



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



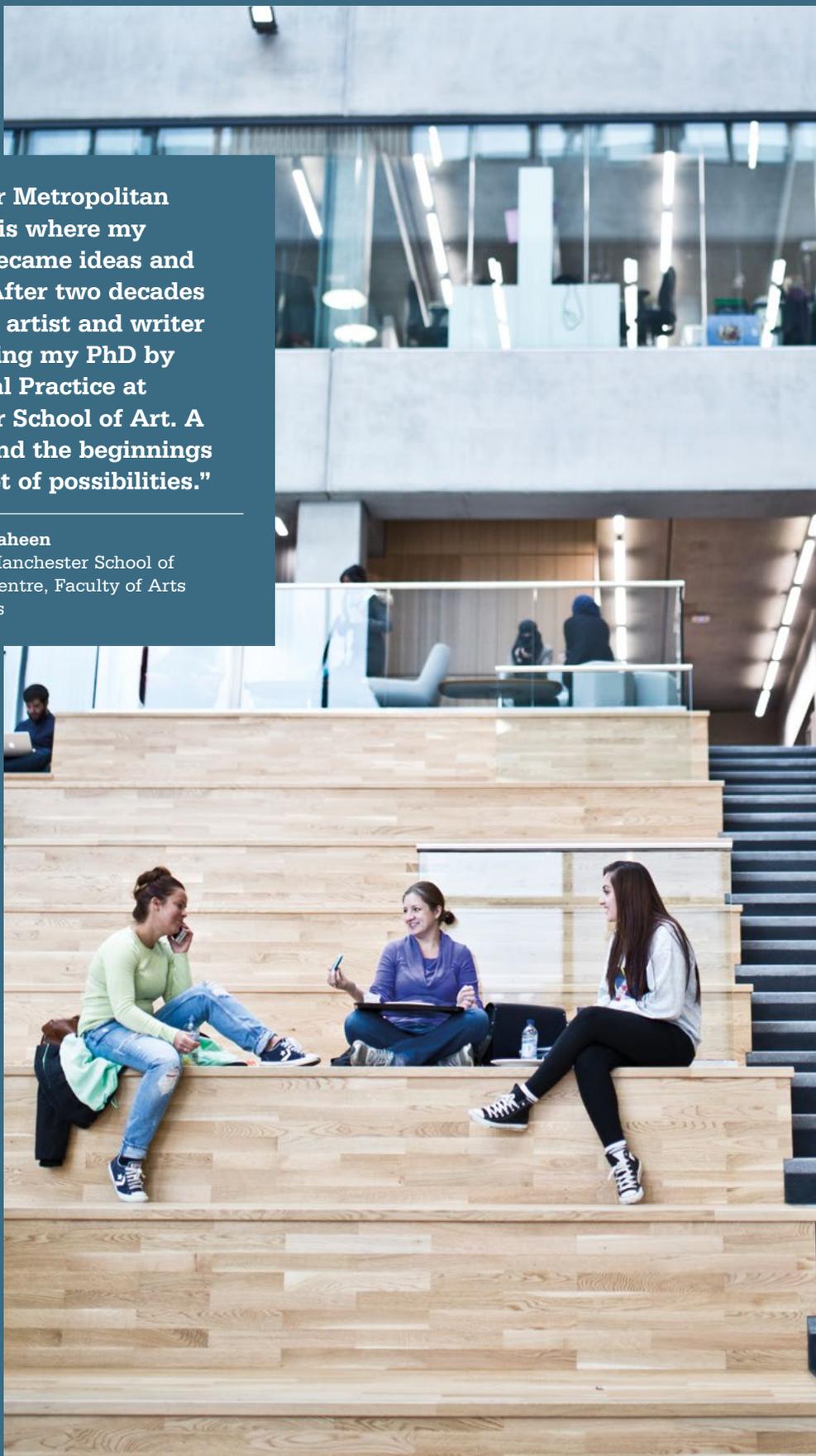
POSTGRADUATE
RESEARCH (PGR)
STUDY

2020-2021

“Manchester Metropolitan University is where my thoughts became ideas and concepts. After two decades of being an artist and writer I am pursuing my PhD by Professional Practice at Manchester School of Art. A full cycle and the beginnings of a new set of possibilities.”

Oasim Riza Shaheen

PhD student, Manchester School of Art Research Centre, Faculty of Arts and Humanities



SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

Welcome to Manchester Metropolitan University

Manchester Metropolitan is an ambitious university that is seeing impressive growth in the value of the research awards it receives and the quality of the research outputs it produces.

This growth has been driven by our University Centres for Research and Knowledge Exchange, and the exciting research culture created by the staff and research students they contain.

Our centres provide research students with a stimulating, supportive and dynamic environment that promotes excellence and encourages collaboration. They use pioneering approaches and facilities to explore innovative ideas that will ultimately have a positive impact on society, culture, the economy and the environment.

Manchester Metropolitan is setting its sights high and supports ambitious postgraduate students to achieve their goals as part of our thriving research community.

We look forward to you joining us at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Professor Richard Greene
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research
and Knowledge Exchange

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GET READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD

Postgraduate research at Manchester Metropolitan University

There are many different reasons why you might choose to undertake postgraduate research. Whether you are looking for an exciting new career route in industry or academia, or are already in employment and looking to pursue new avenues and adventures in a specialist field, our postgraduate programmes can help you to take a significant step towards your future career goals.

WHY MANCHESTER MET?

Choosing to undertake a postgraduate research degree is a big decision. In today's global society, the world really is your oyster. Why would you choose to undertake your research degree at Manchester Met?

We are a forward-thinking and ambitious university. Innovative academics and a dedicated, engaged research community drive our research. We challenge conventional notions of what the PhD is and can be. We are proud of our postgraduate researcher (PGR) community as a 'community of practice'.

You'll be joining a group of people who not only share a passion for postgraduate research, but who work together/ collaborate/co-produce to ensure that the project can be as grounded, well-designed and impactful as it can possibly be.

INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

We have invested heavily in creating a campus that inspires our researchers, with modern facilities and an environmentally conscious approach. We are undertaking an ambitious redevelopment and improvement of our campus, with a £400m investment project that will enhance our teaching and research facilities, and provide support and infrastructure you need to start your research career.

"As an international postgraduate research student, my main priorities were the subject of my course and the quality of supervision. From the first email I got from my potential supervisors I knew that my thesis was second to none for them, which encouraged me to carry on with my application at that time."

Dounia Hachelef

PhD student, Centre for Creative Writing,
English Literature and Linguistics,
Faculty of Arts and Humanities



85% OF RESEARCH

has 'world-leading' and 'internationally excellent' impact*



£87M

in Research and Knowledge Exchange applications



TOP 10

for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships**



15% INCREASE IN RESEARCH INCOME

following REF 2014



£23M

in Research and Knowledge Exchange Awards



47% OF PUBLICATIONS

internationally co-authored



GLOBAL LINKS

Industry links with global companies including Nike, Hilton, DHL, and Dentsu Aegis Network



* REF 2014

** Innovate UK, 2018.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

“I chose Manchester School of Art because it is the best in the North West!”

Janett Adler

PhD student, Manchester School of Art Research Centre, Faculty of Arts and Humanities

“I’ve found the University to be particularly supportive of studying as a mature student with a family. They held a free family fun day to show your children where you study, which my son loved! I think this shows how Manchester Met has a very inclusive ethos.”

Ruthie Boycott-Garnett

PhD student, Education and Social Research Institute, Faculty of Education

“I chose to study at Manchester Met because of its world-class facilities and internationally recognised Education and Social Research Institute. I am fully supported by my Director of Studies as well as two additional Supervisors, and have found the university to have a thriving research community which I am very fortunate to be part of.”

Kamal Uddin Khan

Education and Social Research Institute, Faculty of Education





“Undertaking a part-time PhD whilst being employed as a graduate teaching assistant has enabled me to develop a diverse skill set. I have been partnered with staff on research projects in schools and am now able to lead others. I have also had the opportunity to teach on courses such as EdLab and PGCE programmes. I can’t speak highly enough of the academic and support staff.”

Carrie Birkett

PhD student, Education and Social Research Institute, Faculty of Education

“The best thing about being a PGR student at Manchester Met are the opportunities available to students and their development. Whether conferences, competitions (like the Three Minute Thesis®), or the chance to teach undergraduate students, I’ve been able to develop employability skills aside from doing a PhD.”

Matthew Hutchinson

PhD student, Future Economies, Faculty of Business and Law

“Manchester Met provides great development opportunities for researchers like myself. Competitions such as the Three Minute Thesis® have helped me to develop my communication skills, as well as define my research and the direction it’s taking ahead of writing my thesis. It was difficult to explain three years’ worth of work in three minutes, especially to an audience who may not have a scientific background, but it was really valuable getting involved.”

Nicola Edwards

PhD student, Centre for Bioscience, Faculty of Science and Engineering



FACULTY: ARTS AND HUMANITIES

The Postgraduate Arts and Humanities Centre (PAHC) is home to a creative and dynamic community of over 300 postgraduate research students. We believe that a PhD is more than just a project. Students come together in a 'community of practice' to share their experiences to enhance each other's work.

We provide a supportive and nurturing environment to aid our mission to do and act in the world in ways relevant to society and its cultures through academically rigorous and ethical research.

We support you to succeed. As well as producing an original piece of research, our aim is that you will emerge from the PhD experience as a well-rounded and collegiate researcher – somebody who is confident, creative and who can make a genuine difference to their field of research.

You will have the opportunity to work alongside world-leading researchers, developing your skills through bespoke research and networking events for Arts and Humanities researchers.

Our research expertise areas include:

- **Creative Writing:** poetry, gothic, place, linguistics.
- **Sociology and Criminology:** policy evaluation, youth, quantitative methods, substance use, big data, space and place, music and sonic studies.
- **History:** public history, heritage, religion, war, youth.
- **Art:** architecture, crafts, design, media, visual culture.





6th for the power of research in Art and Design*



Top 20 for research in Creative Writing**



80% of the research environment in English Language and Literature is rated world-leading and internationally excellent†



100% of the impact of our research in Sociology, Education, English, History and Health is rated world-leading and internationally excellent†

“The library is a treasure trove of art resources of all kinds: catalogues, books, journals and even exhibitions. The staff are knowledgeable, friendly and do all they can to help you. There’s always something interesting going on in this vibrant and welcoming place.”

Caroline Kaye

PhD student, Manchester School of Art Research Centre, Faculty of Arts and Humanities

* Times Higher Education, REF 2014 power rankings.

** Complete University Guide 2020

† REF 2014.

FACULTY: BUSINESS AND LAW

The Faculty of Business and Law's postgraduate research community is set within a culture of rich and impactful research, underpinned by a structured skills development and training programme. We are proud of our diverse and evolving PGR environment and the world-leading research we produce. Our faculty is home to two University Centres for Research and Knowledge Exchange – Future Economies and Decent Work and Productivity.

Our researchers engage with organisations and policy-makers, enabling real-world changes and meaningful impact, focusing on:

- Integrating PGRs into research activities and events
- Building skills, citizenship and employability through collaboration
- Integrating our established and future relationships with elite business leaders and policy makers.

Postgraduate researchers will undertake a structured training programme, developing research skills and employability. Programme units include Critical Literature Review; Quantitative Methods; Qualitative Methods; and Principles of Research Design and Philosophy of Knowledge.

You will also receive additional training and development opportunities through our faculty's Doctoral Research Training Programme.

The programme supports the success of research projects through bespoke workshops and training sessions on vital skills such as publishing and impact awareness.

You'll be supported in the successful completion of your degree, improving future employability in a range of careers from academia to policy making and in industry.

Our research expertise areas include:

- Sports Policy and Law
- Cryptocurrencies
- Behavioural Economics
- Brexit
- The Changing Nature of Work
- Workplace Wellbeing
- Generating Decent and Productive work in small enterprises



Delivered Knowledge
Transfer Partnerships
valued at £1million.

“The best thing is the support that you get from your tutors and the interesting and diverse research that is carried out. I couldn’t be more grateful for the support that I have had to follow my dream and the research focus of my choice.”

Sarah-Jane Lennie

Research Associate and PhD student,
Centre for Decent Work and
Productivity, Faculty of Business
and Law

“Manchester Met offers excellent opportunities to PGR students. For example teaching, organising and running the annual PGR conference, participating in international PhD competitions and support to disseminate my research at international events and conferences.”

Dr. Ella Cranmer

Department of Operations,
Technology, Hospitality and Events
Management, Faculty of Business
and Law

FACULTY: EDUCATION

Manchester Met's Faculty of Education has a dedicated University Centre for Research and Knowledge Exchange that accommodates research staff and acts as a base for all postgraduate research students.

The Education and Social Research Institute (ESRI) is one of the leading UK centres for applied educational research. The Institute prioritises research training and support for new researchers and you will join a thriving research community.

There are dedicated rooms for you to use with IT facilities and a Biosocial Research Lab that works to generate multi-sensory engagements with learning and behaviour. You will receive expert support from our team of leading academics.

You can choose different pathways to study that include PhD (full-time or part-time) and part-time Doctor of Education (EdD) programmes. ESRI is part of the White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership, which involves a number of collaborative doctoral awards funded through the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Our research expertise areas include:

- Teacher Education
- Children and Childhood
- Literacy and Language
- Mathematics Education
- Science, Technology and Learning
- Youth and Community
- Education and Global Futures





Top 20 for Education
research*



67% of our research and
100% of our research impact
rated 'internationally
excellent' or 'world leading'**

**“Manchester Met’s
Education and Social
Research Institute has
made it possible to
undertake an exciting
collaboration with
Manchester Art Gallery.
It’s a real opportunity to
get involved in a project
that meshes together
research with real-time,
practical methods that can
make an immediate impact
on people’s lives.”**

Ruthie Boycott-Garnett
PhD student, Education and
Social Research Institute,
Faculty of Education

* Complete University Guide 2020
** REF 2014

FACULTY: HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL CARE

The Faculty of Health Psychology and Social Care offers postgraduate researchers a thriving intellectual community built around our Health Psychology and Communities Research Centre.

We are a renowned centre with leading experts to support your research in enhancing the health and wellbeing of people, communities and health, and social care professionals promoting human rights through innovative, applied and participatory research. We pride ourselves on our excellent IT facilities, laboratories and specialist research equipment.

We offer PhD, MPhil and Professional Doctorates with different pathways to reflect your academic and professional background, on a full or part-time basis.

You will be supported through tailored personal and professional development training to undertake your research and develop your career aspirations. There are regular seminars and events bringing researchers from different academic disciplines together.

Our research expertise areas:

- Applied Psychology and Behaviour Change
- Communication Disability
- Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation
- Thriving Communities
- Ageing and Long-Term Conditions





100% of the impact of our research in Health, Sociology, Education, English and History is rated world-leading and internationally excellent*



We are the top 'new' university for the power of research in Allied Health and 12th out of 94 for UK universities overall.**

“I was drawn to study here because of my interest in the specific PhD research topic, as well as the wider collaborative Place Age research that Manchester Met is involved in.”

Alison Tingle

PhD student, Health, Psychology and Communities, Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care

* REF 2014

** Times Higher Education REF2014 Power Rankings

FACULTY: SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

The Faculty of Science and Engineering provides a research-active environment that supports innovative, multidisciplinary research. Our postgraduate researchers form a thriving research community across five departments and five University Centres for Research and Knowledge Exchange.

Our faculty's strengths include strong links to the NHS, hospitals and clinicians as well as collaborative opportunities within industry and match-funded projects. Our newest department of Sports and Exercise Science is one example of the interdisciplinary approach taken at the University, and our Industry 4.0 engagement is a further demonstration of strong cross-centre collaboration.

Our centres are investing in state-of-the-art equipment and we are proud of the quality of our research outputs – our researchers are regularly publishing in top journals. You will be joining a supportive and dynamic community where researchers have opportunities to develop and work with mentors, as well as regular seminar series and research events. You will also have the opportunity to participate in annual events including the PGR symposium led by and celebrating the work of our researchers, as well as social events such as the Summer Garden Party.

Our research expertise areas include:

- Musculoskeletal Science
- Microbiology
- Advanced Materials and Surface Engineering
- Vascular Science
- Computational Intelligence and Big Data
- Conservation Biology and Complex Systems



Top 20 for research in
Medical Technology*

**“Manchester Met has
an innovative research
environment, high
global impact and
diverse communities.”**

Mohammad Darabseh

PhD student, Musculoskeletal Science
and Sport Medicine, Faculty of
Science and Engineering

* Complete University Guide 2020

SUPPORTING YOUR RESEARCH

At Manchester Met, we are committed to supporting your personal, professional and career development. Study with us and you will have access to a wide range of opportunities to help you build the skills, knowledge and experience essential for succeeding both as a researcher and in a wide variety of careers.

DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS

Joining the Manchester Met postgraduate research community means you become a member of the Graduate School. The Graduate School offers a comprehensive programme of face-to-face development workshops and online resources. The training and development programme is tailored to the needs of the researcher, continually evolving to ensure our research community has the support to excel not only within their specific projects, but throughout their careers.

Workshops and courses range from general managing your supervisor, writing development skills and research methods, to podcasting for researchers, self-marketing and using LEGO® in your oral examination.

PLANNING YOUR CAREER

Doing a research degree can open many doors. We offer a range of bespoke careers activities for PGRs, from CV workshops to appointments with professional careers advisors. Access our online careers centre, which provides over 5,000 career and professional development resources including interactive assessments and tests, an interview simulator, e-learning courses, industry reports and an A-Z of careers advice.

“Attending seminars, conferences and special lectures both within Manchester Met and externally has given me insights into a wide range of educational issues.”

Carrie Birkett

PhD student, Education and Social Research Institute, Faculty of Education



“Manchester Met is rooted in the culture and community of Manchester. I think it’s vital for academics to engage in research that has a real impact on real people, and studying here has given me opportunities to do this even early in my research career.”

John Lean

PhD student, Education and Social
Research Institute, Faculty of Education

SUPPORTING YOUR RESEARCH

COMMUNICATING YOUR RESEARCH

There are many ways in which you can shout about your research within the University and beyond, and hone your research communication skills.



Images of Research

Images of Research invites early career and postgraduate researchers to tell a story about their research in a single photograph and accompanying abstract.



Three Minute Thesis (3MT®)

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition challenges doctoral students to describe their research to a non-specialist audience in just three minutes, using only one slide and no other resources or props.



The Brilliant Club

We work with The Brilliant Club, a charity that employs doctoral researchers on a part-time basis to deliver programmes of academic enrichment to small groups of school pupils.



Research Blog

Our research blog gives you the chance to write about your research and offer advice and tips to other PGRs.



PGR Conference

Get involved with our annual PGR conference, designed and run by our own PGR students and fully supported by the Graduate School.



“I believe Manchester Met to be leading in developing inclusive and creative research methods. This has wide-ranging impact for me as it’s really opened up the possibilities for how I will conduct my research and understanding the impact it can have. There’s a lot of encouragement to work collaboratively and share research and learning.”

Ruthie Boycott-Garnett

PhD student, Education and Social Research Institute, Faculty of Education

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Our International Office visit countries across the world to talk to prospective postgraduate researchers about the University and life in Manchester. We provide advice and support on accommodation, finance, immigration and welfare. We provide international students the opportunity to further develop their confidence and language skills by offering pre-sessional English courses through the University’s Language Centre. We also host virtual events and conversations, visit mmu.ac.uk/international for more info.

For information on the free English language workshops, visit mmu.ac.uk/languagecentre.

OTHER SUPPORT

The Library Team can support you with many aspects of your research. Open 24 hours, 7 days a week during term time, you can continue your research at times convenient to you. Visit libguides.mmu.ac.uk/usresearch for information about resources and workshops available.

Our confidential Counselling Service run workshops on relaxation, stress management and confidence building, as well as the opportunity to talk to a professionally trained counsellor.

Visit mmu.ac.uk/counselling for more info about the Counselling, Health and Wellbeing Service.

HOW TO APPLY

Undertaking a research degree takes time and perseverance. Finding a tailored programme that pairs your interests with supervisory excellence requires a lot of work, commitment and organisation. You are developing a working relationship that will last years, so both you and your potential Supervisor will want to make sure that you have the same goals in mind.

1

CHOOSE YOUR PROGRAMME

Choose your programme using our Research Degree Finder. We offer PhDs, Professional Doctorates and Research Masters. You can submit your own proposal or apply to join a project.

mmu.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/

2

FIND A SUPERVISOR

Now that you've identified your project, identify which academic(s) would best align to your project and has the necessary expertise to support it. If you are applying for an advertised project, the Supervisor's name will be on the project information. It is a good idea to get to know your Supervisor's published works and research interests in advance of sending in your proposal.



More information about funding and funded projects is available at mmu.ac.uk/research/research-study/scholarships/

3

YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Take the time to write your formal research proposal. You should include within it the faculty's specific requirements while demonstrating that you have a solid understanding of the proposed project and have thought about how you will deliver its outcomes.

4

CHECK FEES, FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Completing a postgraduate research degree is a big commitment, both financially and otherwise. It is advisable to familiarise yourself with what support and funding options are available. Information is available at

mmu.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/fees/

FIND OUT MORE

For more information on starting your research journey with us, please contact us for an informal discussion.

FACULTIES

Arts and Humanities	pahcresearchdegrees@mmu.ac.uk
Business and Law	GSBL@mmu.ac.uk
Education	researchdegreeseducation@mmu.ac.uk
Health, Psychology and Social Care	HPSCresearchdegrees@mmu.ac.uk
Science and Engineering	sciengresearchdegrees@mmu.ac.uk

GENERAL

General enquiries	research.students@mmu.ac.uk
Postgraduate Open Days	openday@mmu.ac.uk
International Office	international@mmu.ac.uk

For more information about our University Centres for Research and Knowledge Exchange, visit mmu.ac.uk/research

For general information around undertaking a research degree with us visit mmu.ac.uk/research/research-study



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[manmetpgr](https://www.facebook.com/manmetpgr)

Blogsite: manmetpgr.co.uk