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International Development PhD/MPhil

International Development Department (IDD) research students explore a wide variety of topics in international development and public management. We offer two types of research degree: MPhil and PhD. These research programmes offer the opportunity to pursue original research under the guidance of an academic supervisor within an active research environment. In addition, training in research methods is provided and a training plan is drawn up to suit each student.

Learn more about the **research interests of our staff (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=ResearchInterestsTab)** and how to contact them.

The School of Government and Society brings together academic staff, research fellows and doctoral researchers across the Social Sciences. The School is one of the leading UK and international centres for Politics, International Relations, International Development, Sociology and European Studies.

In the School of Government and Society we offer much more than a degree. As a student here, whether undergraduate or postgraduate, **you have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of events (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/teaching/enhancing-student-experience/index.aspx)**, with some or all of the costs paid for by the School.

Course details: **Details (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=CourseDetailsTab)** | **Fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=FeesAndFunding)** | **Entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)** | **How to apply (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply)** | **Academic staff research interests (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/research/govsoc/international-development.aspx?OpenSection=ResearchInterestsTab)**.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham has been 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

Duration: PhD – 3 years full-time; MPhil – 2 years full-time

Start date: September

Contact

Got a question? ***Find your answers here (http://bham.hobsons.co.uk/ask.aspx?cid=1223&did=24)***.

PGR Admissions Contact:
Tricia Carr
Tel: +44 (0) 121 414 3497
Email: **p.a.carr@bham.ac.uk (mailto:p.a.carr@bham.ac.uk)**

Admissions Tutor:
Martin Rew
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 4982
Email: **m.j.rew@bham.ac.uk (mailto:m.j.rew@bham.ac.uk)**

School of Government and Society (/schools/government-society/index.aspx)

International Development Department (IDD) (/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/index.aspx)

Details

IDD research students explore a wide variety of topics in international development and public management. We offer two types of research degree: MPhil and PhD.

Research areas

These include:

- Conflict and post conflict reconstruction
- Natural resource governance, management and livelihoods

- Anti-corruption and good governance
- Urban poverty and management
- Religion and development
- Participatory approaches
- Public sector management
- Decentralisation

Please see the list of staff interests below for more detailed information.

IDD is committed to encouraging new thinking in the fields of development and public management. Studying for a degree by research with IDD means being part of an active research and practitioner community that will support you in accomplishing your academic goals.

All students studying for a research degree pursue their own original research under the guidance of a supervisor and the support of another academic staff member as co-supervisor. This freedom is often attractive to people planning a career in academic or training institutions or who aim to work in policy planning units of public sector agencies.

An individual training plan is drawn up to meet the needs of each student, based on a training needs assessment, covering both discipline-specific and transferable skills. Any gaps in their own skills portfolio identified by students can be filled during their period of study through attending courses offered by the department or the University.

Each student is assigned their own space and computer.

Fees and funding

Standard fees (/postgraduate/dr-fees/tuition.aspx) apply.

For the most up-to-date information on fees, please contact the Department directly
Learn more about fees and funding.

Scholarships and studentships

International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government. Information on scholarships and bursaries can be found via **International Development Department (/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/index.aspx)** and **University scholarships (/International/students/finance/scholarships/index.aspx)** web pages.

For more information visit **studenthelp.bham.ac.uk (http://www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk/)** .

Entry requirements

MPhil: A good Honours degree in a relevant field, but the application may also be supported by appropriate work experience. Applicants for the MPhil degree should provide evidence of their research ability, for example, the mark received for an undergraduate dissertation.

PhD: Excellent undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Typically the latter will be a taught masters degree, including a dissertation. Normally candidates for the PhD programme will initially be offered a place on the MPhil programme and will be transferred to the PhD at the end of the first year, subject to a satisfactory review of progress.

Besides formal qualifications, a key factor determining whether the Department decides to accept a candidate for either degree is the quality of his or her research proposal and its relevance to our own interests. Successful completion of a research thesis demands a high level of self-discipline, motivation and commitment to the subject of research. Great importance is placed on work experience, when relevant. Please contact the Department for more details.

Learn more about **entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/dr/research/step1.aspx)** .

International students:

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

How to apply

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/lpages/COS090.htm)

Research interests of staff

Dr Philip Amis
(/staff/profiles/government-society/amis-philip.aspx) Email: **p.amis@bham.ac.uk (mailto:p.amis@bham.ac.uk)**

- Urbanisation
- Urban policy
- Poverty and housing

Dr Danielle Beswick
(/staff/profiles/government-society/beswick-danielle.aspx) Email: **d.beswick@bham.ac.uk (mailto:d.beswick@bham.ac.uk)**

- Identity, conflict and post-conflict reconstruction
- UK development policy
- Genocide

- Rwanda; the relationships between security and development

Dr Adrian Campbell
(/staff/profiles/government-society/campbell-adrian.aspx) Email: **a.campbell@bham.ac.uk (mailto:a.campbell@bham.ac.uk)**

- Public and local government reform, especially in transitional states

Dr Johnathan Fisher
(/staff/profiles/government-society/fisher-jonathan.aspx) Email: **j.fisher@bham.ac.uk (mailto:j.fisher@bham.ac.uk)**

- Donors and the international politics of aid
- Security and conflict in the developing world
- African foreign relations and diplomacy

He has a particular interest in supervising students with a regional interest in sub-Saharan Africa and, particularly in:

- Uganda, Rwanda, Congo and the Great Lakes region
- Somalia, South Sudan and the Horn of Africa

Dr Tom Hewitt
(/staff/profiles/government-society/hewitt-tom.aspx) Email: **t.hewitt@bham.ac.uk (mailto:m.e.v.hubbard@bham.ac.uk)**

- The state in development
- Industrial development in Brazil

Dr Michael Hubbard
Email: **m.e.v.hubbard@bham.ac.uk (mailto:m.e.v.hubbard@bham.ac.uk)**

- International aid management
- Agriculture policy reform

Dr Paul Jackson (/staff/profiles/government-society/jackson-paul.aspx)
Email: **p.b.jackson@bham.ac.uk (mailto:p.b.jackson@bham.ac.uk)**

- Conflict and post-conflict reconstruction
- Industrial development
- Information management and finance

Dr Robert Leurs
(/staff/profiles/government-society/leurs-robert.aspx) Email: **r.leurs@bham.ac.uk (mailto:r.leurs@bham.ac.uk)**

- Participatory development and new development professionalism
- process approaches to projects
- participatory poverty assessments and rural appraisal methodologies

Dr Heather Marquette
(/staff/profiles/government-society/marquette-heather.aspx) Email: **h.a.marquette@bham.ac.uk (mailto:h.a.marquette@bham.ac.uk)**

- Donor approaches to anti-corruption work
- The World Bank
- Political conditionality and foreign aid
- Good governance and political reform in Sub-Saharan Africa

Dr Fiona Nunan
(/staff/profiles/government-society/nunan-fiona.aspx) Email: **f.s.nunan@bham.ac.uk (mailto:f.s.nunan@bham.ac.uk)**

- Natural resource governance, management and livelihoods in developing countries
- Poverty and the environment
- Policy processes in Southern countries

Dr Martin Rew (/staff/profiles/government-society/rew-martin.aspx)
Email: **m.j.rew@bham.ac.uk (mailto:m.j.rew@bham.ac.uk)**

- Religion, society and development
- Gender, society, identity and development
- Social movements; India

Employability

What type of career assistance is available to doctoral researchers in this department?

The College of Social Sciences, to which the International Development Department belongs, has specially designated careers advisors and careers consultants who can provide guidance for doctoral researchers on career paths, CVs, training opportunities, application and interviews. The University's central Careers' Service also runs workshops and offers personally tailored advice and guidance including 1-1 careers advice, 1-1 CV advice. The Career's Service also runs CV writing workshops especially for postgraduates in the College of Social Sciences, giving advice on how to compile CVs for both employment and for academic roles.

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.

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