Postgraduate Opportunities
2021

Informatics

www.ed.ac.uk/informatics
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 20th in the 2021 QS World University Rankings.

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

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

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

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

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 Informatics

Informatics is the study of natural and engineered computational systems. It encompasses the academic disciplines of computer science, software engineering, artificial intelligence and cognitive science.

Edinburgh’s School of Informatics is the largest academic centre of its kind in Europe and one of the UK’s most successful informatics research institutions. We have consistently been a leader in the field since the 1960s, when our first Professor of Computer Science was appointed and the Department of Artificial Intelligence was founded. You will join an exciting and vibrant academic community and develop the foundations for a successful career.

In the last Research Excellence Framework we were ranked first in the UK for research power in computer science and informatics (Research Fortnight REF 2014) with 85 per cent of our research rated 4* world leading or 3* internationally excellent on the overall quality profile. We’re ranked in the top 25 in the world for computer science in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020. Our size and strength support unparalleled breadth in our taught courses.

Making an impact
We lead the way in an exciting discipline that is central to a new enlightenment in scholarship and learning. Informatics is critical to the development of science, technology, culture and society. As a postgraduate student you will have the opportunity to make your own mark in the area that most interests and excites you.

Inspiring people
At the School of Informatics you can join in a collaborative learning environment with our distinguished staff, many of whom are world leaders. Our academics include Fellows of the Royal Society, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Royal Academy of Engineering. We boast recent winners of the most prestigious awards in the field, including the Turing Award, Herbrand Award, the Blaise Pascal Medal and the Yangtze River Scholar award.

Exciting careers
Graduates from our degrees enjoy career success in a wide array of roles that shape our society, from developing the latest mobile technology to creating intelligent infrastructure. Many go on to work as project managers, researchers, software developers and consultants in the commercial sector (at firms such as Google, Amazon, Skyscanner or Adobe) or take up academic posts, often in Russell Group and US research universities such as MIT and Stanford. Some of our graduates have found success through start-up companies.
Our community

As a student at the School of Informatics, you’ll be studying with the UK’s largest group of informatics researchers, comprising more than 500 research students and academic staff.

Working in such a large group of researchers and students opens up opportunities for collaboration and creative interaction. The atmosphere is one of community: we encourage students to mix and share their experiences, and many of our subject areas invite a multidisciplinary approach. For example, current research in the School includes Human Communication, Digital Curation, Health Informatics, Synthetic and Systems Biology, and Learning Energy Systems.

Since 2013 the School has held an Athena SWAN Silver Award, which recognises Informatics as a supportive environment for women in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM).

Sharing research
In addition to formal teaching, each research institute within the School regularly schedules seminars for all staff and students, where you can hear about cutting-edge research as it unfolds. Research students will also find regular opportunities to present their work in this informal and supportive environment.

Social networking
Informatics students enjoy a lively social life, and can take part in many student-organised activities. The University’s computer society, CompSoc, and the School’s AI society EdIntelligence, both organise events ranging from games to ice skating, and there are regular sports tournaments and tech meet-ups. There is also Hoppers, a social group for women in technology.

The Informatics Forum is a vibrant meeting point for all sorts of groups, from the formal to the very informal – you can even play table tennis in the Forum itself. There are also numerous online resources and meeting points, from the School’s Facebook page to wikis and virtual cafes.

Support
The School’s Student Services team offers a first point of contact to all our taught and research students for help and information to support all aspects of your student life, from admissions and funding to graduations and career opportunities. In addition, the University’s new £8-million wellbeing centre will open adjacent to the Informatics Forum later this year while the Edinburgh University Students’ Association provides free advice and support through its drop-in centre The Advice Place.
Employability and graduate attributes

Computers continue to play a vital role in nearly every aspect of everyday living and in a diverse range of sectors – from the entertainment industry to the environment. Some of the most dynamic and lucrative opportunities are available to those who are skilled in computing, software and information systems.

All our postgraduate students have access to an excellent range of services to help you make the most of your time with us, whether you’re looking to enhance your career, pursue research or start your own business.

Start-up assistance
The School of Informatics is particularly supportive of commercialisation and we have a strong track record in developing spin out companies. For those who are entrepreneurially minded, we provide training and mentoring and host special events to help our students and staff attract venture capital funding for their start-ups. Informatics Ventures is a dedicated knowledge exchange programme which aims to foster innovation and entrepreneurship through regular workshops, seminars and other events. For more information see: www.informatics-ventures.com

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

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 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

We are ranked in the top 10 in the UK and in the top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates. Times Higher Education Global Employability University Ranking 2019
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.

Volunteers step up to protect key workers

A group of enterprising Informatics technicians printed more than 2,700 face shields for frontline workers during the first few months of the coronavirus pandemic.

Following our campus closures in March 2020, the volunteers created vital PPE for workers across the NHS and in care homes. Working seven days a week at a workshop in Appleton Tower, they produced almost 2,000 shields for the NHS. Primarily used at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, these protected staff working on the Covid-19 intensive care unit and those in radiology and surgical theatres with a high likelihood of encountering infected people.

They also made 450 shields for workers in the care community and 40 for use in University research labs.

“The School is incredibly pleased to be one of the contributors to the initiatives within the University to provide PPE to frontline workers in the NHS and care homes. When we have a capacity to support such initiatives, we are always happy to do so. We are immensely proud and grateful to the team of technicians who so readily volunteered and drove this project forward with impressive results.”

Professor Jane Hillston
Head of School
Alumni claim prestigious startup award

A company founded by two School of Informatics alumni triumphed at the 2019 Scottish Tech Startup Awards.

Edinburgh-based Speech Graphics, formed by Michael Berger and Dr Gregor Hofer, was recognised as Startup of the Year.

Since its inception in 2012, the company has become one of the leading lights in facial animation technology and now employs 45 people across three offices.

Speech Graphics works with prestigious clients across the gaming and entertainment industries like Warner Brothers and Def Jam Recordings and has seen its technology used on all-conquering games Call of Duty and Tomb Raider.

Based on more than 20 years’ research and development in speech technology and procedural facial dynamics, their software produces high-quality facial animation from audio alone, with no need for motion capture.

“Our time at the University gave us the opportunity to be closely aligned with some of the biggest names in the industry, which proved invaluable when we started the company. Many of those businesses are now our clients. We were lucky to learn from some of the best professors in the world and benefited from access to world-class technology.”

Dr Gregor Hofer

Combating Covid-19 in Ghana

A company co-founded by School Research Associate Dr Kwabena Nuamah is using technology to track Covid-19 symptoms and hotspots across his native Ghana.

Using a platform called Opine Health Assistant (OHA), Cognate Systems records and tracks the frequency of Covid-19 symptoms like a cough and high temperature in different parts of the country. Data is then shared with public health experts, data scientists, relief providers, and disease surveillance teams, who can use it to provide local solutions to Covid-19.

OHA collects information from residents about their symptoms and location through a Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) short code – a method used mostly by mobile telecommunications networks and mobile money service providers. Using USSD means that users are not required to have internet access or a smartphone; a basic mobile phone is adequate. Additionally, users do not incur any network charges.

Dialling the USSD code allows residents to complete a form with questions about their symptoms, who they have been in contact with, their age, and travel history. OHA’s flexibility allows the symptoms of interest to be changed as the official guidance from health experts evolves.

In real-time, the data submitted by users is visualised on maps and graphs to provide useful insights about Covid-19 symptoms and the possible spread of the virus. OHA also links the public with agencies and non-profit organisations that provide essential supplies and shelter.

The success of the system has led to several requests to apply it to other diseases like diabetes, where early reporting of symptoms can lead to early and effective treatment.

“We believe that data-driven evidence leads to good science, which then leads to good solutions. More importantly, the technology used for such data projects is only effective if it can be accessed by the people who need it. In the case of public health systems, it must be accessible to everyone.”

Dr Kwabena Nuamah
University graduate Professor Geoffrey Hinton has received the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) A.M. Turing Award, often referred to as the 'Nobel Prize of Computing'.

Since 1966, the ACM has given the award, named after iconic British mathematician and computer scientist Alan Turing, to individuals who have made contributions of lasting and major technical importance to the computer field.

Professor Hinton (pictured), who received his PhD in Artificial Intelligence (AI) from the University in 1978 and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science in 2001, was recognised alongside Professors Yoshua Bengio and Yann LeCun for their work developing the AI subfield of deep learning.

The techniques the trio – known as the Godfathers of AI – developed in the 1990s and 2000s enabled huge breakthroughs in tasks like computer vision and speech recognition. Their work underpins the current proliferation of AI technologies, from self-driving cars to automated medical diagnoses.

"The growth of, and interest in, AI is due, in no small part, to the recent advances in deep learning for which Bengio, Hinton and LeCun laid the foundation. These technologies are used by billions of people. Anyone who has a smartphone in their pocket can tangibly experience advances in natural language processing and computer vision that were not possible just 10 years ago."

Cherri M Pancake
ACM President 2018-20

A recently retired professor from the School’s Laboratory of Foundations of Computer Science has been recognised for his contribution to concurrency theory.

Colin Stirling’s co-authored paper Bisimulation Equivalence is Decidable for all Context-free Processes was one of the winners of the Test-of-Time Award at the International Conference on Concurrency Theory (CONCUR).

The CONCUR Test-of-Time Awards are designed to shine a spotlight on the important achievements in concurrency theory, with the winners chosen from all papers published at the CONCUR conference between 1990 and 1995.

Concurrency theory is defined as the ability of different parts or units of a program, algorithm or problem to be executed out of order or in partial order, without affecting the outcome. It is an area of interest for the Laboratory for Foundations of Computer Science – one of seven research institutes in the School. Founded in 1987, the institute studies theories that underlie, or should in future underlie, the analysis and design of computing systems.
Robotics hub unveils offshore advances

University scientists demonstrated their latest robotics technology, developed for the renewable energy sector as part of a multimillion-pound collaboration.

A consortium of five universities, including Edinburgh, unveiled the latest results from the ORCA Hub – the world’s largest academic centre for research into robotics technology for offshore energy infrastructure. The centre aims to advance robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for the inspection, repair, maintenance and certification of offshore energy platforms and assets.

The consortium showcased 16 autonomous and semi-autonomous robots at ORE Catapult in Blyth, near Newcastle, as part of its third presentation to industry. The technologies are designed to boost safety, improve efficiency, and support the environmental objectives of offshore energy infrastructure. The Hub demonstrated its latest research in a renewables-themed showcase, reflecting the growing importance of renewables to the UK’s energy mix.

The event, attended by more than 30 industry stakeholders, involved several demonstrations. These included a quadruped robot – called ANYmal – which researchers operated on a scale model of an offshore platform to demonstrate the device’s ability to navigate in complex terrain. Other demonstrations included state-of-the-art autonomous drones and Limpets – cost-effective sensing devices for offshore equipment, which can act as an early warning system for inspection and maintenance needs.

The ORCA Hub was launched in October 2017, and forms part of a £93m UK Government funding scheme for research on robotics and AI for extreme environments. The Hub is led by the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics, a partnership between Heriot-Watt University and the University of Edinburgh. The consortium also includes Imperial College London, the Universities of Oxford and Liverpool, and more than 30 industrial partners.

“The University of Edinburgh’s Schools of Informatics and Engineering play a leading role in addressing some of the most challenging navigation, sensing and mapping solutions needed within the ORCA Hub.”

Professor Sethu Vijayakumar
Director of the Edinburgh Centre for Robotics and Deputy Director of the ORCA Hub
Our teaching

We offer a suite of taught Master of Science (MSc) degrees, each featuring two taught semesters of lectures, tutorials, practical work and written assignments, after which you will complete a major project and dissertation.

Additionally, we offer a smaller number of postgraduate diploma courses (PgDip), postgraduate certificate (PgCert), online learning and postgraduate professional development (PgProfDev) opportunities.

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

- Advanced Design Informatics (MSc)
- Advanced Technology for Financial Computing (MSc)
- Artificial Intelligence (MSc)
- Cognitive Science (MSc)
- Computer Science (MSc)
- Cyber Security, Privacy & Trust (MSc)
- Data Science (MSc)
- Data Science, Technology & Innovation (MSc/PgDip/PgCert/PgProfDev)*
- Design Informatics (MSc)
- Informatics (MSc)
- High Performance Computing (MSc/PgDip)
- High Performance Computing with Data Science (MSc)

*This is a College-level programme, which the School of Informatics contributes courses to.

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

See also...

Some of our taught masters are closely related to those in other Schools. You may be interested in degrees offered by Edinburgh College of Art, or the Schools of Biological Sciences; Mathematics; Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences; or Physics & Astronomy. www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request
Facilities and resources

Our exceptional facilities have been built with the needs of innovative learning, teaching and research in mind. We provide comfortable office space and specialist research and teaching labs.

You’ll be based at the University’s Central Area, surrounded by lively venues, leisure facilities and parks and served well by public transport – not to mention the World Heritage attractions of one of the UK’s most beautiful capital cities.

Taught postgraduates will be based in our teaching accommodation in Appleton Tower. The award-winning Informatics Forum nearby is an international research facility for computing and related areas. It houses more than 400 research staff and students, providing office, meeting and social spaces. It also contains several robotics labs, an instrumented multimedia room, eye-tracking and motion capture systems, and a full recording studio, among other research facilities. Its spectacular atrium plays host to many events, from industry showcases and student hackathons to major research conferences. Nearby state-of-the-art teaching facilities include computer and teaching labs with more than 250 machines, 24-hour access to IT facilities for students, and comprehensive support provided by dedicated computing staff.

An entrepreneurial focus

As well as academic importance, we recognise the commercial potential of our research. In recent years, we’ve helped to create more spin-out companies than any other UK institution (as judged by spinoutsuk.co.uk). Among our initiatives is Informatics Ventures, set up in 2008 to support globally ambitious software companies in Scotland and nurture a technology cluster to rival Boston, Pittsburgh, Kyoto and Silicon Valley.

Creative space

An exciting venture for our School is our collaboration with Edinburgh College of Art, backed by the Scottish Funding Council. The Centre for Design Informatics allows the integration of product design with ideas from informatics. Designers work alongside informatics entrepreneurs to help build new products and services, including the next generation of social media tools.
Research at the School of Informatics

In the last Research Excellence Framework we were ranked first in the UK for research power in computer science and informatics (Research Fortnight REF 2014) with 85 per cent of our research rated 4* world leading or 3* internationally excellent on the overall quality profile. We hope the research you undertake will become part of our future contribution.

The research areas we offer reflect our leadership in the field. Our vast research portfolio is carried out across several institutes: communities of research staff and students with access to specialist facilities and funding. The research degrees we offer follow the same institute grouping, giving you the UK’s greatest choice in core and multidisciplinary areas.

Your options

Our most common research degree is the three-year Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). You will embark upon original research under supervision and present the results in a written thesis and oral examination.

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) requires at least two years of supervised research study. It would usually include taught courses in your first year of study and more independent research in your second year.

The MSc by Research is an opportunity to gain research skills by undertaking independent study related to the School’s ongoing research programme, over a period of one year.

Research opportunities

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

- **AIAI**: Automated Reasoning, Agents, Data Intensive Research, Knowledge Management (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **ANC**: Machine Learning, Computational Neuroscience, Computational Biology (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **Doctoral Research Centre in Data Science & Artificial Intelligence** (PhD)
- **EPCC** – topics related to high performance computing, computational science, data science and software engineering (PhD)
- **EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Robotics & Autonomous Systems** (PhD with integrated study)
- **ICSA**: Computer Architecture, Compilation & Systems Software, Networks & Communication (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **ILCC**: Language Processing, Speech Technology, Information Retrieval, Cognition (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **IPAB**: Robotics, Computer Vision, Computer Graphics & Animation (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **LFCS**: Theory & Foundations of Computer Science, Databases, Software & Systems Modelling (PhD/MPhil/MScR)
- **UKRI Centre for Doctoral Training in Biomedical Artificial Intelligence** (MScR followed by PhD)
- **UKRI Centre for Doctoral Training in Natural Language Processing** (PhD with integrated study)

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

UKRI/EPSRC Centres for Doctoral Training

The University won a share of a £350 million investment in UK science and engineering postgraduate training by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

The School of Informatics hosts Centres for Doctoral Training in both Biomedical Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing, and is also a partner in the Centre in Robotics and Autonomous Systems in collaboration with Heriot-Watt University.

These four-year programmes combine bespoke training and research. For the latest information, see: www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/cdts
Case study
Edinburgh’s research with impact

Enabling rural communities to access high-speed broadband

As befits an institution that operates at the leading edge of technology, the University’s School of Informatics recognises the importance of a fast and reliable broadband connection in this online age. In late 2007, a team of researchers from the School saw that they had the knowledge and resources necessary to make this a reality for people in remote communities, and set about creating the highly successful Tegola Wireless Community Broadband Project.

**Project background**

The School of Informatics team took up the challenge of deploying wireless networking in remote Scottish communities where high-speed broadband has not been available because the nearest telephone exchange is too far away. The Tegola network demonstrated the suitability of long-distance Wi-Fi technology even for areas like rural Scotland where the terrain can be difficult. To increase the stability and sustainability of the network, the resources of the School were used to develop certain engineering measures, and use of solar and wind power for self-powered masts, that would strengthen and protect the network.

**Project results**

The head of BT Scotland had expressed the opinion that mesh networks like Tegola were not robust; however, experience has shown otherwise. In 2011 Tegola was successfully used for emergency medical services when a lightning strike knocked out the telephones to a wider area. As a direct result of the Edinburgh team’s research, some of Scotland’s most remote communities enjoyed superfast broadband for the first time. For some it was their first connection to the online world. Tegola has become a replicable model for community-driven local access network deployments in Scotland. It has also inspired research into tools, systems and techniques to aid communities in deploying and maintaining similar rural networks.

As a direct result of the Edinburgh team’s research, some of Scotland’s most remote communities enjoyed superfast broadband for the first time.

See more online: www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact
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 Informatics, the College of Science & Engineering, 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 applying to the School of Informatics. 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

Key
- Taught masters degrees
- Masters by Research degrees
- Research degrees

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

- 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
- UKRI/EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training Studentships ● ●
Combined MSc/PhD programmes in our UKRI/EPSRC Centres for Doctoral Training offer a number of fully funded places for eligible students: www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/research-scholarships
- Google European Doctoral Fellowship ●
Google runs an international competition for these scholarships. Successful applicants receive full tuition fees, a stipend and research expenses: ai.google/research/outreach
- Microsoft Research European PhD Scholarships ●
Microsoft Research runs an international competition for these scholarships, which are available to students from Europe, the Middle East and Africa: research.microsoft.com/en-us/collaboration/global/apply-europe
- 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
- School of Informatics Scholarships ● ●
A number of scholarships are available each year to new postgraduate researchers: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/informatics/phd-funding

Research council awards
Research councils offer awards to eligible masters and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All studentship applications from the research councils must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Please check the eligibility criteria for each opportunity online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

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
Informatics Postgraduate Opportunities 2021

- **Postgraduate Loans (SAAS)**
  The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes at diploma and masters level, which will be paid directly to the University. Eligible students can also apply for a non income-assessed living cost loan: [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)

- **Postgraduate Masters Finance Wales**
  Student Finance Wales offers eligible students postgraduate finance for taught and research masters programmes: [www.studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk)

- **US Student Loans**
  The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan students. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: [www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans)

**Other sources of funding**
The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- **Chevening Scholarships**
  A number of partial and full funding scholarships are available to one-year masters students: [www.chevening.org](http://www.chevening.org)

- **Commonwealth Scholarships**
  Scholarships available to students who are resident in any Commonwealth country, other than the UK: [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)

- **Marshall Scholarships (USA)**
  Scholarships available to outstanding US students wishing to study at any UK university for at least two years: [www.marshallscholarship.org](http://www.marshallscholarship.org)

“The Scottish Government’s initiative to attract international students through the Saltire Scholarship Scheme, as well as the University of Edinburgh’s help and support for international students, has helped provide me with an opportunity that I would never have conceived of prior to starting my studies at Edinburgh.”

Robert Starr
MSc High Performance Computing, Scotland’s Saltire Scholarship
Where we are

Informatics teaching, learning and research takes place in two buildings based at the University's Central Area, a stone’s throw from city attractions and University amenities, such as the Main Library and the Centre for Sport and Exercise.

Detailed maps can be found at: www.ed.ac.uk/maps
What's next?

**Contact us**
Visit: [www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/postgraduate](http://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/postgraduate)

For more information about taught MSc degrees, please contact the Informatics Teaching Organisation:
Tel +44 (0)131 651 3266
Email ito@inf.ed.ac.uk

For more information about the application and admissions process for taught MSc degrees, contact:

College of Science & Engineering Recruitment and Admissions Team
Tel: +44 (0)131 650 5737
[www.ed.ac.uk/science-engineering/contact/ug-pgt-enquiries](http://www.ed.ac.uk/science-engineering/contact/ug-pgt-enquiries)

For more information about our research opportunities, including PhDs, please contact our Graduate School:
Tel +44 (0)131 650 3091
Email phd-admissions@inf.ed.ac.uk

To discuss your research proposal, you’ll find details of potential supervisors at:
[www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/directory](http://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/directory)

**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](http://www.ed.ac.uk/visit/open-days)

Visit our School and explore our facilities online at:
[www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/images-videos](http://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/images-videos)

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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

“"I decided to study at Edinburgh, not just because of the research facilities and the University’s prestige as a major educational and scientific development centre, but because of the great atmosphere in the School of Informatics. Being in an environment that stimulates collaboration and encourages discussion is a great catalyst and source of inspiration.”

Andreea Radulescu
PhD Artificial Intelligence