RESEARCH DEGREES
PORTFOLIO

Built on our heritage.
Designed for your future.
I am delighted that you are considering the MSc by research, MPhil or PhD in Management programme at the University of Edinburgh Business School. You will be joining a group of talented, dynamic students who are very much at the heart of the community here.

The Doctoral programmes attract students from around the globe with over 20 nationalities represented across 100 students. This diverse mix provides an excellent environment to stimulate debate and promote the sharing of ideas and research experience.

In the following pages you will find details of research interests within the School and the programme structure which includes a structured and intensive research training programme for MRes students and first-year MPhil and PhD students. We strongly believe that this exposure to core research skills including qualitative and quantitative data analysis, research design and data collection produces students with the knowledge, expertise and skills necessary to develop a successful academic career.

Our facilities for Doctoral students are second-to-none with dedicated office space close to staff, dedicated PhD syndicate rooms for meetings as well as access to staff areas including conference rooms and staff room.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you require any further advice and I hope to welcome you to the University of Edinburgh Business School in the future.

Bill Rees, Director of the Doctoral Programme

‘Inspired by my MBA dissertation supervisor and motivated by my serious and developed interest in strategic HRM, I decided to apply to the PhD programme. The combination of a strong academic research environment and supportive community has enabled me to enjoy every step of my PhD journey so far.’

Bing Wu Berberich, PhD Student
The University of Edinburgh Business School enjoys a long tradition of teaching and research.

The School offers undergraduate, postgraduate and executive education programmes in business and management and provides a platform for research, discussion and debate on a wide range of business issues. The School has a worldclass faculty of over 70 members. The 2011/12 student population is close to 1,400 (with more than 500 students pursuing postgraduate studies). Part of the University of Edinburgh, one of the world’s top 20 universities with a rich heritage of delivering education for over 400 years, the Business School has an international student body typically representing more than 88 countries.

City of Culture
Edinburgh is a major European capital, a place where history can be felt in every beautiful cobbled street and elegant crescent. A World Heritage site, it is a city of hospitality and creativity. For generations, the gifted and the inspired; the artist and the scientist have made Edinburgh their home. Named the ‘Best Place to Live and Work in the UK’, Edinburgh is an attractive city, notable for fine Georgian and Victorian architecture, striking parks and gardens. Here, you’ll find a royal palace, a clifftop castle and an extinct volcano – all in the heart of the city.

Cutting edge research
Research is the lifeblood of any major Business School, creating leading-edge thinking that will inform and sometimes revolutionise future business strategy. Be it methodological, applied or blue sky, the research conducted at Edinburgh seeks to set the agenda across a wide range of business disciplines. Our research clusters are staffed by teams whose work has real influence in business, in government and the public sector. The latest research to come out of the School includes some truly groundbreaking work in carbon management, finance, credit scoring and public management.

International impact
Business is global. So are we. Our students, like many of our teaching faculty, have an international background in terms of nationality and career. This strong sense of internationalism creates a lively theatre of debate among students and between students and faculty. We always look to create a mix of nationalities and backgrounds so that we are able to learn from each other, sharing ideas and insights into different cultures.

The University of Edinburgh Business School faculty numbers some 71, with some 1,400 students studying here at any one time. Our faculty has substantial commercial experience and an impressive track record in the publication of original research and our professors are some of the most respected in business academia.

Impressive resources
With ambitious plans to become one of the leading Business Schools in Europe the School secured substantial investment from the University to develop new premises that could truly act as a hub for business. With eight lecture theatres, 18 syndicate rooms, an expanded library space (the Hub), dedicated meeting space for staff and students and wireless throughout, this new building was designed with staff and student needs paramount. The School has an executive education centre on the 4th floor and a spacious cafe (The Exchange) on the lower ground floor. The centre of the School’s knowledge base is the Hub. This provides students with electronic access to a vast array of specialist research databases, online journals and many of the leading financial information services. The University of Edinburgh Business School enjoys a long tradition of teaching and research.

The School offers undergraduate, postgraduate and executive education programmes in business and management and provides a platform for research, discussion and debate on a wide range of business issues. The School has a worldclass faculty of over 70 members. The 2013/14 student population is close to 1,400 (with more than 500 students pursuing postgraduate studies). Part of the University of Edinburgh, one of the world’s top 20 universities with a rich heritage of delivering education for over 400 years, the Business School has an international student body typically representing more than 88 countries.
## Core Research Training Courses

### Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection

Data Collection is concerned with the techniques and practices of doing empirical research. You will learn about professional competence in gathering information by talking to people, collecting documents, conducting surveys and observing social interaction.

### Research Design

Research design calls for decisions about how the research should be carried out, about what kind of data should be collected and analysed, and about how inferences should be drawn if the aims of the research are to be realised.

### Supervised Reading Course

The course provides an opportunity for you to pursue supervised reading on a topic relevant to the overall aims of that programme. The written assignment may involve a refined version of your research proposal including background to study, research objectives, suggested methodology, and first draft of detailed literature review.

### Optional Research Training Courses include:

- Conducting Research Interviews
- Survey Methods and Data
- Qualitative Methods and Ethnographic Fieldwork
- Narrative Text and Discourse
- Core Quantitative Data Analysis
- Philosophy of Social Science
- Explanation and Understanding in Social and Political Research

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## Typical Programme Structure

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The University of Edinburgh Business School

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‘If you wish to undertake a research degree at the Business School it is important you closely review our own research areas and staff profiles to ensure supervision for your own research can be secured.’

Emma Caldwell, PGR Administrator

Our research areas are grouped together and currently defined as:

**Accounting**
- Accounting and consumer society
- Accounting regulation
- Accounting, strategy, and information technologies
- Carbon accounting
- Financial accounting
- Healthcare and social care accounting and accountability
- History of accounting and calculative practices
- Management accounting
- Market based accounting research
- Social studies of accounting and accountability
- The accounting profession

**Finance**
- Banking
- Behavioural finance
- Capital market anomalies
- Carbon markets and low carbon investment
- Corporate finance
- Corporate governance
- Corporate pension risk analysis
- Econometrics of financial markets
- Empirical asset pricing
- Institutional setting for IPO markets and underpricing of IPOs
- Financial Market Microstructure

**Entrepreneurship & Innovation**
- Entrepreneurship and Family Business
- Academic and new technology entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship and economic development in developing countries
- Entrepreneurship education, self-efficacy and intent
- The analysis of high performance supply chains
- Sociology of information systems
- The social study of the information technology marketplace
- New global standards organisations as network organisations
- Conceptualisation of organisational practices and use of configurational technologies
- eScience, eSocial Science and Innovation/Competitiveness agendas
- Innovation and technology in tourism
Management Science & Business Economics
- Banking
- Bank capital modelling
- Credit risk modelling
- Stress testing of consumer credit portfolios
- Corporate Governance
- Airport Operations
- Reconfigurable manufacturing systems
- Maintenance strategies
- Production planning & inventory management
- Supply chain operations management
- Stochastic Routing and Scheduling
- Optimization for data analytics
- Stochastic constraint programming
- Design and performance evaluation of forecasting methods

Marketing
- Food marketing and consumption
- Services marketing
- Consumer culture and interpretive consumer research
- Marketing strategy and practice

Organisation Studies
- Employment policy and contemporary labour market issues
- Public services reform and redesign
- The public policy process
- The Third Sector

Strategy & International Business
- International and global strategy
- Strategy process
- Corporate responsibility and sustainability strategy
- The specificity of internationalisation process in the emerging markets
- Social and cultural analysis of interplay between actors from developed and emerging markets
- Organizational design and innovation issues in MNCs,
- Work on the convergence and divergence of management practices across countries

Further details can be found at www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/research

‘I have found Edinburgh to be a great place to study. The staff are not only top researchers in their academic field but they are helpful and approachable, enabling me to quickly overcome any concerns or confusion with my own research.’

Konstantinos Tsanis, PhD Graduate
Your supervisor
All our MSc by Research, MPhil and PhD students are assigned two supervisors. Supervisors can take the role of principal supervisor, assigning a second supervisor either when the offer is made or by the end of the first year. Supervisors can also co-lead with another member of staff (possibly from another school) and share the responsibility of supervision over the course of your studies.

The supervisors’ role is to provide guidance on the structure and content of the thesis which will include agreeing a suitable field of study and training; reading and offering comments and suggestions on written work; ensuring that reviews of progress are held and reported properly; supporting you to plan and manage your research effectively; acting as the first point of contact if any problems arise and providing ongoing support and guidance throughout your studies.

Finding a good match with your supervisor is crucial and it is recommended that you review our staff profiles online before applying. You may also wish to read some of the staff publications which are listed within profiles to give you a better understanding of their background and interests.

Making an application
The programme has two entry dates:
- September intake – with an application deadline of 30th June
- January intake – with an application deadline of 31st October (PhD & MPhil only)

Applications for the part-time programme are welcome from UK/EU students. Unfortunately our part-time programme is not available to overseas students.

We recommend that you submit your application well before the deadline, where possible, as our academic staff accept students on a first come, first served basis throughout the application cycle.

It is recommended that you take the time to review our website to ensure your research interests are covered within the School. Please feel free to contact the Research & PhD Office for further details if required.

It is necessary to apply formally using the University’s online application system for a place on our doctoral programme. Applications can take between 4-6 weeks to process. You may be required to undertake an interview as part of the admissions process organised by your proposed supervisor by phone or skype.

www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/phd/application

The Research Proposal
A research proposal is a crucial part of the application process and helps to assess both your suitability for a research degree and whether we can offer you supervision. The proposal should:
- Have a title
- Explain the particular topic or question which you wish to study
- Briefly summarise existing research on the topic, making reference to publications as appropriate
- Give a clear outline of the research you intend to do

If accepted you are not committed to exactly following this proposed research. Applications received without a research proposal will not be considered. A Personal Statement does not meet this requirement.

Please visit our website for further guidelines on writing your research proposal. Do take the time to review the details as applicants can be unsuccessful due to the submission of a weak proposal.
Eligibility
We normally expect doctoral candidates to have a Masters degree from an accredited institution in the UK or overseas, and evidence of above average academic achievement (i.e. over 65% overall) and the ability to undertake independent research (i.e. MSc dissertation with a distinction level mark). Exceptions might be made for candidates with a highly original/outstanding research proposal. Please get in touch with us for further information.

English language
For applicants whose first language is not English one of the following tests is required:
Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL-iBT): Total 100 (with no score lower than 20 in each section).
International English Language Testing System (IELTS): Total score 7.0 (with no score lower than 6.0 in each section).
For further details on English Language requirements please visit our website.

Fees
Please review the website for up-to-date fee information.

Funding
The University of Edinburgh Business School offers a number of scholarships for PhD students each year and these are typically advertised on our website and can be subject specific. For further details please visit our website.

The Doctoral Community
Our research students are very much at the centre of the Business School with dedicated office space located close to facilities and staff. With around 100 research students you will be joining a vibrant and engaging Doctoral community within both the School and the University.

The Doctoral Society plays an important role in providing support both at the start of the programme and throughout your studies at the Business School by hosting induction events, career planning workshops, the PhD Day, an annual summer school and much more.

For full details on staff research interests and hot topics within the Business School, please visit our website www.business-school.ed.ac.uk

For further information about the doctoral programme please contact:
The Research & PhD Support Team
University of Edinburgh Business School
29 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh
EH8 9JS
T. 44 (0)131 651 5337
F. 44 (0)131 651 3197
E. phd@business-school.ed.ac.uk
www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/phd