Top 50
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 20th in the 2021 QS World University Rankings.

19th
We’re ranked 19th in the world’s most international universities. Since 2010, we have taught students from 160 countries.

4th
We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.

Top 100
We’re ranked in the top 10 in the UK and in the top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates.

7th
Edinburgh is ranked the seventh best student city in Europe and 15th in the world.

19
There are 19 Nobel Prize winners who are alumni of the University or who have been members of academic staff here.

Online leader
Edinburgh is one of the largest providers of online postgraduate programmes in the UK.

‡ Times Higher Education, The World’s Most International Universities 2020
† Times Higher Education, Overall Ranking of Institutions
§ Times Higher Education, Global Employability University Ranking 2019
* QS Best Student Cities 2019
Open to the world
We’re open to the world today so we can influence the world tomorrow. The University brings people with new ideas and perspectives together in a spirit of interdisciplinary innovation and collaboration. This has already shaped the world in so many ways, from the great thinkers of the Scottish Enlightenment, to the discovery of the Higgs boson particle and the development of a genetically engineered vaccine for Hepatitis B. Our 21 Schools, across three academic Colleges, embody our approach.
About the School of Health in Social Science

The School of Health in Social Science is a leading provider of postgraduate education in health, health policy and related fields.

We offer taught degrees and research opportunities in nursing studies, clinical psychology, counselling and psychotherapy. We also offer study in interdisciplinary social sciences in health, where social scientists are collaborating across specialisms to pursue innovative new approaches to healthcare research.

In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 we entered three units of assessment, achieving excellent results. In psychology, psychiatry and neuroscience 87 per cent of our research was rated 4* world leading or 3* internationally excellent on the overall quality profile. In earth systems and environmental science 78 per cent of our research was rated world leading or internationally excellent, and in social work and social policy 81 per cent of our research met this level. In all three units we were ranked in the UK top 5 for research power (Research Fortnight REF 2014). Our varied postgraduate offering includes a wide range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses. Learning and teaching includes face-to-face and online methods, with many courses including Socratic modes of discussion and critique to promote deep exploration of topics.

Our research impacts on international and national policy, such as the National Dementia Strategy and the Scottish Tobacco Control Strategy, and our many national and international partnerships and collaborations allow us to regularly welcome renowned practitioners and researchers from across the world. Our research awards include funding from the European Union, the Medical Research Council, the Economic and Social Research Council, and the National Health Service in England and Scotland. Our research centres provide a critical mass of academic, clinical and applied social sciences in health, where social scientists are collaborating across specialisms to pursue innovative new approaches to healthcare research.

We strive to balance our professional strengths and identities with the interdisciplinary. We seek to provide an environment of work and learning in which all students and all staff thrive – providing a wide range of seminars and lectures by our own staff and visiting academics.

Clinical psychology

Our taught degrees and research focus on the development and understanding of, and intervention for, psychological difficulties across the lifespan. We provide professional training such as the Doctorate of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsychol), the MSc Applied Psychology for Children and Young People, and MSc/PgDip Psychological Therapies. We also provide MSc Mental Health in Children and Young People: Psychological Approaches, both on-campus and online. Finally, our MSc Psychology of Mental Health (Conversion) is a British Psychological Society (BPS) accredited conversion programme, allowing holders of any degree to gain the graduate basis for chartership with the BPS, just as if they had done an undergraduate psychology degree. We have a strong ethos of research-based teaching and more than 10 years experience delivering digital education. We also offer CPD courses for graduates and professionals in health and mental health-related services.

Counselling, psychotherapy and applied social sciences

We provide a comprehensive range of taught degrees and research in counselling and psychotherapy, including the Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling Studies and the Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling. We offer MSc and research degrees, as well as short CPD courses for counsellors and other professionals. Our taught counselling and psychotherapy degrees are based on a unique dialogue between contemporary, person-centred approaches and psychodynamic perspectives; specifically, object-relations theory. You will be taught by experienced practitioners, many of whom have published in the field. Our teaching is founded on the belief that effective learning is not just cognitive, but encompasses emotional, intellectual, and visceral or embodied aspects.

We develop competent, reflexive practitioner researchers who are capable of improving the wellbeing of communities and contributing to our knowledge and understanding of counselling and related helping professions.

We also bring together social scientists from disciplines including sociology, geography, social policy and healthcare studies, to collaborate across research fields in health policy and practice. We collaborate within our School, with other schools across the University and with experts in the field nationally and internationally.

Nursing studies

Nursing studies at the University of Edinburgh has consistently ranked at the top of the league tables for more than 10 years, including in the Guardian University Guide and UK Good University Guide.

Our postgraduates are highly regarded throughout the world. We have a vision of strengthening nurse education to meet clinical need, building nurse research capacity and capability to deliver evidence-based care, and working with nurses to develop them as future nurse leaders both in the UK and internationally.

We offer taught postgraduate degrees and research that may be taken on a full-time or part-time basis. Our innovative MSc Advanced Nursing is aimed at nurses looking to advance into senior clinical, educational and teaching roles. We offer CPD that can be studied as stand-alone courses to support you in your career, or to accrue credit towards postgraduate qualifications.
Our community

The School’s ethos of interdisciplinary co-working, under the broad rubric of health, affords excellent opportunities for students undertaking taught degrees or research.

Postgraduate students in our School are welcomed into a dynamic and thriving community engaged in a range of activities. Seminars, workshops and other events take place both within subject groups and across the whole School, and are open to all students.

All our postgraduates can draw on the expertise, knowledge base and research traditions of a broad range of health-related disciplines, brought together in one School.

Our research will often involve collaboration with colleagues in other social science disciplines, not only across the University but across the world. The Clinical Psychology section is an expanding part of the School, where staff and students work closely together on topics that cover the whole of the life span. Nursing Studies is a long-established and world-leading centre of excellence for nursing, healthcare and health-related policy and practice. The Counselling, Psychotherapy and Applied Social Sciences section is at the forefront of the development of counselling as a professional activity and has a substantive programme of social scientific research of international standing. Our interdisciplinary intent means that we draw together social scientists with a shared focus on the overlapping concerns of research, policy and practice in health and social care. Overall, the School offers entry into an international community of researchers and teachers at the cutting edge of healthcare and its constituent professions.

New postgraduate research students join a lively and supportive community of peers, offering both student-led and staff-led activities. With their own seminar series, workshops, annual conference and summer event, as well as a social programme, our research students find themselves well-placed to develop their potential and their skills in a congenial atmosphere and alongside other leading researchers of the future.
Employability and graduate attributes

Institute for Academic Development
All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online: www.ed.ac.uk/iad/postgraduates

For taught postgraduates, the IAD provides a popular study-related and transferable skills support programme. It is designed to help you settle into postgraduate life, succeed during your studies and move confidently to the next stage of your career. It offers on-campus and online workshops and one-to-one study skills consultations, as well as online advice and learning resources in the Study Hub (www.ed.ac.uk/iad/studyhub). The programme and learning resources cover key study skills tailored to different academic stages, including prearrival sessions; getting started with your studies; critical reading, writing and thinking; managing your exams; and planning for and writing up your dissertation.

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferable-skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The programme consists of workshops that are designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from getting started with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva, as well as developing personal and professional skills that can be transferred to your future employment. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get your research started, as well as support for tutoring and demonstrating, and public engagement and communication.

Careers Service
Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from Employ.ed internships to graduate posts and from careers fairs to postgraduate alumni events, we will help you prepare for the future.

We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world’s top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh. Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad

Open to new ideas
If you consider yourself something of an entrepreneur, you’ll be interested to know that Edinburgh is an entrepreneurial city, home to two of the UK’s $1 billion-valued unicorn companies. We boast one of the most entrepreneurial student bodies in the UK and have helped students launch nearly 100 startups in the last two years. One in five of those startups was a social enterprise. Edinburgh Innovations, the University’s commercialisation service, offers free support to student entrepreneurs including one-to-one business advice and a range of workshops, bootcamps, competitions and networking events. Successful recent clients include Orfeas Boteas, creator of the Dehumaniser sound effects software used by Hollywood movies and blockbuster video games; Douglas Martin, whose company MiAlgae aims to revolutionise the global aquaculture and pet food industries; and Aayush Goyal and Karis Gill, whose gift box enterprise Social Stories Club brings ethical products to a wider market: www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations/for-students

More than 7,000 vacancies were advertised with the Careers Service in 2019/20

Platform One
We provide opportunities for students to draw on the knowledge and experience of our worldwide alumni network through lectures, workshops and panel discussions, and online via Platform One. This supportive environment allows students, alumni, staff and volunteers to gather to share their knowledge and experiences and discuss ideas, plans and possibilities.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/platform-one
Open to the world

Supporting nurses and midwives around the world

The University is supporting a social campaign that aims to improve health and healthcare globally by raising the status of nursing.

Nursing Now – backed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Council of Nurses – hopes to influence policy at global and national levels to increase investment in nursing and midwifery, improve global and national policies, and strengthen nurse leadership and influence. Nurses are the largest group of health workers so it is hoped that by enabling them to work to their full potential, everyone will reap the benefits.

The University has demonstrated its support for the campaign by signing a memorandum of understanding. Head of Nursing Studies, Professor Aisha Holloway, is also playing an integral role as the campaign’s Programme Lead for Research. She said: “It is a privilege to be part of this once-in-a-generation opportunity to lift up our professions, to promote and raise the profile and impact that nurses and midwives have. Ensuring that nurses are leading global policy and informing evidence-based decision making is fundamental to investment in our most priceless assets: the nurse and the midwife. I am honoured to be part of Nursing Now and that Nursing Studies at the University is part of this historic campaign and its legacy.”

To encourage worldwide investment in nurses, Nursing Now has launched the Nightingale Challenge. The challenge is asking every health employer around the world to provide leadership and development training for a group of their young nurses and midwives. The aim is to involve 1,000 employers, with a view to benefitting more than 20,000 nurses and midwives aged 35 and under during 2020, which has been designated the Year of the Nurse and Midwife by the WHO.

The University of Edinburgh has been influencing the world since 1583. Our Schools have a long history of making a difference but it isn’t one we take for granted. To this day, we strive to deliver excellence and help address tomorrow’s greatest challenges.

Here’s a snapshot of what your School’s community has been up to recently.
Alumna honoured for human rights work

An inspiring University alumna has been recognised for her work promoting human rights in the nursing profession.

Yusrita Zolkefli, who completed a Nursing Studies PhD in 2017, was honoured by the Human Rights and Nursing Awards, which aim to shine a spotlight on nurses who show exceptional engagement with human rights activities.

Now a lecturer in nursing and midwifery in the Institute of Health Sciences at the University of Brunei, Yusrita was nominated for the award for her outstanding commitment to human rights causes. She has worked tirelessly to inspire her students and fellow nurses to embrace ethics and law as part of their nursing careers and played a key role in the advancement of the professional ethics curriculum in Brunei.

Yusrita said: "This award is an opportunity for me to strengthen my platform in engaging with clinical nurses through hospital seminars where nurses can share their ethical stories and experiences. It is essential to have structures and processes in place to bring a meaningful reflection of ethical communication."

After accepting the award Yusrita visited Edinburgh and met up with her former PhD supervisors and other Nursing Studies colleagues.

"It has always been special and memorable every time I visit Edinburgh. Meeting with former supervisors, Professor Kenneth Boyd and Dr Colin Chandler, was just the icing on the cake. They have been so supportive and inspiring throughout my PhD journey and for making me want to be a better person."

Yusrita Zolkefli

Historical marker for heroic war nurse

A Scottish war nurse and national heroine of World War I was commemorated with an unofficial blue plaque in the University’s Old Medical Quad.

The recognition for Mairi Chisholm was part of a University-wide initiative to recognise women who have contributed to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Mairi, alongside her good friend Elsie Knocker, won numerous medals for bravery and for saving thousands of soldiers’ lives on the Western Front in Belgium.

Dubbed ‘The Madonnas of Pervyse’ by the press, the two were among the most photographed women of the war.

Dr Siobhan O’Connor, a lecturer in Nursing Studies and a STEM ambassador, collaborated on the project. She has long been an advocate for Mairi’s work, even hosting an event in 2018 to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War I and the nurse’s contribution to this important historical event.

"Nurses have always made a significant contribution to human health and being able to acknowledge the work Mairi Chisholm and others have done by getting unofficial blue plaques created was great."

Dr Siobhan O’Connor
PosiFest puts mental health first

Postgraduate students from the School created a vibrant online community during the coronavirus pandemic, providing proactive mental health and wellbeing support.

The PosiFest initiative offered interactive online activities addressing loneliness, self-esteem and how best to deal with the impact of the pandemic. Participants shared insights on coping skills and life enhancement through a series of events including music, discussion, and dance.

The festival had been due to launch as a series of physical events prior to the pandemic but, in the wake of lockdown, opted to move events online rather than cancel them. The initial online event on 28 March featured 15 hours of online entertainment and discussion. It included music, comedy, body positive yoga and poetry as well as sessions with resilience coaches and artists focusing on mental health. The event received more than 11,000 views.

"PosiFest has created a community where we buddy up and explore themes such as shared compassion, togetherness, vulnerability and what we can do to improve the wellbeing of people around the world. PosiFest came into being to provide a space where people could celebrate resilience and, during the time of crisis, that was needed more than ever."

Shalhavit Simcha Cohen
PosiFest Director
Exploring the impact of Brexit on wellbeing

People who feel affected by Brexit were given the opportunity to express their experience through non-verbal visual art at an interactive workshop.

The workshop – a collaboration between artist Tessa Wyatt and Dr Lorena Georgiadou, lecturer in Counselling, Psychotherapy and Applied Social Sciences – took place during Edinburgh University Students’ Association Mental Health and Wellbeing Week.

It offered participants the chance to reflect on the impact that external events such as Brexit may have on emotional wellbeing and mental health.

"Running this workshop was significant in highlighting the impact that socio-political circumstances may have on people's mental wellbeing, particularly from the perspective of social inclusion and belonging. Feedback from participants revealed that they appreciated the arts-based nature of the workshop, which invited reflections and expressions of experiences that may not have been accessible otherwise. They were also appreciative of the inclusive nature of the workshop as some sub-groups feel excluded from current discussions and movements that revolve either around EU citizens or people who voted in the referendum."

Dr Lorena Georgiadou

Improving wellbeing through imagery

Looking at 25 soothing images can be enough to improve a person's mood, according to the research team behind an innovative photography project.

Project Soothe is rooted in the concept of compassion-focused psychotherapy, which aims to promote mental and emotional healing by encouraging people to be compassionate towards themselves and others. It has been known that the ability to soothe ourselves in times of distress helps us stay well. However, little work had been undertaken to discover how people soothe themselves during everyday life.

Psychotherapy has traditionally asked people to create mental imagery to help with soothing. A team led by Dr Stella Chan, however, observed that some people struggled with this task. This led to the idea of giving people photographs to look at. Inspired by the citizen science movement, where ordinary people gather data for scientific research, the team asked the public to submit photographs they consider soothing. The project has received more than 800 images from 30 countries, with natural landscapes, water features, sky, trees and flowers, and animals the most common.

The study asked participants to view a randomly selected group of 25 of the images and measured their mood before and after. Dr Chan said: "We found people's mood significantly improved from before to after. It is a robust effect we see, and we have replicated it in a smaller, more well-controlled study. We also found that whether people benefited from these images was not related to their level of depression. Even though some people may feel low and down, it does not stop them from getting the mood benefit of the images."

The team is now working with 10 teams of young citizen scientists across Scotland to co-produce wellbeing tools.
Our teaching

We offer continuing professional development (CPD), online learning, postgraduate diploma and certificate (PgDip/PgCert), masters of science (MSc), nursing (MN) and counselling (MCouns) and several professional doctorates.

At the time of printing, our planned taught degrees for 2021 are:

**Clinical Psychology**
- Applied Psychology (Healthcare) for Children & Young People (MSc)
- Clinical Psychology (DClinPsychol)
- Mental Health in Children & Young People: Psychological Approaches (MSc)
- Mental Health in Children & Young People: Psychological Approaches (MSc)
- Psychology of Mental Health (Conversion) (MSc)
- Psychological Therapies (MSc)

**Counselling, psychotherapy and applied social sciences**
- Counselling (MCouns/PgDip/PgCert Counselling Studies)
- Counselling (Interpersonal Dialogue) (MCouns)
- Counselling Studies (MSc)
- Psychotherapy & Counselling (DPsychotherapy)

**Nursing studies**
- Advanced Nursing (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)
- Master of Nursing with pre-registration (MN)

Online learning

Please check our online degree finder for the most up-to-date information available on our taught postgraduate opportunities and to make an application:
www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees
Facilities and resources

Your postgraduate experience will take place at the heart of our historic Central Area, with easy access to all University facilities, including the Main Library on George Square, where you’ll find more than two million printed volumes and generous electronic resources.

The School of Health in Social Science is located in the refurbished northwest wing of the 19th-century McEwan Hall building, designed by Sir Robert Rowand Anderson. This forms part of the magnificent Dr Elsie Inglis Quadrangle, in the University’s Central Area, with easy access to the whole city (see Campus map, page 16).

The School is accessible, featuring well-equipped teaching rooms, as well as two large and bright study rooms, one based at Forrest Hill specifically designed for postgraduate students. Individual workspaces are equipped with a computer, or connection for your own laptop, and all computers are loaded with a variety of software tools for research purposes. Every postgraduate research student has access to lockable storage space and modern kitchen facilities. The study area for postgraduate research students is available 24 hours a day.

Social space for more relaxed discussion, or just a chance to unwind and catch up with the latest news, is available for all postgraduate students and staff. Wi-fi is available across the School and the University.

The School operates the Hope Park Counselling Centre, which offers counselling to individuals and couples over the age of 16 and living in Edinburgh. It is a practice and research centre for qualified counsellors and counsellors in training.

The School also has an on-campus therapist training centre for psychological therapies. Trainees provide therapy (under supervision) for members of the local community. The centre can also support research to better understand the mechanisms by which psychological therapies work.

University facilities

The University’s Main Library, only a few minutes’ walk from the School, holds one of the world’s most comprehensive ranges of books and journals, relevant to all our disciplines.

Postgraduate students of the School of Health in Social Science can also access the extensive resources of the National Library of Scotland: a copyright library, entitled to receive a copy of every book published in the UK and Ireland. Again, it is located only a few minutes’ walk from the School.

Within the University, there are more than 1,400 open-access computers, with computing suites – including several with 24-hour access – located throughout our campuses. On joining us you will receive a University email account and unlimited access to computing facilities. Refresher or introductory training needs can be met by the University’s Information Services support. You will also have access to a substantial range of e-journals, through the University’s subscriptions, from wherever you wish to work. You can read, download and print these, either from a University-networked computer or from home.
Research at the School of Health in Social Science

The School has a vibrant research culture. We offer postgraduate research in clinical psychology, counselling and psychotherapy, health in social science, and nursing studies.

Clinical psychology
Clinical psychology is the home of active and vibrant research groupings centred on key areas of applied and clinical psychology research, including forensic psychology, applied developmental psychology, health psychology, psychological therapies and interventions, and global mental health. Our research involves national and international collaborations, with many projects involving NHS and voluntary sector partnerships. We have specific strengths in the areas of mindfulness and third wave approaches, eating behaviours and disorders, psychosis and complex mental health, risk and resilience in children and adolescents, psychological treatments, the digital world, violent behaviour and sexual offending. Methodologically, we focus on cohort studies, clinical trials, development and validation of psychometric measures, and qualitative approaches. Recent successful PhD topics have included: at risk mental states in young people; the relationship between types of physical activity and mental health; and cognition in mentally ill offenders and the implications for risk of violence. For more information about research groups and programmes, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/health/clinical-psychology/research

A large number of the clinical psychology team and our students are part of the Centre for Applied Developmental Psychology, specialising in research that aims to promote the wellbeing of young people and aid recovery in those with mental health problems. For more information please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/health/cadp

For more information about our postgraduate research programmes and how to apply please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/health/phd-msc-research

For more detailed information about potential supervisors in clinical psychology, their research interests and publications, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/health/clinical-psychology/people

Counselling, psychotherapy and applied social sciences
We specialise in qualitative, reflexive, participatory and critical approaches to research. We have particular expertise in practice-based research that draws directly on practitioners’ own therapeutic work, on client’s experience of therapy, and on narrative, reflexive and auto-ethnographic methods. We encourage research concerned with the interface between counselling, psychotherapy and social, cultural and political life. Our research is highly interdisciplinary, integrating concepts, practices and scholarship from counselling and psychotherapy, psychology, sociology, philosophy, education, cultural studies, health and social care, and other social sciences. Our interests include disability, gender, trauma, abuse, counselling children and young people, and sexualities. We also offer interdisciplinary expertise and specific research strengths in older people, dementia, integration of health and social care services, changing workforce patterns, learning disability, intensive care and pain.

We have an extensive track record in evaluation research. Recent successful PhDs include: how children express emotion in aesthetic arts curricula in primary schools; how experiencing trauma reverberates across the generations; the unseen, subtle ways in which non-verbal communication (and miscommunication) is enacted within psychotherapeutic relationships; how people with anorexia recover through psychotherapy; developing a conceptual underpinning of relationship-centred palliative dementia care; and how differing realities of hallucinations in dementia are enacted. Our inclusive research environment emphasises developing work with wide impact and opportunities for knowledge exchange and translation across external organisations. We are involved in the Edinburgh Centre for Research on the Experience of Dementia (see next page) and the Centre for Creative-Relational Inquiry: www.ed.ac.uk/health/ccri

Many of our research projects draw on partnerships, working with bodies such as the NHS, local authorities, hospitals, care settings and voluntary organisations. We focus on innovative approaches to research and welcome projects that challenge methodological and disciplinary boundaries. We are also able to work collaboratively with other Schools and universities to provide research support. For more information, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/health/counselling/people

Nursing studies
With more than 60 years’ experience in the development of nursing research internationally, we welcome applications for postgraduate research. We offer a lively and enthusiastic research environment with a diverse student body and opportunities to study by a variety of research methods with committed and experienced researchers who have local, national and global reach. We have expertise in a diverse range of methodologies and theoretical approaches, as well as in leading and participating in interdisciplinary research.

PHD students normally have two supervisors, one of whom may be from a different discipline but relevant to your research interests. We supervise the following four main areas of study for doctoral research, which relate to our research priorities, but also welcome enquiries about other areas.

Research in the theme of social justice and health inequality focuses on people on the margins of society who experience inequitable access to healthcare and reduced opportunities to live well for a variety of reasons, including ethnicity, age, poverty, migration and gender. The priority of policy, professions and care encompasses research in current education, workforce, practice, systems (including information technology or eHealth) and patient factors at the intersection of health-related policy.

Our research work in global public health ranges from local to international. It looks at prevalence, experiences, and prevention of noncommunicable and communicable diseases, including people experiencing addiction, migrants, older people and healthcare professionals. Research activity in the priority area of sudden interruptions in health is concerned with patient experiences of acute care with a particular focus on critical care and on older people’s care through recovery, rehabilitation and survival.

You can read more about our research at: www.ed.ac.uk/health/nursing-studies/research
Research opportunities

We offer three types of research degree and our five research centres build on our existing research strengths.

At the time of printing, our planned postgraduate research opportunities for 2021 are:

- Clinical & Health Psychology (PhD/MScR)
- Counselling Studies (PhD/MScR)
- Health Humanities & Arts (MScR)
- Health in Social Science (PhD)
- Nursing Studies (PhD/MPhil/MScR)

Please check our online degree finder for the most up-to-date information available on our postgraduate research opportunities and to make an application.

Research degree index:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees/research

PhD research projects:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/phd-research-projects

Advice on finding a research supervisor:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/research

PhD
As a PhD candidate, you will pursue a research project with supervision and guidance from two supervisors, resulting in a thesis making an original contribution to knowledge. You will usually undertake research training courses that will assist in framing your project. A PhD takes three years full-time or six years part-time.

PhD by distance learning: We encourage and support study outside of Edinburgh for periods of your candidature. Acceptance to this mode of study will depend on the nature of your proposed research, your access to resources and your prior experience. Please contact us to discuss the options available: pgradmissions.health@ed.ac.uk

MPhil
The Master of Philosophy takes two years and your thesis does not carry the requirement for an original contribution to knowledge.

MSc by Research
Normally lasting one year (part-time options may be available) the MScR is a shorter alternative to MPhil/PhD, or a precursor to either.

Research centres
The Centre for Applied Developmental Psychology focuses on the application of theories and models of developmental psychology in applied settings. The focus is on enhancing wellbeing, enabling recovery and understanding risk and resilience in children and young people through collaboration with partners in the NHS, voluntary organisations, education and social services. Our research includes experimental and basic scientific projects as well as applied population-based investigations and clinical trials, and influences service development and implementation and evidence-based treatments:
www.ed.ac.uk/health/cadp

The Centre for Homeless and Inclusion Health combines the University’s social, economic and political resources, with partners across the city, to develop a unique and dynamic centre for education, healthcare practice and research that improves the health and wellbeing of the most marginalised in society. Existing healthcare is supported to build capacity and expand GP access for homeless people. Placement opportunities engage with people who are experiencing homelessness; research ideas are co-produced by academic staff, service users and health, social care and third sector colleagues; and the health and wellbeing of homeless people in Edinburgh is improved:
www.ed.ac.uk/health/cadp

The Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy works with policy makers, practitioners and members of the public to develop and evaluate interventions and programmes that impact on the health of the public at local, national and global levels. These may be health service-related or may impact on health in transport, education, youth work, and welfare, etc. The Collaboration has expertise in: qualitative and quantitative research; systematic reviews of qualitative and quantitative studies; theory-based intervention development; and evaluation (e.g. realist, and both experimental and quasi-experimental): www.scphrp.ac.uk

The Edinburgh Centre for Research on the Experience of Dementia is an international group of dementia researchers and practitioners, people with dementia, and representatives from related organisations, exploring and developing theories, methods and impacts around living with dementia. Research themes include social and emotional relationships, living and dying with dementia, design and dementia, marginalised groups, risk and resilience, and methodological developments with people who have dementia. The perspective of the person with dementia is central to our work:
www.ed.ac.uk/health/research/e-cred

The Centre for Creative-Relational Inquiry focuses on qualitative research that is situated, positioned, context-sensitive, personal, experience-near, and embodied; embraces the performative and aesthetic; engages with the political, social and ethical; problematises agency, autonomy, and representation; cherishes its relationship with theory, creating concepts as it goes; is dialogical and collaborative; and is explicit and curious about the inquiry process. This includes: detailed, close-up explorations of therapeutic and pedagogical relationships; the use of arts and performance as a methodological approach; inquiries that put concepts and theories to work; and research that engages practitioners and the public in and with it, creatively and relationally: www.ed.ac.uk/health/ccri
Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate

Awards are offered by the School of Health in Social Science, the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, the University of Edinburgh, the Scottish, UK and international governments and many funding bodies.

Here we list a selection of potential sources of financial support for postgraduate students who are applying to the School of Health in Social Science. This list was correct at the time of printing but please check the full and up-to-date range online (see above).

University of Edinburgh Alumni Scholarships
We offer a 10 per cent scholarship towards postgraduate fees to all alumni who graduated from the University as an undergraduate, and to all students who spent at least one semester studying at the University on a visiting programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/alumni-scholarships

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

- **College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Awards**
  College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Awards are open to those admitted to the first year of PhD research: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-ahss

- **Edinburgh Global Online Learning Masters Scholarship**
  The University offers a number of awards, for postgraduate online programmes, which eligible students can apply for: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/e-learning/online-distance

- **NHS Education Scotland**
  Funding available for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and the MSc Applied Psychology for Children & Young People. Doctorate in Clinical Psychology students are funded through NHS Education for Scotland (NES). No self-funded places are currently available. Further information available from our School website: www.ed.ac.uk/health/clinical-psychology

- **Principal’s Career Development PhD Scholarships**
  These prestigious scholarships give access to any applicant from around the world to undertake discipline training and additional skills development. Students are encouraged to engage with entrepreneurial training, teaching, outreach and industrial engagement. Each award covers the tuition fee and full stipend: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

Research Council (UKRI) funding
The UKRI offers awards to PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All studentship applications for UKRI awards must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Normally only those UK students who have been resident in the UK for the preceding three years are eligible for a full award. Please check individual UKRI pages on the University website for full eligibility criteria: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)
The SAAS nursing and midwifery student bursary will be available to eligible students on our Master of Nursing with pre-registration degree: www.saas.gov.uk

Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh
The University of Edinburgh is a participating institution in the following loans programmes, meaning we certify your student status and can help with the application process.

- **The Canada Student Loans Program**
  The University is eligible to certify Canadian student loan applications: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans

- **Postgraduate Doctoral Loans England**
  Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for doctoral study, payable to eligible students and divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: www.gov.uk/doctoral-loan

- **Postgraduate Doctoral Loans Wales**
  Student Finance Wales offers loans for postgraduate doctoral study, payable to eligible students, divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/postgraduate-students/postgraduate-doctoral-loan

- **Postgraduate Loans (PGL) England**
  Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes, payable to eligible students: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan

- **Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Northern Ireland**
  Student Finance Northern Ireland offers eligible students a tuition fee loan for taught and research programmes, at certificate, diploma, and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceni.co.uk

Key
- Taught masters degrees
- Masters by Research degrees
- Research degrees
I learnt about the scholarships through the scholarships and student funding section of the University’s website. The scholarships have provided me with a wonderful opportunity to study at a premier institution. I wish to work in academia in the future and so my PhD will provide me with the necessary training and qualification to allow me to meet my goals.

Shruti Chaudhry, PhD Sociology, Edinburgh Global Research Scholarship and College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Research Studentship
Where we are

The School of Health in Social Science is located in the refurbished northwest wing of the 19th-century McEwan Hall building, designed by Sir Robert Rowand Anderson, which forms part of the magnificent Dr Elsie Inglis Quadrangle, in the University’s Central Area, with easy access to the whole city.

We are here!
The School of Health in Social Science
What’s next?

Contact us
The School of Health in Social Science Medical School (Doorway 6) Teviot Place Edinburgh EH8 9AG Tel +44 (0)131 651 3969 Fax +44 (0)131 650 3891 Email health@ed.ac.uk www.ed.ac.uk/health

Nursing studies
Tel +44 (0)131 650 4661 Email nursing@ed.ac.uk

Clinical psychology
Tel +44 (0)131 650 3889 Email health@ed.ac.uk

Counselling, psychotherapy and applied social sciences
Tel +44 (0)131 651 6671 Email counselling.studies@ed.ac.uk

Visit us
We offer many opportunities for you to join us in Edinburgh and find out more about the University – including Online Information Sessions to access from the comfort of your own home and Open Days you can attend in person or online. Find out what event we’re hosting next: www.ed.ac.uk/visit/open-days

Virtual Visit
Can’t visit Edinburgh in person? Our Virtual Visit allows you to virtually explore the University and the city. View a range of videos, 360° photos and image galleries to find out what it is like to live and study here: www.virtual-visit.ed.ac.uk

Chat online
Wherever you are in the world, we offer you opportunities to get in touch and speak directly to us about studying here.

We offer all postgraduate students online information sessions. To find out more and see when the next session will be: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/online-events

Our visits to you
If you are unable to visit the University, we attend events worldwide whenever possible during the year. Find out about your next opportunity to speak to us in person: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/meet-us
We know these are uncertain times but at the University of Edinburgh your safety is our priority. We hope to welcome you on campus and are committed to ensuring you’re taught as safely as possible during the pandemic. To find out about the steps we’re taking, in line with Scottish Government guidance, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/news/covid-19

Published by:
Communications and Marketing,
The University of Edinburgh

Designed by:
Parkhouse

Photography by:
Paul Dodds
Shutterstock
Sam Sils
Alamy Stock Photo
Dean Whiting
Getty Images

This publication is available online at www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate and can be made available in alternative formats on request. Please contact communications.office@ed.ac.uk or call +44 (0)131 650 2252.

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this prospectus before going to print. However please check online for the most up-to-date information: www.ed.ac.uk

The UK formally left the European Union (EU) on 31st January 2020. UK and Scottish Governments have confirmed that most non-UK EU students commencing study in 2021/22 will no longer be treated as ‘home’ students in relation to fee status or access to funding. Final fee regulations are not yet available but are expected to clarify fee status for those with settled status and for Irish citizens (under the Common Travel Agreement). For the latest information for students and applicants from the EU, please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

© The University of Edinburgh 2020. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission of the University. The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.

Health in Social Science

“I had a fantastic experience at the School of Health in Social Science. I particularly enjoyed the academic and research environment and diversity of international students, and the wide range of subject areas to choose from.”

Radha Adhikari, PhD Nursing Studies