

Research Degrees

Postgraduate research is of high priority at the University of Worcester. We place great importance on research excellence which ensures that our research students are trained, supported and challenged to produce research of the highest standard.

Undertaking a research degree at Worcester, means you will become part of a thriving community of research students, based within the University's Graduate Research School.

At Worcester, we offer two categories of research degree: **PhD (Doctor of Philosophy)** and **MPhil (Master of Philosophy)**, both are available full-time or part-time.

Our research degrees require you to produce a substantial piece of written work known as the thesis (which varies in length depending on your subject area and the degree you are undertaking) and to defend your thesis at an oral examination (referred to as the viva). You are guided through this process by a team of supervisors who will have both subject expertise and knowledge and the experience of supporting research students to successful completion of their degree. You will also be provided with dedicated training at the beginning of the degree and as you progress to ensure that you develop both the research skills to complete your degree and the transferable skills to make you highly employable as you enter the job market.

A **PhD** normally requires 3 years of full-time or 5-6 years of part-time study. Your work must make an original contribution to knowledge in your field of study. You will be expected to show evidence of systematic study; and of independent, critical and original thinking; while your thesis should be worthy of publication in whole or part.

An **MPhil** normally requires 18 months to 2 years of full-time or 3-4 years of part-time study. Your MPhil should demonstrate your ability to undertake an appropriate research programme and to produce a critical analysis of existing knowledge in your field of study.

To find out more, get in touch with the Graduate Research School on 01905 855214 or email research@worc.ac.uk.

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