

CAREER ESSENTIALS

Exploring your
Postgraduate Study
Options

**CAREERS
SERVICE**



Housekeeping



**PLACE TO
MAKE NOTES**



**Q&A VIA
SLIDO**



**JOIN IN VIA
SLIDO**



RECORDING



**SLIDES &
RESOURCES**



FEEDBACK

What are your motivations for considering postgraduate study?





How do I know I'm motivated?

- Do I enjoy figuring out things independently?
- Are there particular skills I would like learn?
- Am I looking to learn about topics outside of what I studied as an undergraduate?
- What evidence do I have of my achievements so far?
- What do I want in the long-term? Is further study moving me in that direction?
- Am I unsure of my future plans?
- Does further study offer me a path of least resistance?

Types of Course

Taught Masters

- MPhil*, MSc, MA

Research Masters

- MPhil by Thesis, MRes

PhDs

- Doctorate, doctor of philosophy
- Centres for Doctoral Training (CDT), Doctoral Training Programme (DTP) and other structured programmes

Other

- Professional & Vocational training courses
- Postgraduate Certificates & Diplomas

Taught Masters



A series of taught modules plus independent study



Most will lead to a thesis, dissertation or project



Acquire advanced subject knowledge



Support progression to a specific career



Facilitate entry to PhDs and academic careers

Research Masters



Independent research degree specific to a subject or subfield



1-2 years full-time in the UK, varies in other countries



Includes substantial written presentation of work, which may or may not be publishable



Can be standalone or a stepping stone to a PhD

PhD



Highest level of academic qualification



Independently-led research degree, highly subject specific



3-4 years full-time in the UK, varies in other countries



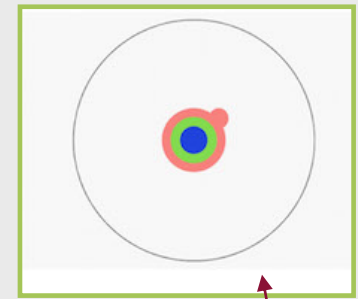
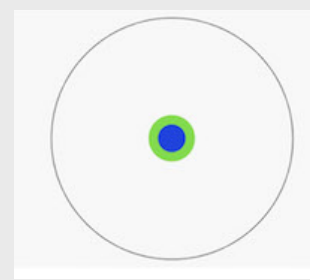
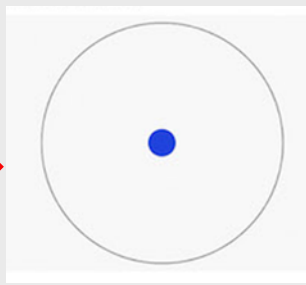
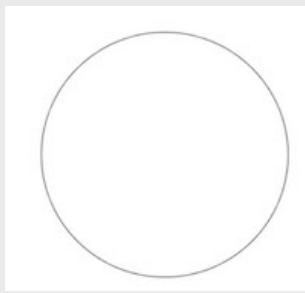
Culminates in a thesis or dissertation, which may or may not include published journal articles or books



Essential for pursuing a permanent academic research career (eg, lectureship, professor)

**CAREERS
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FURTHER STUDY
an illustration

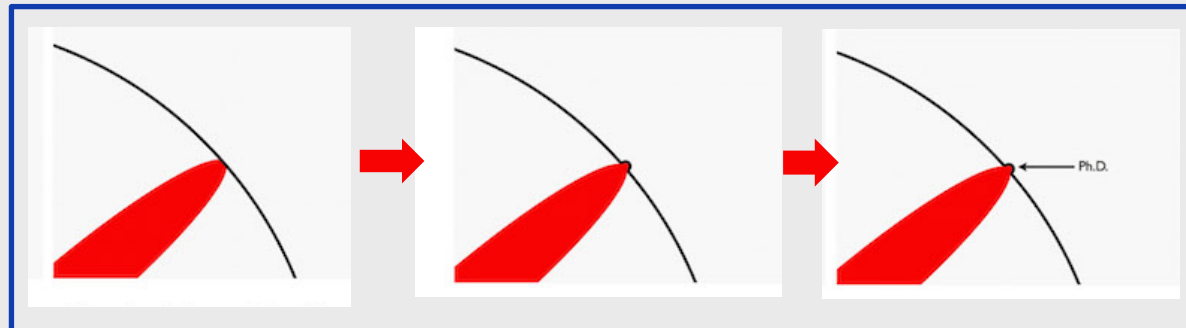
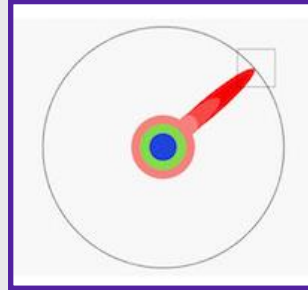
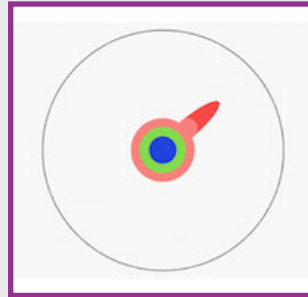


You are here

Taught
Masters

Research
Masters

PhDs



Other Postgraduate Courses

Vocational Training

Teaching

Law

Healthcare,
Counselling &
Psychology

Social Work

Shorter Courses

PG Dip

PG Cert

Professional Courses

MBA

Professional
body
qualifications

Postgraduate
apprenticeships

What factors might influence your choice of postgraduate course?



Factors to Consider



Course content



Reputation of the university/ department/supervisor



Destinations of alumni of the programme



Employer and industry links



Placements and/or work opportunities



Time investment



Fees and funding



Support outside of academics



Other priorities (ie, location, personal situation)

Funding for Postgraduate Study



Funding for Postgraduate Study

Grants, Scholarships & Studentships

- From institutions, departments and funding bodies
- Applications & automatic consideration

Loans

- Available for Masters and PhD Study
- Funding levels vary by UK nation

Other Sources

- A mix-and-match approach of the above
- Charities & trusts, crowd funding, employer sponsorship

Self Funded

- Private savings
- Personal loans and credit

International Funding

- Check very carefully as may have nationality requirements
- Individual country guides on findamasters.com

Is it worth the investment?



The million-dollar question!

- How will it help you achieve your personal goals?
- How does it support you in achieving your long-term career ambitions?
- To what extent might you get a return on your investment?
- What else might you take from the experience?

Further Resources

GENERAL:


- <https://www.careers.cam.ac.uk/further-study>
- <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study>
- <https://www.findamasters.com/advice/>
- <https://www.findaphd.com/advice/>
- <https://career-advice.jobs.ac.uk/studentship-advice/phd/>

FUNDING:

- <https://www.findamasters.com/funding/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/funding-for-postgraduate-study/overview>
- <https://www.postgraduatesearch.com/funding>
- <https://www.postgraduate-funding.com/gateway>

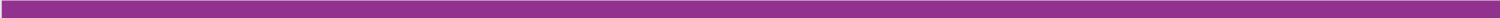
Where are you now?

Types of Courses




Less Clear Same More Clear

Factors to Consider



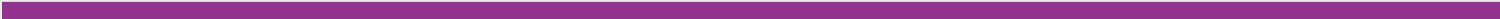
Less Clear Same More Clear

Funding



Less Clear Same More Clear

Finding Information



Less Clear Same More Clear

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THANK YOU