Economics MRes/PhD programme
Welcome to the School of Economics

The School of Economics is one of Europe’s top economics departments, combining excellence in teaching with an international reputation for rigorous and topical research of the highest quality.

We attract some of the very best students from across the globe to our large and vibrant postgraduate community. This provides a stimulating environment for learning and research, without losing the friendly and informal atmosphere for which Nottingham is renowned. We currently have around 80 PhD students with approximately 40% from the UK/EU and 60% from the wider world.

Our research-led approach to teaching and learning and the one-to-one expert supervision we provide will make your experience exciting and challenging. We also offer a number of fully-funded scholarship opportunities covering tuition fees and a stipend (see page 9 for details).

We are delighted that you are considering postgraduate research with the School of Economics. Whatever your plans and ambitions, we can equip you with the skills you need to take your economics further.
Excellent employment prospects

The School of Economics offers a leading MRes/PhD programme with an established academic reputation. Our students go on to a range of exciting careers in academia and the public and private sectors, including roles in economics departments, research institutions, government and organisations around the world.

Recent alumni

Georgia Michailidou received her PhD in experimental economics in 2018, researching economic morality using laboratory and field experiments. She is now a Postdoctoral Associate at NYU Abu Dhabi and an Affiliated Researcher at LISER in Luxembourg.

Martina Magli completed her PhD during 2019, researching trade in services and its effects on the labour market in the UK. After a stint at the Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, she starts her position as Assistant Professor at Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich in autumn of this year.

Mohamed Diaby also completed his PhD in 2019, studying topics in macro and monetary economics. He will join the International Monetary Fund as an Economist later this year.

Working in academia
In recent years, our PhD graduates have secured academic or postdoctoral positions at:

- London School of Economics
- University of Birmingham
- Monash University
- University of Bonn
- University of Essex
- University of Leicester
- University of Manchester
- University of Mannheim
- University of Oxford
- Yale University

Working in industry
Many of our PhD graduates choose a professional career path working as economists for government authorities and agencies, central banks, banking and financial institutions, consulting or international organisations. Recent examples include:

- Bank of England
- European Commission
- International Monetary Fund
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- Oxford Policy Management
- World Bank

“At Nottingham, I cemented my understanding of economics and developed skills in numerical general equilibrium modelling – a method used to evaluate sectoral and regional impacts of economic policies. I’ve used these skills throughout my career, even though the focus of my research has changed from trade policy issues to the analysis of climate and energy policies.”

Niven Winchester, PhD Economics
Environmental Energy Economist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

nottingham.ac.uk/economics/phd-careers
Renowned research centres

Much of our research is channelled through research centres. You can get involved in a working paper series or attend a range of seminars and conferences throughout the year, organised through the school and each centre.

Most academic staff are affiliated to at least one centre as internal fellows. We also have extensive networks of external fellows, drawn from other leading universities and the policy community around the world.

As a postgraduate research student, you may be directly affiliated to a research centre, or indirectly linked through your research topic and supervisors.

Centre for Research in Economic Development and International Trade
Director: Professor Oliver Moroney
Through this centre, we focus on economic policies in developing countries, especially relating to international trade, poverty, foreign aid, agriculture and commodity markets.

Centre for Research on Globalisation and Economic Policy
Director: Professor Giovanni Facchini
Since we first established this centre 20 years ago with core funding from the Leverhulme Trust, we have used scientific and policy-focused research techniques to examine trade, FDI and labour market issues.

We are particularly interested in the links between changes in patterns of international trade, cross-border investment and production, international regulation and labour market outcomes. Our latest project explores China and the world economy.

Centre for Finance, Credit and Macroeconomics
Director: Professor Paul Mizen
We look at issues arising from household and corporate debt through the centre, alongside default on debt and against a wider backdrop of credit markets and macroeconomy.

Our interests lie in theoretical and applied public economics and policy evaluation, with a particular focus on public economic theory, political economy, pensions, retirement and consumer finance, economics of education, health economics, and environmental policy.

Centre for Decision Research and Experimental Economics
Director: Professor Chris Starmer
Our behavioural and experimental economics research, and experimental economics laboratory, is based within this centre, which is one of the largest of its kind in Europe. We examine individual and interactive decision-making through a combination of theoretical and experimental methods.

On the theory side, this involves investigating individual choice under uncertainty, cooperative, non-cooperative and evolutionary game theory, and political economy. We apply experimental methods in, for example, the fields of social cooperation and sanctions, individual choice, strategic interaction, and the performance of auctions, markets and other economic institutions.

Granger Centre for Time Series Econometrics
Directors: Dr Anja Neundorf and Professor David Harvey
Our Granger Centre has been recognised as one of the leading research organisations in its field. Under this umbrella, we provide and facilitate rigorous theoretical, applied and computational research methods.

We are currently focusing on non-stationary time series methods, bootstrap and other numerical methods in time series, and panel data methods and applications.

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**The MRes/PhD experience**

**With expert supervision and additional research training, the School of Economics offers an excellent MRes/PhD programme.**

**Skills development**

During your MRes year, you will complete advanced-level taught modules in order to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge for research in economics. These are examined and you must pass to progress to our four-year PhD programme.

Core modules taught in the first term are in micro, macro and econometrics. In the second term, you can choose from advanced modules in macro, micro theory, applied econometrics, behavioural economics, and computational economics. Once admitted into the PhD, you will focus in more detail on your research while continuing to have access to research and generic skills training provided by the School of Economics and the Graduate School. Training is provided for the preparation of articles for submission to academic journals and for applying for jobs in academia.

**Expert teaching and supervision**

Our academic staff conduct world-leading research across a wide range of subjects, so we can offer expert supervision in most areas of the discipline. You will be assigned two supervisors who will help ensure smooth progress of your research work. For details of potential supervisors, please visit nottingham.ac.uk/economics/phd-supervisors

**Research seminars**

The school provides an exciting environment where you will be exposed to a rich variety of cutting edge research. Our seminar series attract internationally acclaimed academics from top economics departments and many run on a weekly basis during term-time.

These include seminars in:
- Behavioural and experimental economics (CeDEx seminar series)
- Macroeconomics and financial markets (CFCM seminar series)
- International economics (GEP seminar series)
- Development economics (CREDIT seminar series)
- Econometrics (Granger Centre seminar series)
- Political economy (NICEP seminar series)

In addition, the school runs a number of generalist seminars, including:
- Senior Academic Seminar Series - Recent speakers include Doug Bernheim (Stanford), David Laibson (Harvard), Gerard Padró i Miquel (Yale University), Gianluca Violante (Princeton University) and David Atkin (MIT)
- Public lectures and conferences - Recent public lectures were given by Colin Camerer (California Institute of Technology), Giovanni Maggi (Yale University) and Johanna Rickseck (Stockholm University and University of Nottingham)
- School of Economics brown bag seminars

**Dedicated facilities**

The school offers full-time postgraduate research students their own workspace and IT equipment in dedicated rooms. The University has good library facilities, including areas for group work, individual and silent study.

The Graduate School provides research training and professional development for postgraduates and early career researchers, in line with the standards set out by the UK’s major research funders through their researcher development programmes.

Student Services provide a range of support and information to enhance the student experience as part of a comprehensive network of University services that includes academic and disability support, counselling, financial support and childcare services. The Students’ Union is an important source of support with their own Student Advice Centre and dedicated Postgraduate Officer.

**How to apply**

**What we are looking for**

We recruit PhD students on merit, so your past academic performance is the most important criterion to be considered. We review your performance at undergraduate and postgraduate level and ensure that your MRes covered advanced level training in micro, macro, and econometrics.

**Your application**

The application should include a brief research proposal – a statement identifying a research question and your expected contribution to the field, details of the methodologies and data (if relevant) you plan to use, along with a discussion of the recent relevant literature published in leading international journals.

Your application must be supported by academic references; at least one from the masters programme you completed, which should comment on your suitability for and commitment to study economics at PhD level, as well as on your ranking within the student cohort.

You should provide information on how you plan to fund your studies, in particular which scholarships you have applied on plan to apply for. You can add a personal statement in the relevant section of the application form; if you wish to give us more insights into your experience and skills, a current CV is also useful.

**Tuition fees**

Tuition fees are listed on our online course pages and at nottingham.ac.uk/fees

**Entry requirements**

Applicants typically require an ESRC-recognised masters (or international equivalent) in economics, with an average of 63% or above. The school is currently looking at introducing a new research-based qualification (MRes Economics) which we hope to launch in 2020. The MRes will become the standard entry route to our PhD programme.

**EU and international applicants**

At Nottingham, our global community is made up of staff and students from more than 150 countries. Staff regularly travel to meet prospective students, hosting events in China, Ghana, India, Malaysia and more. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/go/countryevents

If you need a visa to study, the University can provide all the information and advice you need. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/go/student-visa

For country-specific information including entry requirements, contact details and representatives, see nottingham.ac.uk/go/yourcountry

**English language requirements**

For applicants whose first language is not English, we require IELTS 7.0 (no less than 6.0 in any element). For more information and a list of the alternative English language requirements we accept, see nottingham.ac.uk/go/alternativerequirements

**Academic preparation and support**

Accredited by the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK, the University’s Centre for English Language Education provides high-quality preparation and support. Our presessional courses can take your English language and academic skills to the level you need to progress to doctoral study without relaxing IELTS or equivalent. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/cele

**Home from home**

We guarantee all new postgraduate students University-arranged, single-occupancy accommodation for one year to help make your move to Nottingham as simple and stress free as possible. To qualify for the guarantee, you must accept a place on one of our postgraduate courses and apply for accommodation by the date specified on our website. Find out more about our accommodation, including details of our guarantees at nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

**Equal opportunities policy**

The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socioeconomic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.

**Funding your studies**

There are many ways to fund your research study including scholarship opportunities. The School of Economics offers a number of full-time PhD studentships covering a maintenance stipend and tuition fees for the duration of your studies, subject to satisfactory progress.

Applications are invited for any area of economics offered in the school; successful students will be asked to work as teaching assistants during the course of their studies. For more information, visit nottingham.ac.uk/economics/phd-finance

International scholarships are also available for specific countries and regions. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/go/research-scholarships

For more information, visit nottingham.ac.uk/economics/phd-finance

For country-specific information including entry requirements, contact details and representatives, see nottingham.ac.uk/go/yourcountry

**nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy/how-to-apply**
At the University of Nottingham, we deliver exceptional teaching, led by research that solves global challenges.

We are International and Sports University of the Year, according to The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, and consistently ranked among the world’s top 100 universities by QS. Research at Nottingham generates discoveries, many of which have profound social, economic and cultural benefits. The latest Research Excellence Framework ranked us 8th in the UK for research power. Our cutting-edge facilities, leading academics and industry connections offer opportunities to develop your potential.

As a postgraduate student, you will be supported academically and personally. Our experienced staff can advise you on issues ranging from your course to finances, wellbeing and career planning.

Once you have completed your studies, you will become part of a global network of 280,000 alumni. You will be invited to exclusive events and will also benefit from lifetime access to our Careers and Employability Service.

Inspired location

Home to the School of Economics, the Sir Clive Granger Building is named in honour of the 2003 Nobel Prize winner who was a student and member of staff at Nottingham for over 20 years.

City life

As the commercial and cultural capital of the East Midlands, Nottingham is home to several major UK employers, including Walgreens Boots Alliance, Experian, Capital One, E.ON and the Inland Revenue.

Many large blue-chip companies and prominent organisations have offices in and around the city and the University has strong links with many of them, including Rolls-Royce, based nearby in Derby. Nottingham is an old city with a rich history, taking in the legends of Robin Hood, its role in the English Civil War and the industrial revolution. You can explore the ancient caves beneath your feet, or take a relaxing walk through Wollaton Park and visit its imposing Elizabethan hall, which appeared as Wayne Manor in the Batman film The Dark Knight Rises.

Nottingham’s music venues include something for everyone. The legendary Rock City hosts top rock and indie acts, Motorpoint Arena attracts nationwide music and comedy tours, while venues such as Rescue Rooms and the Bodega Social Club showcase the latest alternative acts. The Royal Concert Hall at the Theatre Royal also hosts opera and classical concerts.

As well as the University’s arts centre and museum, you’ll find a selection of contemporary and traditional art galleries in the city. There are multiplex cinemas and independent screens such as Broadway, offering the best in arthouse and world cinema. The city has two large theatres, as well as smaller venues including those with regular comedy nights. Nottingham is also a UNESCO City of Literature. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

nottingham.ac.uk/economics
For postgraduate research contact:
Student Recruitment Support Hub
+44 (0)115 951 5559
nottingham.ac.uk/contact
@UoNEconomics
nottingham.ac.uk/economics

This brochure has been drafted in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is accurate at the time of publishing, but changes (for example to course content) are likely to occur given the interval between publication and commencement of the course. It is therefore very important to check our website for any updates before you apply for the course by following nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy. Where there is a difference between the contents of this brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence.

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