the support and expertise of our established practitioner and research based academic staff, and will meet regularly with research supervisors who will review your progress. You will also have the flexibility to manage your own time and study when it suits you best.

MODULES

This is a research master's so there are no compulsory taught course modules. However, the University offers a generic research training course which includes courses on intellectual property rights and ethics, planning and managing research and preparing for your viva. There are also faculty-based research sessions including:

- Literature Searching and Reference
- Management, Health and Safety in Laboratories (for those students who are laboratory-based); and
- Presentation of Research
- Data and Participation in
- Analytical Discussion

TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

You are encouraged to discuss your research ideas with potential supervisors before you start so that you have a clearly defined project at the enrolment stage. Each student will be assigned two supervisors with whom they will meet on a regular basis, at least twice per month for full-time students and once per month for part-time students.

You will submit a research thesis (maximum 20,000 words for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects and 30,000 words for other subjects), and you will have a viva voce (oral exam) conducted by an internal and an external examiner.

We offer a wide range of expertise in a number of specialist areas in order to guide and support you in your research project. Most of our academic staff are actively involved in research or consultancy and the faculty is home to more than 200 research students. Key research themes include projects relating to the investigation and improvement of health and social care, public services and the improvement of life quality for a variety of individuals and communities.

Our research into dried blood spot analysis, helping the treatment of sick newborn babies, was shortlisted for the prestigious Times Higher Education Awards. Along with the development of the world's first artificial pancreas (the aim of which is to improve treatment for those living with diabetes), our leading researchers have exhibited their work on ground-breaking Channel 4 documentaries, as well as overseas in America, at The National Science Museum in London, and to Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Edward during their visits to DMU.

EMPLOYABILITY

The course will help you to develop and enhance the skills and knowledge required to conduct research in an area of interest to you. If you're thinking about doing a PhD, it will also provide you with the opportunity to explore whether you enjoy independent study. Your research can be tailored to your chosen career path, and if you are in employment it may also act as an opportunity to gain a better understanding of a topic related to your workplace.

KEY INFORMATION

Duration: September start - one year full-time, two to six years part-time.

Entry requirements: Normally a 2:1 or above in an honours degree (or equivalent).

Relevant experience may be needed for some projects.

You will be required to prepare a research proposal, approximately three A4 pages long, that sets out your research aims, context and intended methods. You will then be interviewed by two members of staff and, if successful in your application, be assigned two supervisors.

English language requirements: IELTS 6.5 including 5.5 in each component or equivalent.



MASTER'S IN RESEARCH MRes/PG DIP/PG CERT

COURSE OVERVIEW

Master's in Research (Applied Health Studies/Social Work) is a research methods training course and will equip you with the methodological skills to carry out applied research at doctoral level and in the workplace. It can be useful in any setting both in the UK and in other countries. Incorporating a wide range of specialised teaching, the course enables you to develop your understanding of the theoretical and practical dimensions of research practice. It is suitable for graduates, international students, and professionals wanting to undertake research in the workplace.

MODULES

Course modules enable you to develop an advanced critical appreciation of key methodological debates. Modules can be studied on a standalone basis and are supported through the Learning Beyond Registration (LBR) contract.

Research Designs in Health (30 credits)

develops a critical understanding of socio-political aspects of research, to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different research designs and to plan a research project.

Research Dilemmas and Strategies (30 credits)

is designed to develop advanced and specialist knowledge in the fields of research strategies and philosophical assumptions underlying research decisions.

Making Sense of Quantitative and Qualitative Data (30 credits) develops advanced and specialist knowledge in the fields of both quantitative and qualitative methods.

Advanced Statistics and Data Analysis (15 credits) is designed to give a thorough appreciation of handling complex data sets, analysing quantitative data and presenting numerical data graphically in an accessible fashion.

Research Dissertation (45 credits) involves a requirement to present two bound copies of a formally presented dissertation of no more than 15,000 words.

Pathway Modules: Health Policy and Strategy – Research in Social Work.

For the Master's in Research you will complete all modules including the dissertation of 15,000 words and achieve a total of 180 credits. A Postgraduate Diploma may be awarded on completion of 120 credits/a Postgraduate Certificate on completion of 60 credits.

TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

Teaching typically consists of a combination of lectures, seminars and workshops for some modules and e-learning workshops, as well as one-to-one supervision and self-directed study. Assessment in taught modules is by coursework; this is primarily in the form of essays, reports, mini projects, presentations, method exercises and a dissertation. There are no formal exams.

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The course is taught by staff from a range of disciplines, who are all recognised experts in their fields. Aside from their teaching responsibilities, the team also offer individual supervision for students undertaking MRes dissertations. Their own expertise spans areas such as communication in healthcare; public-private partnerships; influencing health policy; public health; pathways into youth crime; young people and disability; youth justice; and information technology.

EMPLOYABILITY

This course offers a route into doctoral research or a wider research career. Professionals with some years' experience who wish to enhance the research aspect of their work will find the opportunity to develop a level of research expertise which can then be usefully applied within their own workplace.

KEY INFORMATION

Duration: September and January start - one year full-time, two to six years part-time.

Entry requirements: A 2:1 honours degree or above in a relevant subject.

OR

A 2:2 honours degree or above plus relevant professional experience.

OR

A portfolio of professional qualifications and/or academic qualifications of equivalent standing to an Honours degree OR an appropriate Postgraduate Diploma at a good standard.

English language requirements: IELTS 6.5 including 5.5 in each component or equivalent.

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The content of this document is correct at the time of going to press. You are advised to check our website before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in, as the contents of the website will always take precedence.

Alternative formats

Where possible DMU publications or specific sections can be supplied in alternative media.

For further information, please contact the Enquiry team on +44 (0)116 2 50 60 70 or email enquiry@dmu.ac.uk