

Management PhD/MPhil/MSc (Research)

As a PhD student, you will begin working on your research project right at the start of the first year. With the support of your research supervisor, you will also go through a training analysis to identify any needs that you may have.

Birmingham Business School is renowned for its research. With over 130 lecturing and research staff, many internationally recognised authorities in their fields, our research contributes to academic debates worldwide. We undertake projects funded by the Research Councils, major trusts, professional institutions, government departments and the EU.



<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/business/news/2014/november/leading-social-scientists.aspx>

The Birmingham Doctoral Training Centre is one of only 21 across the UK to be accredited by the ESRC (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/dr-fees/ESRC-research-council.aspx>). It has 22 ESRC scholarships to fund doctoral research starting in 2015.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx>)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Doctoral research

Study Options: Full time, part time

Duration: Full-time – 3 years; part-time – 6 years

Start date: September

Contact

You can contact us on +44 (0)121 414 5005

Got a question? Use our [ask us anything](http://bham.hobsons.co.uk/ask.aspx?cid=1223&did=24) (<http://bham.hobsons.co.uk/ask.aspx?cid=1223&did=24>) facility to get the answer you need.

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[Birmingham Business School \(/schools/business/index.aspx\)](/schools/business/index.aspx)

[Management at Birmingham Business School \(/schools/business/departments/management/index.aspx\)](/schools/business/departments/management/index.aspx)

Details

Research areas

- Procurement and Operations Management
- Managerial Economics
- International Management and Organisation

Human Resource Management and Employment Relations:

specific research areas include income distribution; training and development; management development; leadership; shareholder value and the role of private equity firms in the market for corporate control; labour market regulation and the role of the state.

International Business:

research areas include Global Value Chains; corporate social responsibility; the internationalisation of firms and the international transfer of practices; innovation and international knowledge flows; the impact of national institutions on the emergence of new areas of science and technology; social capital and the internationalisation of SMEs.

Organisational Studies:

specific research areas include organisational transformation and the management of change; knowledge management; the changing nature of careers; new organisational forms; leadership and governance.

Learning and teaching

As a PhD student, you will begin working on your research project right at the start of the first year. With the support of your Research Supervisor, you will also go through a training analysis to identify any needs that you may have.

Most PhD students will be expected to take the core research methods training courses of the [MA Social Research \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/socsci/social-research.aspx\)](#). Students will then be able to take more advanced training as appropriate on the basis of a training needs analysis conducted with their supervisor at the beginning of each year. Details of the courses taken by PhD students in the Department of Economics or by students who do their research in the area of Finance can be obtained from the Research Office.

One popular module is Postgraduate Teaching Assistant training, which students often take in year 2 or 3, enabling you to teach within the school, and ultimately making you all the more employable after your study.

For part-time students modules are flexible and can be studied in blocks, part time or weekends to fit your commitments.

The thesis

The thesis is an examined work of about 80,000 words, and an oral examination to defend the thesis is required. This thesis will be a work of original scholarship and be worthy of potential publication in a journal. Students are required to undergo research training, except where appropriate research training has already been undertaken.

PhD students are also encouraged to take part in a colloquium between the University of Birmingham, Aston University and Warwick University, where students present their work and receive comments and advice on subject matter and findings.

Support and training

Birmingham Business School provides dedicated facilities, resources and support to postgraduate students and early career researchers which includes The Midlands Graduate School and Doctoral Training Centres and Programmes. [Click to find out more \(/schools/business/courses/doc-res.aspx\)](#).

Related links

Birmingham Business School website: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/business \(/schools/business/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/business (/schools/business/index.aspx))

Fees and funding

Standard fees apply

Learn more about [fees and funding \(/postgraduate/dr-fees/tuition.aspx\)](#)

Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government.

The Business School and the University provide some scholarships and bursaries for postgraduate research students. For details of these, please contact the Business School's Research Office at [pgrbusiness@bham.ac.uk \(mailto:pgrbusiness@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:pgrbusiness@bham.ac.uk).

For further information contact the School directly or email [financialsupport@bham.ac.uk \(mailto:financialsupport@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:financialsupport@bham.ac.uk)

Entry requirements

A Masters degree in a relevant subject from a UK university, or an equivalent qualification from a recognised university overseas. In some situations we will accept a good Honours degree (first- or upper second-class) or equivalent. This will depend on the quality and/or originality of your research proposal.

An outline proposal for the research you wish to undertake. The outline proposal should be about three sides of A4 in length, preferably typed, describing the nature of the proposed study. The School attaches great importance to the quality of this outline research proposal, and in some cases you may be asked to rewrite the outline proposal so as to be eligible for the programme.

Learn more about [entry requirements \(/postgraduate/requirements-dr/step1.aspx\)](#)

International students

We accept a range of qualifications from different countries – learn more about [international entry requirements \(/postgraduate/requirements-dr/step1.aspx\)](#)

English requirement - IELTS 7 with no less than 6.5 in any band or equivalent.

How to apply

Learn more about [applying \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/dr/courses/apply\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/dr/courses/apply)

If you are interested in applying, please contact Marleen Vanstockem

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When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the [How to apply pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](#)

Apply now (<https://pga.bham.ac.uk/1pages/COS117.htm>)

Research interests of staff

Work and Employment:

- National policies and institutions, including employment policy, employment relations and varieties of capitalism approaches
- Firms' organisation of production and employment, including multinational enterprises
- Production and efficiency in firms and labour markets
- Societal outcomes of national and firm level systems from distributional, gender and age perspectives

- Approaches to training and skill formation
- Business ethics, sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility
- International division of labour within global value chains

Procurement and Operations Management:

- Project management
- Process design and improvement
- Contract and supplier relationship management
- Lean and agile supply
- Public-private partnerships
- Management of global value chains

Economic Development

- Comparative Urban and Regional Development
- 'Smart' Cities and Regions/Creative Cities and Regions
- Regional Knowledge and Innovation Policy
- Service industry employment and economic activity

Leadership

- Leadership in urban and regional development
- Territorial knowledge leadership

Strategy

- Entrepreneurial learning in different organisational and research contexts such as small firms, medium-to-large organisations, ethnic minority firms, high-tech firms, and family businesses;
- International and comparative research on entrepreneurship and innovation, especially in the context of UK-China comparison

Employability

If I gain a postgraduate research degree from Birmingham Business School, what are my career prospects?

The University of Birmingham has recently been ranked 9th in the UK, and 55th in the world, for post-qualification employability in a global survey of universities commissioned by the *International Herald Tribune*.

Birmingham's Business graduates are sought after by a wide range of financial, commercial and public sector employers. They can typically offer a wide range of skills including analytical & research, numeracy, communication, team working and political & commercial awareness.

For those entering employment after graduating, traditionally popular areas include banking, accountancy/professional services and financial services. Many of our programmes involve studying towards a professional qualification. Outside of these areas, options include teaching abroad and retail management. Many PhD graduates also go on to forge successful academic careers of their own in teaching and academic research.

What type of career assistance is available to doctoral researchers in Birmingham Business School?

The University of Birmingham has invested heavily in careers and employability support. The Careers Team have been praised for enhanced developments within their team and for adopting a model of integrated employability and internship support; something that has been rolled out and implemented across all Schools and Colleges at the University.

Doctoral researchers at Birmingham Business School will benefit from this additional investment; the school now has its own well qualified dedicated Careers Team to support students with employment opportunities, work placements, internships and how to succeed at interview. In addition, a range of career management, personal development and employer events are run each year by the Careers in Business Team to help you make the most of the opportunities available.

The University also has dedicated careers advisors for International students who run workshops and networking opportunities with potential employers. These are especially popular with International postgraduate researchers.

