

# Career Essentials: Find and Fund a PhD

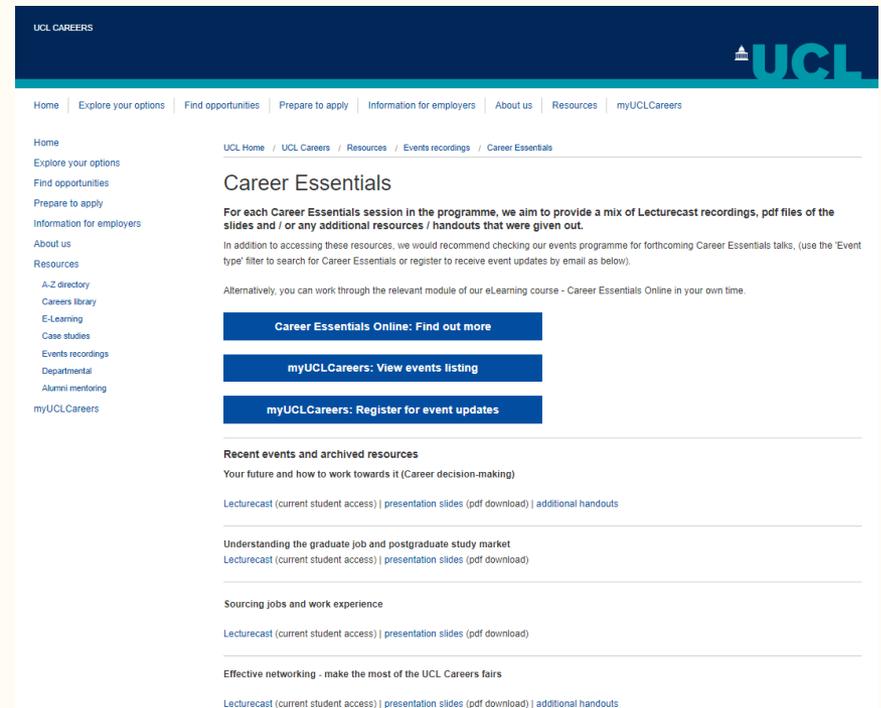
# Career Essentials programme 2020 - 2021

- 12 title lunchtime talks.
- Small Group Work sessions (CV).
- 3 title workshops covering LinkedIn, Mock Assessment Centres and MBTI Personality Profiling.
- 6 module e-learning course.

# Slides and recordings

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/careers/resources/slides/career-essentials>

Search 'UCL Career Essentials'



The screenshot shows the UCL Careers website page for Career Essentials. The page has a dark blue header with the UCL logo and navigation links. A left sidebar contains a list of menu items. The main content area features a title 'Career Essentials', a brief description of the resources, and three prominent blue buttons for further action. Below this, there are sections for 'Recent events and archived resources' with links to various lecture recordings and presentations.

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UCL Home / UCL Careers / Resources / Events recordings / Career Essentials

## Career Essentials

For each Career Essentials session in the programme, we aim to provide a mix of Lecturecast recordings, pdf files of the slides and / or any additional resources / handouts that were given out.

In addition to accessing these resources, we would recommend checking our events programme for forthcoming Career Essentials talks, (use the 'Event type' filter to search for Career Essentials or register to receive event updates by email as below).

Alternatively, you can work through the relevant module of our eLearning course - Career Essentials Online in your own time.

**Career Essentials Online: Find out more**

**myUCLCareers: View events listing**

**myUCLCareers: Register for event updates**

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**Recent events and archived resources**

Your future and how to work towards it (Career decision-making)

[Lecturecast \(current student access\)](#) | [presentation slides \(pdf download\)](#) | [additional handouts](#)

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**Understanding the graduate job and postgraduate study market**

[Lecturecast \(current student access\)](#) | [presentation slides \(pdf download\)](#)

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**Sourcing jobs and work experience**

[Lecturecast \(current student access\)](#) | [presentation slides \(pdf download\)](#)

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**Effective networking - make the most of the UCL Careers fairs**

[Lecturecast \(current student access\)](#) | [presentation slides \(pdf download\)](#) | [additional handouts](#)

# What we will cover today

- What is a PhD and why would I want one?
- Types of doctoral degree
- Who funds doctoral degrees?
- Opportunities for International Students
- How do I find a PhD?
- General Issues to Consider
- How have/will PhDs be affected by the current situation?

# What is a PhD?

# What is a PhD?

- A novel, in-depth study of a specific field
- Results in written report as Thesis or Dissertation (length varies; in science average 40,000-50,000 words, in humanities/social science about 80,000 words)
- Oral examination, with 2+ experts ('Viva') follows submission
- Work closely with one, or more, experienced researchers (PhD supervisors)
- Most in **Universities** and other HEI's (trend towards doctoral training centres)
- **Non/less-academic:** e.g. industry, government labs, Hospital labs, Research Institutions, cultural heritage institutions collaborations with academia

# PhDs

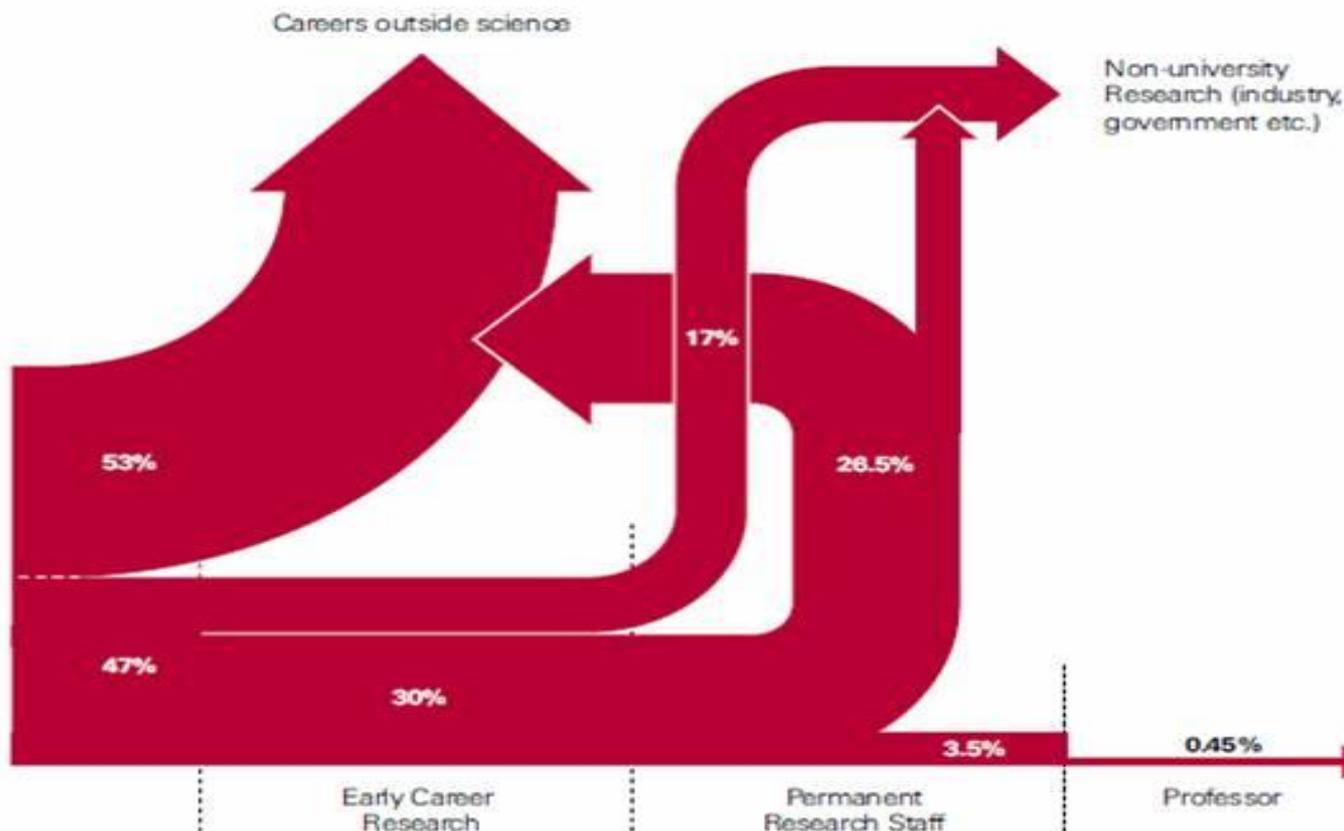
- Either after first degree or masters
- Often require 2:1 or equivalent
- In UK, traditionally 3 years, trend to 4.
- Some PhDs – taught element
- Many institutions, first year as MPhil then transfer to PhD
- Doctorates with substantial taught core available in some vocations e.g. Engineering (EngD) and Business (DBA)
- Part time PhDs possible – 5 or 6 years
- US PhDs 4-6 years with taught elements and often teaching requirement

# Why would I want one? Possible benefits

# Why would I want one? Possible benefits

- **Allows you to focus on a niche area of interest for many years**
- **Allows entry to some professions:**
  - Academic Career, Research Psychology
- **Other research careers - can be an advantage** and / or allows entry to senior research positions e.g. Commercial R&D, medical communication, policy or cultural work, curator, advisor roles within think tanks etc.
- **Other *possible* benefits** - Greater credibility, deeper knowledge, developed skills, more experience, wider contacts, international flexibility, confers the title “Dr”

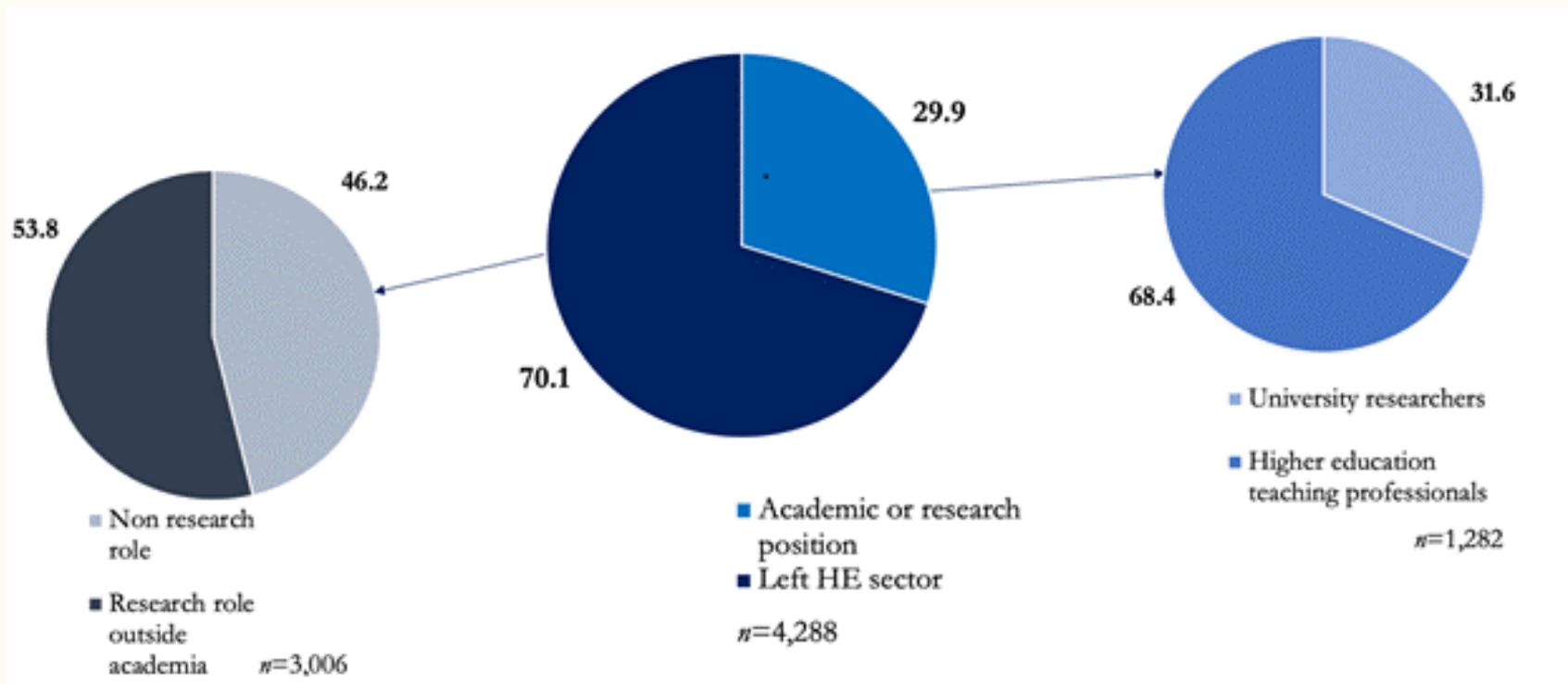
Figure 1.6 Careers in and outside science



The transition points in typical academic scientific careers following a PhD

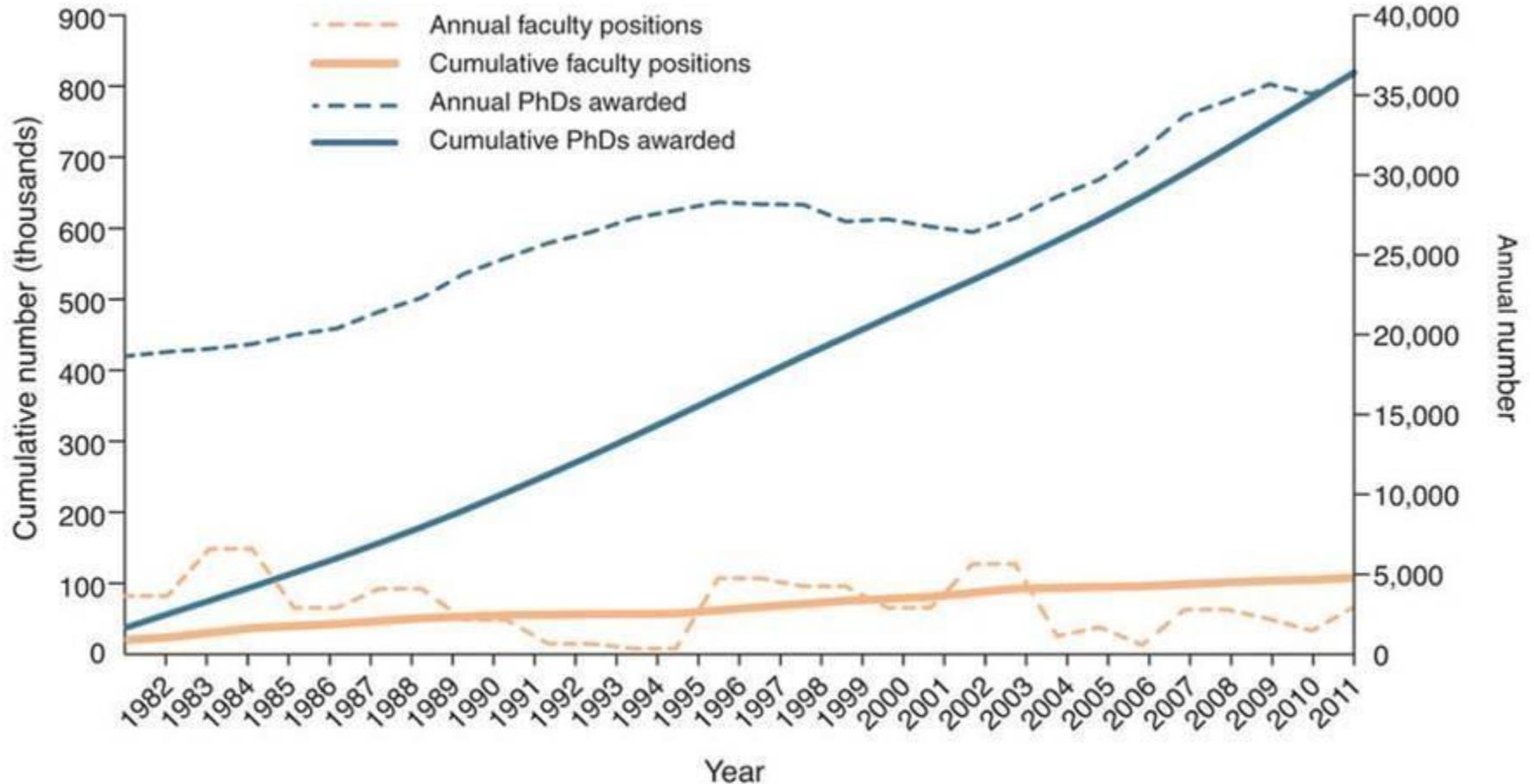
<https://royalsociety.org/> - 'The Scientific Century' (2010)

# UK PhDs 3.5 years after graduation



[HEPI report, Hancock, 2020](#)

# Faculty positions vs PhDs awarded



Reprinted from: Schillebeeckx et al. 2013. The missing piece to changing the university culture, *Nature Biotechnology*

Posted by Dr Sarah Blackford, 2018



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## Researcher case studies

If you are a research student or research staff member, a great way to explore your options and plan your next steps is by accessing the career stories of other researchers.

We have interviewed many doctoral graduates (UCL alumni and alumni of other Universities) in both academic and non-academic occupations.

You can read, or listen, to their personal testimony by clicking on the relevant occupational category below.



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">Academia</a>                                 | <a href="#">Intellectual property</a>                   |
| <a href="#">Education and public engagement</a>          | <a href="#">Business and management consultancy</a>     |
| <a href="#">Science communication</a>                    | <a href="#">Data science and information technology</a> |
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## UCL Researchers

### Welcome

The UCL Careers team use this Blog to share their 'news and views' about careers with you. You will find snippets about a whole range of career related issues, news from recruiters and links to interesting articles in the media.

We hope you enjoy reading the Blog and will be inspired to tell us your views.

If you want to suggest things that students and graduates might find helpful, please let us know – we want to hear from you.

Karen Barnard – Head of UCL Careers

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Biotechnology careers careers

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Employability

## A PhD working in Biotech Venture Capital

By S Donaldson, on 25 September 2018

**Dr Jonathan Tobin has a PhD in Molecular Medicine from UCL, and is now an Investment Director at Arix Bioscience. Here he tells us about his current role and career path.**

### What are you up to now?

I'm a Biotechnology Venture Capitalist. That basically involves finding interesting and novel ideas for new drugs and therapeutics, and either building a company from scratch – finding a management team, and putting money into the company, and helping to develop the products; or finding a company that already exists, with a management team in place, and leading an investment into the company. Some of our investments are in very early pre-clinical work from academia, some are already in patients – phase II or phase III testing. We work in the UK, Europe, Israel, Australia, US, and Canada, and we have an office in London and one in New York. We've got about £250 million to invest with. A part of my role is helping raise capital, but that responsibility mostly falls to the CEO. Our capital comes from a variety of sources, including pharma companies, institutional investors, mutual funds, family offices, and wealth managers who manage money for clients. We've invested in 15 companies in the last two years, and four of those we've started from scratch ourselves.

### How did you get here?

I'd always been interested in business, partly because my family have always been in business – they own a firm of chartered surveyors founded by grandfather in 1930. When I was growing up all the dinner table conversation was often about business, few in my family had really been to university or been academics. I was the first person to show a strong interest in science and research, but at the same time I had been imbued with a business mentality. If I hadn't been so interested in biology I might have joined my Dad's company, like he joined his Dad's company.



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**Biotechnology careers careers advice Careers case study**

# A pint of careers story with Pint of Science's Elodie Chabrol

By S Donaldson, on 11 December 2017

Dr Elodie Chabrol has a PhD in neurogenetics, and spent 7 years as a postdoctoral researcher at UCL. She's now a full-time event organiser and science communicator, and she kindly agreed to share her journey and top tips with us.

What are you up to at the moment?

I'm the International Director for the festival Pint of Science. I'm in charge of the international development meaning I help new countries to set up the festival locally.

How did you move from academia to your current role?

I worked voluntarily for the festival during 4 years while being a post doc. I created the French branch of the festival and developed it, so naturally when the Pint of Science founders earned enough to pay me to do that as a full time job I joined the adventure and left academia. I decided academia wasn't for me a year before leaving. I was in a very competitive field and wasn't very much supported by my head of the lab and I felt I was enjoying more science communication than academia. I finished my project and left.

What does a normal working day look like for you?

There is no normal day when you plan an event/festival because every day has a new challenge, especially now that I work with 10 new countries. But I'm basically on my computer, I have a lot of digital interactions (skype, emails etc) and I communicate a lot about the festival (Facebook, twitter etc). I talk to every country at least once a week to be sure everyone is ok



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networking workshop  
especially for PhDs on  
Tuesday 9th October 6-8pm.  
Click here for info on this and  
more OW events, and to  
register: [owymn/2RryoUi](https://owymn.com/2RryoUi)  
[@OliverWyman](https://owymn.com)



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## Moving from a PhD to Life Science Consulting

By S Donaldson, on 19 July 2018



Dr Rounteen Keshe has a PhD in Biochemical Engineering and Bioprocess Leadership from UCL, and is now a Consultant at Kinapse, an advisory and operational services provider to the global Life Sciences industry. Rounteen contributed to our 2018 Life and Health Science Biology and Business careers panel, and kindly agreed to help out those of you couldn't make it to the panel by telling us about his career journey for our blog.

### Tell us about your current role and organisation.

Kinapse is a specialist advisory and managed service provider trusted by 19 of the top 25 pharmaceutical companies in the world, as well as some of the fastest-growing contenders, to design, build and operate critical business processes. Our Advisory services team supports the design and implementation of improvements or transformational

changes to operating models across multiple areas ranging from R&D operations to Market Access.

As a consultant within Kinapse my role consists of researching and writing thought capital around the pharmaceutical industry, scoping out potential work with existing and new clients, writing project proposals, and planning, managing and contributing to small and large projects. I have worked on a number of strategic and change management projects across Medical Affairs, R&D, and Clinical Operations. The work involves first understanding the client's requirements before presenting recommendations based on the collective experience of your team to collaboratively develop a vision for the future state of the business unit/process. One of the fun bits is then figuring out how to introduce these changes in large, traditional organisations before finally executing the plans you have developed.

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## Getting paid to drink wine: from academic to wine buyer

By S Donaldson, on 10 May 2018



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**Q: Do PhDs get paid more than other graduates?**

# Q: Do PhDs get paid more than other graduates?

- Yes. Sort of. Ish.
  - 13.5% of employers willing to pay a premium for PhDs – in 2011 this was £2,000 (AGR, 2011 and 2013)
  - 3% pay premium compared to other grads (Casey, 2009)
  - US ~7-33% more lifetime earnings than Masters grads (2014)

# Why do a PhD?

## Good reasons to do a PhD

- To achieve something significant
- To discover or learn something new
- To improve yourself and your life
- It fits you

## Bad reasons to do a PhD

- Keeping your visa
- Peer pressure
- Horrible job
- Fulfilling the ambitions of others
- Rebelling
- Misplaced genius complex
- Insecurity
- You've done this kind of thing before

# Advice from UCL PhD Graduates

## Postdoctoral Researchers

- Find a research area that you really enjoy and choose wisely when picking a **supervisor** and PhD program.
- It requires a **lot of work** and dedication. It is important to think about whether you really want to pursue it.
- For some careers, a PhD may not be required, but it will always provide you with **better ways of thinking and viewing problems.**

## Associate Editor, a Science Newsmagazine

- Do it because you really **love the subject**, not because you just want to get ahead.

## Senior Scientific Officer, a biotech

- Choose a subject carefully with a **job and career path in mind.**

# Types of PhD

# Professional Doctorates

- Main areas: **engineering, education, clinical psychology, nursing, business admin, medicine**
- Completion of original piece of research (professional context) - Thesis.
- Confers title 'Dr'
- More appropriate for those pursuing **professional** rather than academic careers.
- Include a large taught or directed study element,- formally assessed
- Taught element – relates to professional practice
- Entry criteria depend on subject;
  - EngD – graduate level + 2:1
  - Others: masters level + substantial professional experience

# Academic Doctorates

[Neuroscience](#)
[Personalised  
Medicine](#)
[Populations &  
Lifelong Health](#)
[Environment](#)
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## Four Year PhD Programmes

Increasingly PhD provision at UCL is offered through four-year programmes funded by the [Wellcome Trust](#), [Medical Research Council](#), [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council](#) or [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council](#). Available opportunities include our flagship UCL Neuroscience four year PhD programme:

- [Clinical Neurosciences \(Brain Research Trust/MRC\)](#)
- [CoMPLEX - Centre for Mathematics and Physics in the Life Sciences & Experimental Biology \(EPSRC/MRC\)](#)
- [Developmental and Stem Cell Biology \(Wellcome Trust\)](#)
- [Gatsby Computational and Theoretical Neuroscience programme](#)
- [Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Biology \(MRC\)](#)
- [Leonard Wolfson Clinical Fellowship and PhD Programme \(Wolfson Foundation\)](#)
- [London Interdisciplinary Biosciences PhD Consortium \(BBSRC\)](#)
- [MRC Prion Unit](#)
- [Neuroscience \(Wellcome Trust/MRC\)](#)
- [Translational Research of Neuromuscular Disease \(MRC\)](#)
- [Mental Health Sciences](#)
- [UCL-NIMH/NINDS Joint Doctoral Training Program in Neuroscience](#)

Students may apply to more than one PhD programme at the same time.

# Doctoral training Partnerships (DTPs) or Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs)

- 1<sup>st</sup> year: formal teaching and lab rotations
- BBSRC program includes 3 month work placement in external organisation – to focus on transferrable skills

# Postgraduate Research Degrees in the US

- **Academic / Research Master's Degree**
- 2 years
- Complete a thesis
- Can lead to doctoral study
- **Doctoral Degree**
- 4 – 6 years (subject & funding dependent)
- 2 years course work – oral & written qualifying exams
- Doctoral Candidacy – 2/3 years  
dissertation research
- At end, dissertation & oral exam '*Defence*'



[www.fulbright.org.uk](http://www.fulbright.org.uk)

**Who pays for  
all of this?**

# PhD funding sources in the UK

- **UK Research and Innovation** ([www.ukri.org](http://www.ukri.org))
  - 7 research councils - BBSRC, MRC, NERC, EPSRC, STFC, ESRC, AHRC
- **UK-based Research Charities**, e.g. medical: [www.amrc.org.uk](http://www.amrc.org.uk)
- **NIHR** – National Institute of Health Research
- **Trans-national agencies & charities** e.g. EU, WHO, Gates Foundation
- **Overseas Funding Bodies**
- Universities – **Scholarships & awards**
- Supervisor's or host departments **research budget**
- **Self funders** (e.g. part time work / PhD, e.g. some Research Assistant roles)

# Research Charities that fund PhDs

## Some Examples

- [The Wellcome Trust](#)
- [Cancer Research UK](#)
- [The British Academy](#)
- [The British Federation of Women Graduates](#)
- [The Institution of Civil Engineers](#)
- [Institution of Engineering & Technology](#)
- [Institution of Mechanical Engineers](#)
- [Royal Geographical Society](#)
- [Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland](#)
- [Leverhulme Trust](#)
- [Action Medical Research](#)

# Where to look for funding

- **HE Institutional & Departmental Research Scholarships**

(e.g. [www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/))

- [www.postgraduatesearch.com/funding](http://www.postgraduatesearch.com/funding)
- [www.gov.uk/funding-for-postgraduate-study](http://www.gov.uk/funding-for-postgraduate-study) (includes new postgraduate doctoral loan scheme)
- [www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/phd-study](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/phd-study)
- **The Grants Register** (book, published annually)
- [www.postgraduate-funding.com/gateway](http://www.postgraduate-funding.com/gateway)
- [www.researchprofessional.com](http://www.researchprofessional.com)

# Funding for international/EU students

- [www.ukri.org/news/ukri-funded-postgraduate-programmes-to-open-to-international-students](http://www.ukri.org/news/ukri-funded-postgraduate-programmes-to-open-to-international-students)
- International PhD Students to now be Eligible for **Research Council Studentships** in 2021/22
- They will get stipend to support living costs and fees at research organisations UK rate (won't cover international fees set by Unis.)
- In 2021/22 EU students will be classed as internationals (some exceptions)
- The proportion of international PhD students granted funding will be capped at **30%** of the total for each programme.

# International students funding opportunities

**KEY ADVICE:** Check your home country funding bodies & charities



[www.findaphd.com](http://www.findaphd.com)

**'Funding' page**

- British Council Fellowships Programme
- Commonwealth Scholarships Plan
- British Marshall Scholarships – US citizens
- Fulbright Scholarships
- JASON – Australian nationals
- Overseas Research Scholarships
- CORDIS – EU

# Scholarships at UCL

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING



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### Information for Prospective Students

- [▶ Prospective Students](#)
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- [▶ Scholarships and funding](#)
  - News and updates
  - Current Students
  - Bursaries
  - Student loans
  - Contact details
  - Other Funding
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If you're a continuing student planning on funding your study next year with Student Finance

## Scholarships and funding

UCL offers a range of financial awards aimed at assisting both prospective and current students with their studies.

### Scholarships finder

#### Show me schemes for

- Prospective students**  Current students

Reset

#### Academic year

- 2018/19  **2019/20**

#### Level of study

- Undergraduate (e.g. BA, BSc, LLB)  
 Graduate taught (e.g. MA, MSc, LLM)  
 **Graduate research (e.g. MPhil/PhD)**

#### UCL department

OR

#### Country of Domicile

#### Search by scholarship name

Search

\*Searches all schemes

# Example Scholarships at UCL

- [www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships)
- UCL Overseas Research Scholarships (~35) – reduce tuition fee level to equivalent of UK/EU student, can cover all fees if necessary (not living costs)
- UCL Graduate Research Scholarships (up to 20 per year) – cover fees equivalent to UK/EU rate plus stipend

**(Last year):** “You must apply for admission and submit the additional information to your department no later than **10 Jan 2020**. Please be aware that some academic departments set their own deadlines which may be **earlier than this date**, so make sure you check with them directly.”

- **Country/region specific** e.g. CSC-UCL Joint Research Scholarship (d/l last year was **17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020**)

# International Scholarships at Research Intensive Institutions: some examples



## Imperial College President's PhD Scholarships

For 2020/21:

~50 places

- Open to UG's & Masters
- 3.5 yrs, fees & £21k stipend
- **No Nationality Restrictions**



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

## Cambridge International Scholarships Scheme

- Total of 250 scholarships – (combined with those for UK/EU students)
- Covers fees and maintenance
- 3 yrs PhDs
- Must be registered for PhD or 'probationary'
- **Deadline December**



## Funding and Scholarships Page

- Searchable database – University-wide scholarships
- Lists funding by global Regions
- College – specific scholarships

# Some Non UK Resources

- **Fulbright Commission** – [www.fulbright.co.uk](http://www.fulbright.co.uk) - courses, funding, tests, deadlines, applications, rankings etc. Open Days & Careers Service
- [www.gradschools.com](http://www.gradschools.com) – globally advertised opportunities
- [www.studyusa.com](http://www.studyusa.com) – general info on study and life in USA
- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) – postgraduate study – study abroad
- [www.eurograduate.com](http://www.eurograduate.com) – includes database of courses and research
- Research specific publications *e.g. Science Magazine*
- [www.findaphd.com](http://www.findaphd.com) – International PhD Programs

# How do I find a PhD?

# Advertised opportunities

- Findaphd.com -(includes professional doctorates)
- [www.nature.com/naturejobs](http://www.nature.com/naturejobs) – search ‘studentships’ – UK & International
- [www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/](http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/) - includes funders
- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) (Postgrad. Section - type ‘PhD’ into keyword search)
- Institution websites: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/research-degrees/studentships>

# Proactive Applications for Research Studentships

## 1. Check Entry Requirements



## 2. Do your Homework

Subject index, research groups, departments



## 3. Enquire before you Apply

- Specific academic or graduate tutor
  - Self funded or need funding
  - **Download UCL guidance document** – how to write proposal and contact academics
- 

## 4. Submit formal Application

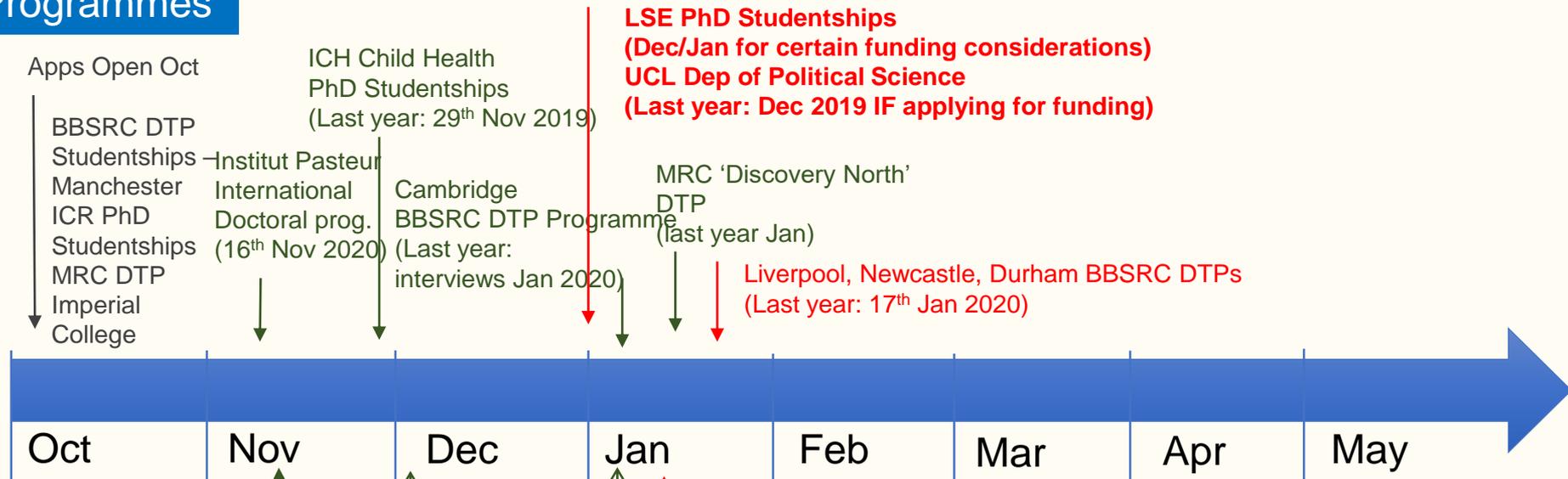
- If unfunded program, applications for funding usually submitted after acceptance to program

# When do I apply?

- Adverts for individual PhD projects can appear at anytime of year – depending on when supervisors are awarded funding
- PhD and funding application deadlines, and PhD start dates can fall throughout the year
- BUT...many PhDs follow the academic calendar, starting in the Autumn
- **Some key program and funding deadlines fall early in the previous academic year.....**

# Example deadlines

## PhD Programmes



## Funding



FIND *your* FUTURE

# Example PhD opportunities job.ac.uk

## PhD Studentship - Enhancing Numerical Cognition in Children

University College Dublin - UCD School of Psychology

<b>Qualification Type:</b>	PhD	<b>Placed On:</b>	15th May 2020
<b>Location:</b>	Dublin - Ireland	<b>Closes:</b>	15th July 2020
<b>Funding for:</b>	UK Students, EU Students, International Students		
<b>Funding amount:</b>	€18,000 £15,183 converted salary*		
<b>Hours:</b>	Full Time		

## PhD in Advanced Composites

University of Bristol - Centre for Doctoral Training in Composites Science, Engineering and Manufacturing

<b>Qualification Type:</b>	PhD	<b>Placed On:</b>	4th May 2020
<b>Location:</b>	Bristol	<b>Closes:</b>	31st July 2020
<b>Funding for:</b>	UK Students, EU Students		
<b>Funding amount:</b>	Enhanced EPSRC studentships covering fees and living costs are available to UK/EU students		
<b>Hours:</b>	Full Time		

## PhD Studentship - Modifier Genes and Therapeutics Development for Joubert Syndrome

Newcastle University - Faculty of Medical Sciences

<b>Qualification Type:</b>	PhD	<b>Placed On:</b>	27th March 2020
<b>Location:</b>	Newcastle upon Tyne	<b>Closes:</b>	22nd July 2020
<b>Funding for:</b>	UK Students, EU Students, International Students		
<b>Funding amount:</b>	£15,285		
<b>Hours:</b>	Full Time		

# Proactive PhD sourcing

[www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/research-degrees/application-guidelines/all-applicants](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/research-degrees/application-guidelines/all-applicants)

## Speculative opportunities

Most opportunities, and potential funding, are not packaged as studentships or advertised. Exceptional students, that meet the entrance requirements, are therefore encouraged to be proactive to identify opportunities with UCL academics whose recent research closely matches their interests.

There are three main ways to identify an appropriate supervisor to contact:

- Browse research programmes to find centres of research in your area of interest. Click through to the department or centre website to find staff profiles.
- Look on UCL's Institutional Research Information System (IRIS) where you can search for relevant academic units and potential supervisors by keyword. Not all academics are listed in IRIS but it is a good place to start.
- Search our online research repository (UCL Discovery) where all UCL's research papers are published, subject to approvals. If you identify a research paper that particularly interests you it is likely that one of the authors would be a suitable research supervisor.

If an academic is very impressed with your research experience and proposal they may be able to help you to identify sources of funding, including from their own, or departmental, research funds. There are also UCL scholarships that they can nominate you for.

[UCL's Institutional Research Information System \(IRIS\)](#)

[UCL Discovery](#)

## 3. Making a research enquiry

All prospective applicants, except those applying for advertised studentships, are encouraged to send an informal research enquiry. This should either be sent directly to the academic you are interested in working with or the departmental contact.

Making a research enquiry helps define your interests, contributes to making your application successful, and also serves to ensure the identification of the best possible supervisor for your needs.

You can find contact details for academic departments at the bottom of relevant programme pages. Alternatively you can find Graduate Tutor information on the UCL Doctoral School website.

More information on how to contact potential supervisors and write a research proposal can be found in our guidance document.

 [PhD Application Guidance Document](#)

# Follow the quality [www.ref.ac.uk](http://www.ref.ac.uk)

results.ref.ac.uk/Results/BySubmission/457

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**View submission**  
 28 - Modern Languages and Linguistics  
 School of Oriental and African Studies

		% of the submission meeting the standard for:					
		4*	3*	2*	1*	U/C	4* 3* 2* 1* u/c*
Research groups	Staff members						
	Outputs						
Environment	Impact	27	39	26	7	1	
	Outputs	29.6	29.7	27.7	11.1	1.9	
Introduction	Impact	0.0	70.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	
	Environment	50.0	40.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	

Analysis: Category A staff FTE: 12.35 | Category C staff headcount: 0 | Category A and C staff headcount: 14

**View submission data**

- [Research groups \(RG\)](#)
- [Staff members \(REF1a/c\)](#)
- [Research outputs \(REF2\)](#)
- [Impact template & case studies \(REF3a/b\)](#)
- [Environment template & data \(REF4a/b/c, REF5\)](#)

Contact REF | Copyright ©2014 REF | Disclaimer

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# Follow the Money

<http://gtr.ukri.org>



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\*

Please select the required search fields:

ORCID iD  Project Abstract  Project Reference  Project Title

**Projects (103969)** [Publications \(881840\)](#) [People \(88975\)](#) [Organisations \(45885\)](#) [Outcomes \(733268\)](#) [Classifications \(103969\)](#)

Start Date ▾ End Date Funded Value Relevance

- £1,575,601  
Jun 21 - May 25

**Seabed Mining And Resilience To EXperimental impact**  
NERC award to National Oceanography Centre (WEF011019) and Daniel Oliver Jones
- £160,423  
Jun 21 - May 25

**Seabed Mining And Resilience To EXperimental impact**  
NERC award to Heriot-Watt University and Andrew Sweetman
- £218,844  
Jun 21 - May 25

**Seabed Mining And Resilience To EXperimental impact**  
NERC award to Scottish Association For Marine Science and Andrew Christopher Dale
- £45,445

**Seabed Mining And Resilience To EXperimental impact**

**Refine by :**

**Project Status**

- Active (32908)
- Closed (71061)

**Funded Amount**

- Up to £100K (48208)
- £100K to £1M (47428)
- £1M to £10M (7955)
- Above £10M (378)

# Finding the right PhD: Questions to ask

- **What topic would I like to research?**
- What is the research reputation of the group / department (REF - [www.ref.ac.uk/](http://www.ref.ac.uk/); research funding)?
- How good are the facilities?
- Will I get formal training? – techniques, seminars
- What useful research skills will I develop?
- Are departmental systems in place if I need help?



## Research Manager (Supervisor)

- Approachable ?
- Available ?
- Amenable ?

How will PhD recruitment and study be affected by current events?

## How will PhD recruitment and study be affected by current events?

- ....difficult to say exactly now...but some things to consider....
- 100% UCL PhD recruiters surveyed report recruiting as normal for 2020 and 2021 intake (although with a “seeing how it goes” message from some)
- Many reporting changes to PhD training and projects – moving online/towards data analysis projects etc.
- (Pre-COVID-19) Government ambition of increasing expenditure on research and development to 2.4 per cent of GDP by 2027, it is estimated that a further [25,000 PhD students](#) will need to be recruited.
- Post-COVID-19, funding is likely to be affected somewhat – starting with research charities like Cancer Research UK: “With great regret, we’ve also had to take immediate action to reduce our spending on research funding.”: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/research-services/news/2020/jun/covid-19-impact-research-funding>
- Competition may increase: during the last recession the UK saw a large increase in postgraduate study applications

# Useful resources

- [www.ucl.ac.uk/careers/options/explore/further\\_study](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/careers/options/explore/further_study)
- [thesiswhisperer.com](http://thesiswhisperer.com)
- [www.findaphd.com/advice/](http://www.findaphd.com/advice/)
- [www.jobs.ac.uk/careers-advice/studentships](http://www.jobs.ac.uk/careers-advice/studentships)
- [www.vitae.ac.uk](http://www.vitae.ac.uk)
- #phdchat

# Online UCL Careers 1 to 1 Support

- Applications advice (20 minutes)
- Short guidance (20 minutes)
- Practice Interview (60 minutes, on condition of real employer interview)

# Questions?

