UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Research Student Offer

To deliver a high-quality experience that develops students' ability to deliver transformative research, the University aims to provide you with the expertise, training, research environment, support and resources to ensure a timely and successful MPhil or Doctoral completion, and employability skills for life after.

What does the University of Wolverhampton offer you?

Supervision

- A designated supervisory team of at least two supervisors with the appropriate subject and research expertise and the necessary skills and experience to monitor and support your work.
- Regular and documented supervision sessions and feedback on your work.
- Research skills needs analysis and advice.

Resources

- Access to exclusive researcher rooms, some with 24/7 access during term-time.
- Enhanced borrowing access to the libraries, including access to thousands of online journals.
- Access to storage space, laboratory and studio space (where relevant).
- An annual printing and photocopying allowance.
- A University IT account and email.
- Free suite of MS 365 applications to add to up to 5 personal devices.
- AppsAnywhere on your own laptops and on-campus PCs.
- Specialist resources (equipment, facilities, software, materials).

Research Culture

- A range of specialist seminars and opportunities to present your research.
- Access to our Careers Service, as well as provision for work placements.
- Invitations to present ongoing work at the annual Beyond Futures: Festival of Research & Innovation.
- Opportunities to apply for funding to support conference attendance and creative project development.

Community

- Membership of the Student Union.
- PGR Society.
- Social events.
- Membership of a research centre, and an individual university web profile.

Progression

- Welcome and induction events to give you the best start.
- A comprehensive set of research degree regulations and a suite of research policies, procedures and guidelines.
- Your progress will be **reviewed** throughout the research degree programme by the supervisory team as part of the regular supervisory meetings, and by the Researcher Development & Doctoral Studies Board, to provide encouragement and support.
- Your progress will be **assessed** throughout the research degree programme by independent assessors at scheduled assessment points:
    a) Annual progress review (APR)
    b) The Progression stage
- **Fast-tracking opportunities**: we allow for early submission where the research student and supervisors feel that the work is ready for examination. There is no minimum period of supervised study. No supervision fees are payable after submission.
- **Write-up fees**: students may apply for 'Write Up' status with a reduced fee once all empirical research has been completed and they are finalising draft chapters. This would normally be in their final year of their maximum registration period. This fee is £1000 for the year, pro-rata.

Responsibilities

- **Research Student Charter:** clearly defined student and supervisor responsibilities.
- **Student Voice**: the university actively seeks feedback on your experiences, including participation in the national Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES), and provides opportunities to participate in the co-development of programme improvements.
- Access to Postgraduate Research Tutors and Skills Tutors, who will help monitor progress and provide independent pastoral support.

Research Skills

- An all-year-round programme of bespoke research development training, covering all aspects of the Doctoral process (from Literature Reviews to Viva Voce preparations), presentational and networking skills, career skills (from CVs to interviews), online profile development and social media use.
- Online and face to face skills development and training sessions.
- Access to a comprehensive suite of ethics guidance www.wlv.ac.uk/ethics.

Professional Development

- Opportunities to undertake teaching and demonstrating activities, subject to availability.
- Opportunities to volunteer as Student Ambassadors and participate in university events and outreach activities.
- Development of professional networks.

Support

- Academic skills support from the Library.
- Attendance and leave entitlements including Parental leave.
- English language support.
- **Student Life**
    - Access to specialist adaptive or assistive software such as text to speech screen readers; magnification tools; visualisation and mind mapping tools; digital colour overlays.

- Our Mental Health and Wellbeing team can help you access support for various personal challenges; offering free and confidential advice covering a range of topics, including anxiety, confidence building, depression, homesickness and dealing with suicidal thoughts.
- Support to Study, which provides a pathway for referral when concerns are raised about a student, offering a holistic and supportive framework.
- Supporting you in the event of financial hardship.

Student Services

- Access to the @ASK service that manages and resolves any queries you have.
- Benefit from a dedicated team who support our doctoral students throughout their journey.

Chaplaincy

- Supports the spiritual, cultural and pastoral needs of students through in-person or online one-to-one sessions.
- Host regular events to build understanding between communities and develop friendships.
- Run the Global Lunch which offers free hot vegetarian meals.
- Special themed events for you to get involved with.

Careers and Employability

- Available to help you navigate your career journey.
- On hand to help you investigate your careers options, sort out your career plans, and develop the important skills you need to make these plans happen.
- Practical support given at all stages of your job application through one-to-one appointments.
- Will help to place you into part-time employment, work experience or realise international opportunities.