Postgraduate Research (PGR) study and scholarship opportunities in the School of Social and Political Science (SPS)

Professor Andrew Neal – Director of Postgraduate Research Programmes, SPS

Toni Jenkins – Postgraduate Research Support Officer

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This session will begin on 14th November 2024 at 11:00 GMT

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Postgraduate research study in the School of Social and Political Science

Professor Andrew Neal

Director of Postgraduate Research Programmes

School of Social and Political Science (SPS)

https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate

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MSc by Research Programmes

- <u>MSc by Research in Social & Political Science (1 year full-time / 2 years part-time)</u>
  - Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2
  - Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection
  - Research Design
  - Dissertation

- <u>MSc by Research in Science and Technology Studies (1 year full-time / 2 years part- time)</u>
  - Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2
  - Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection
  - Research Design
  - Dissertation
  - Recommended electives

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PhD Programmes

- **PhD Programmes (3 years full-time / 6 years part-time)**

- African Studies
- International Development
- Global Health Policy
- Politics
- Science and Technology Studies
- Social Anthropology
- Social Policy
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Socio-Cultural Studies
- South Asian Studies

PhD study

* Supervised by 2-3 academics

* Research training

* Subject-area level research seminars

* Carry out independent research resulting in an original contribution to knowledge

* Submit thesis of up to 100,000 words & oral examination

* Varied opportunities for professional development

Applying for postgraduate research study

* Check the website for details & deadlines: https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/study/prospective

* Search academic staff for potential supervisors: https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/people

* Develop research proposal and submit to potential supervisors for feedback: https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate/phd/supervision

* Revise proposal and submit formal application

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Postgraduate research scholarship opportunities

Toni Jenkins

Postgraduate Research (PGR) Support Officer
School of Social and Political Science (SPS)
https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate

Overview

Awards may change each year – most/all in SPS for PhD programmes

* Search MSc(R) or PhD University-wide scholarships: https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/search-scholarships

* SPS runs annual scholarship recruitment cycles

* Most scholarships fund 3 years FTE, some may fund 4 years FTE

* SPS full-time PhD programmes are 3+1 years http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/current/dpt/drps_sps.htm – tuition fees for 3 years, matriculation fee for 'Writing Up' year eg £200 for 2024/25

* Applications for the PhD programme must be submitted first – receive University Username UUN (eg s1234567) & access to the scholarship application system

* Scholarship rounds are highly competitive. See scholarship webpages for stats

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Guidance

* Scholarships advertised in November 2024 for September 2025 start date - https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/study/prospective/postgraduate-research-programmes/scholarships

* Check eligibility of each scholarship & essential to read 'Important information' section before applying

* Take your time / prepare in advance

* Follow the guidance for each scholarship

* Check closing dates carefully – late applications are not accepted

* Tailor your Personal Statement for the scholarship if one is requested

Guidance continued

* Essential to contact potential supervisors before applying: https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/study/prospective/postgraduate-research-programmes/scholarships/important-information

* Applications are assessed holistically – grades matter but so do the research proposal, personal statement, supervisory fit, references

* Interviews may be required – check the scholarship webpage

* Re-visit the PhD Scholarships webpage from November to check for other opportunities - https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/study/prospective/postgraduate-research-programmes/scholarships

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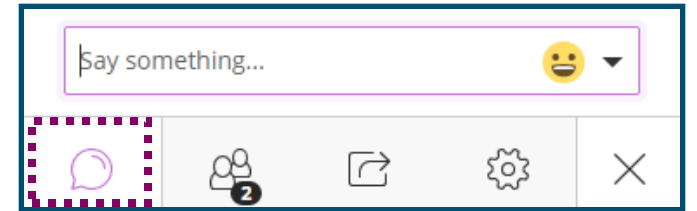
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Postgraduate Research on-programme support

- Masters by Research (MScR) on transition to PhD & research opportunities, & PhD students

- Student-led Project Grants (MScR & PhD) – new initiatives eg conferences, writing retreats via the Student Development Office

- PGR Research Support Fund – eg presenting at conferences / workshops, undertaking fieldwork via the Student Development Office

- On-programme support – pastoral & academic (supervisors & Postgraduate Advisors), peer (PGR Reps & Subject Area & School community cohorts). PGR Support Team signposts to multiple University services, training courses, Doctoral Seminars (for MScR & PhD), policy & regulation guidance, programme support eg concessions (interruptions or extensions)

- MScR on-programme support is managed by the Student Advisors (programme and personal support) & the Postgraduate Teaching Office (taught courses management)

Asking questions (Collaborate)

- Please hold all questions until the end of the formal presentation

- Always use the 'hand raise icon' to queue up your question

- When called upon to ask your question, type it into the "Text chat area"

- Once your question is answered, please lower your hand

Contact details for follow-up questions

We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session.

If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email the PGR Support Team: pgresearch.sps@ed.ac.uk

Thank you for your time and all the best with your applications!

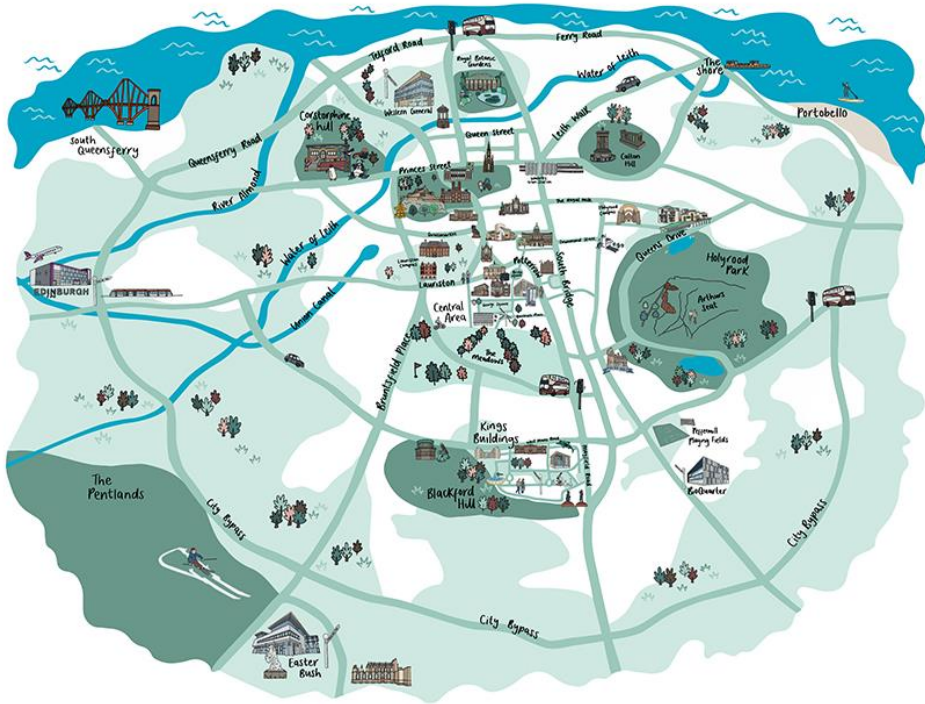*Professor Andrew Neal, Director of Postgraduate Research Programmes*

Email: sps.dpgr@ed.ac.uk

Toni Jenkins and Dave Nicol, Postgraduate Research Support Team

Email: pgresearch.sps@ed.ac.uk

Next steps…

https://virtualvisits.ed.ac.uk/pg
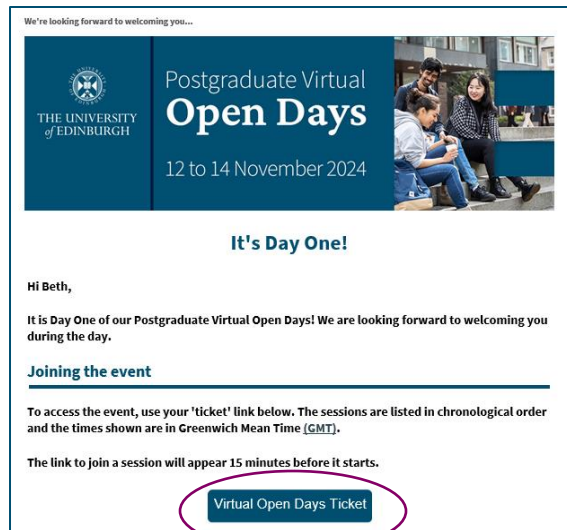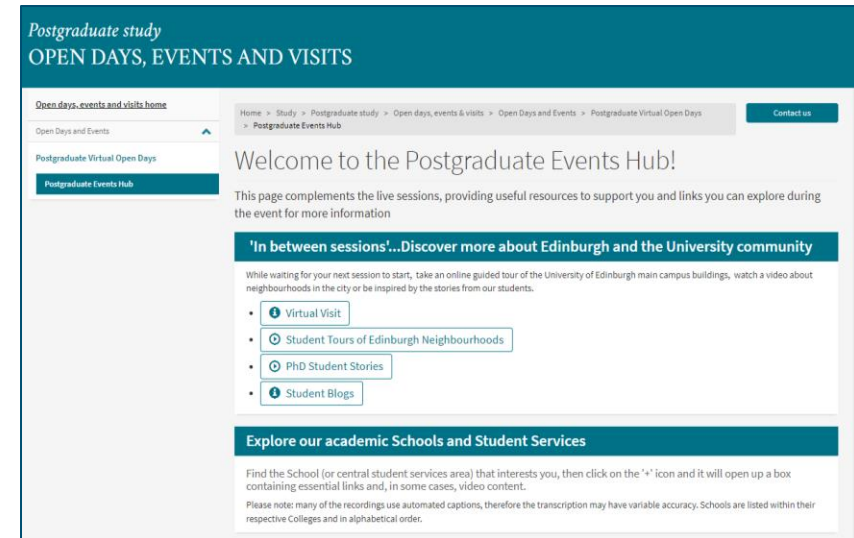
https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg

Thank you – click 'Leave' when the session ends

- Return to your 'e-ticket' to find and attend other sessions you've booked – by clicking on the button in the email we sent you…

- …and visit the events hub:
- https://edin.ac/4gZuP3G

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Thank you

Professor Andrew Neal, and Toni Jenkins

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