



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

# POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Management  
School



# contents

**Message from the Director 01**

**Our research ecosystem 02**

**Doctorate of Philosophy  
(PhD) pathways 04**

**Management Masters  
of Research (MRes) 06**

**Entry requirements 07**

**Facilities 07**

**Funding and scholarships 08**

**How to apply 08**

**Contact 09**

The University of Liverpool Management School offers the chance to explore your own ideas through our postgraduate research programmes, all available on a full-time or part-time basis.

We provide an engaging student experience combined with thought-provoking advice from our academic staff, and believe postgraduate students are a vital part of our School's research environment.

## **Programmes available**

- PhD in Management
- PhD in Economics
- PhD in Accounting and Finance
- Management MRes

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our School provides a stimulating and dynamic research environment, with supervisors who are leading experts in their academic field, and extensive training opportunities provided in-house and through collaborative partnerships.

By its very nature, a postgraduate research degree is quite demanding, but the School is here to ensure your time with us is not only intellectually challenging, but also academically enriched, rewarding and fulfilling at a personal and professional level.

We are looking forward to receiving your application, and for you to become part of our exciting research ecosystem.



**Nikolaos Papageorgiadis**

Director of ULMS Postgraduate  
Research Programmes

# OUR RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM

The Management School has a vibrant and active community of PhD and MRes students, pursuing research in a vast range of business-related topics.

We offer excellent research opportunities in management, economics and accounting and finance, with support from international experts who are shaping world-class academic thought, and making a direct impact on academia, business practice and policies.

The Management School is a research powerhouse, producing internationally excellent research due to its originality, significance, rigour and impact.



*It was important for me to go to a University which had a strong research culture and academics who were used to publishing in top journals.*

**Matt Mitchell**  
Operations & Supply Chain PhD Student

In 2021, the School entered the Research Excellence Framework (REF) Top 20, confirming our upward trajectory in quality and impact of research, among 108 business and management schools across the UK.

We are ranked 17th in the sector, 16th for the category of 'quality of research outputs' and 9th for 'research power', with over 90% of our submissions classified as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*).

100% of our research was judged as supported by a world leading (4\*) or an internationally excellent (3\*) environment, which recognises our continuous effort to create an inclusive context, where all researchers feel valued and research flourishes.

The University of Liverpool has a strong research culture, with plenty of opportunities for networking and developing cross-disciplinary research across different disciplines.

This is also encouraged within our School, through several research centres aimed at promoting impactful research on contemporary issues in society.

## Research Centres



The Management School has six research centres specialised in contemporary issues in business and society, and aimed at bringing together expertise across the School and University. Research students are welcome to join any of these centres, as they present excellent opportunities to access internal and external research networks around cutting-edge themes.



**Scan the QR code** to find out more about our research centres and clusters, or visit: [liverpool.ac.uk/management/research/centres](https://liverpool.ac.uk/management/research/centres)



The **Brett Centre for Entrepreneurship** draws upon expertise from across the Management School to raise the understanding of entrepreneurship, business ownership and innovation, contributing to both theory and practice.

The Centre's research addresses opportunities and challenges for entrepreneurship, self-employment, start-up generation and enabling business growth for small and medium enterprises.

The Centre engages with academics, policymakers and practitioners, to examine how entrepreneurship contributes to solving society's most pressing challenges, and helps foster an entrepreneurial culture across the Liverpool City Region and beyond.



As the world looks to technology to improve social and business networks, the **Centre for Supply Chain Research** is a forerunner in offering new, technologically innovative and global solutions to improve productivity, responsiveness and resilience.

This multidisciplinary Research Centre brings together expertise from across the Management School, and promotes collaborative research with public and private sector organisations.

The Centre provides leading policy and practice related research, knowledge exchange and advisory services, on current and emerging issues affecting supply chains, operations and technology, and their impact on public and private sector competitiveness.



The **Centre for Sports Business** offers world-leading research, consultancy and executive education courses in the business of sport, from understanding audience behaviours, to specific studies on football, cricket or horse racing.

The Centre brings together expertise from across the Management School from a wide range of disciplines, including sports analytics, marketing, economics, leadership, governance and finance.

As a leading hub for sports business knowledge and practice, the Centre's research underpins its executive education and consultancy offering for sporting organisations, governing bodies, leagues and clubs from around the world.



As the gravity of the sustainability challenge creates pressure for organisations to 'do something', the **Centre for Sustainable Business** draws upon expertise from across the Management School to reimagine business: collectively, urgently, responsibly.

The Centre is a reference hub of evidence-based actionable insights, for practitioners and policymakers searching for solutions in response to the climate emergency and social justice issues.

Established to create dialogue with its stakeholders, the Centre translates research, shares it with wider audiences, and stimulates debate on the most pressing sustainability topics.



As unhappy employees are recognised as a core organisational issue with an impact on business performance, the **Centre for Organisational and Employee Wellbeing** sheds light on how organising and managing impacts production, working life and health.

The Centre brings together insights from psychology, economics, sociology, political science, and other disciplines, to better understand what workplace wellbeing is.

It provides evidence-based insights on how to thrive and flourish, whether as organisations or as an employee, and how wellbeing needs to be addressed at strategic and cultural levels, due to their critical role in developing workplace resilience.



The new **Liverpool Advanced Methods for Big Data Analytics (LAMBDA) Research Centre** is an interdisciplinary research group, that uses big data analytics to achieve better strategic decision making, and enhance business, economic, urban and industrial planning.

The Centre develops and applies machine learning methods and algorithms to explore, describe, visualise and synthesise complex relationships often observed in a variety of management and business problems.

The Centre's team has developed a 'data warehouse', containing a variety of micro data sets on financial and operational information of firms and workers, scanner data of products, high frequency stock market data, etc.



# DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) PATHWAYS

We offer three doctoral research programmes in the areas of management, accounting and finance and economics.

## Structure

All our doctoral programmes are available on a full-time and part-time basis, and structured in two stages: a short taught component followed by a longer research phase.

### Pre-thesis stage

**Full time: 1 year**

**Part-time: 2 years**

### Thesis development stage

**Full time: 3 years maximum**

**Part-time: 4 years maximum**

During the **pre-thesis stage**, students are encouraged to complete four modules aimed at developing their research skills, through a comprehensive overview of qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as research philosophies.

Successful completion of these modules is indicative of progress in terms of developing disciplinary skills, meaning students can progress to the next stage.

Alternatively, students who have achieved equivalent modules at Lancaster University or Manchester University, as part of the NWSSDTP offering, are equally acknowledged.

Students can also demonstrate their progress through other means, however this would require approval from the School's Director of Postgraduate Research.

During the **thesis development stage**, students are required to produce a piece of academic research with the support of a primary or secondary supervisor.

## Tailored support

Because every PhD student is different, we tailor the training offered to the requirements of their study, with specific modules aimed at facilitating the development of management, accounting and finance or economics related research projects.

To ensure they receive the most relevant support during the thesis development period, students work with a primary supervisor, who is a leading expert in their field.

Additionally, students are supported by a secondary supervisor, who is a promising early career researcher, specialising in the specific area the student's PhD focuses on.

## Career prospects

Doctoral research programmes offer students an opportunity to transition into career destinations in academia, policymaking and business practice.

Most of our PhD students are now working in academia at leading research-oriented universities in the UK and internationally.

In addition to offering a substantial level of specialisation, doctorate graduates are equipped with a wide range of skills, which are highly relevant and transferable to careers in business consultancy and policymaking.

These skills include dissecting problems, gathering and analysing data, writing papers and presenting information.



*I am thankful for all the learning and experiences, as it has equipped me in facing various challenges and opportunities, presented within, as well as outside of academia.*

**Mary Joy Baloyo**  
Management PhD student

## Management PhD

Full-time 2-4 years

Part-time 4-6 years

Our interdisciplinary Management PhD offers specialisation in key business areas, such as supply chain, international business, entrepreneurship, marketing and the world of organisations.

The programme covers a wide range of areas for investigation with relevance to business governance, strategic planning and operations, including marketing, organisational behaviour, supply chain, international business and entrepreneurship.

### Research interests

We welcome research proposals including, but not limited to:

- Operations Management and Logistics  
Organisational Behaviour and Human Resources
- Business Knowledge, Learning and Education
- Business Strategy, Governance and International Business
- Risk and Crisis Management
- Marketing and Consumption
- Small Businesses, Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Public Sector and Health Management
- Sports Management
- Business Sustainability
- Development Studies, Third Sector and Austerity
- Business History

### Modules

- Business and Management as a Social Science
- Quantitative Methods in Business and Management
- Qualitative Methods in Business and Management
- Advanced Research Methods

## Accounting and Finance PhD

Full-time 2-4 years

Part-time 4-6 years

Become a specialist in building impactful research-based solutions to current and future challenges in micro and macro finance, with our Accounting and Finance PhD programme.

The programme covers a wide range of areas for investigation, with special emphasis on the role accounting and finance play on organisational success, risk management and dealing with uncertainties.

### Research interests

We welcome research proposals including, but not limited to:

- Empirical Asset Pricing and Investment Research
- Financial Economics and Econometrics
- Market-Based Accounting Research
- Corporate Finance
- Credit and Banking
- International Macro-Finance
- Financial Technology
- Auditing

### Modules

- Corporate Finance and Accounting Theory
- Asset Pricing Theory
- Empirical Corporate Finance and Accounting
- Empirical Asset Pricing

## Economics PhD

Full-time 2-4 years

Part-time 4-6 years

With an established tradition of developing next generation economists, our Economics PhD provides the skills and knowledge to answer pressing economic questions facing the world.

The programme has a long tradition of developing economists for the next generation, with unique research skills in modelling economic issues, conducting empirical analyses, and developing economic guidance for businesses and public institutions, at both micro and macro level.

### Research interests

We welcome research proposals including, but not limited to:

- Development Economics
- Empirical Industrial Organisation
- Game Theory
- Labour and Sports Economics
- Macroeconomics
- Theoretical, Experimental and Behavioural Industrial Organisation
- Econometrics

### Modules

- Advanced topics in Macroeconomics
- Advanced topics in Microeconomics
- Advanced topics in Macroeconometrics
- Advanced topics in Microeconometrics

# MANAGEMENT MASTERS OF RESEARCH (MRES)

We also offer an MRes programme, with more emphasis on developing your research skills than a traditional master's degree. You can undertake this course as a stand-alone master's degree or as a 'springboard' for a PhD in business and management.

This is an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) recognised degree, which introduces students to a broad range of orthodox approaches in business and management research practice, as well as new emerging techniques.

## Structure

**Full time: 1 years**

**Part-time: 2 years**

Management MRes students are required to undertake four modules aimed at developing their research skills, through a comprehensive overview of qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as research philosophies.

Successful completion of these modules is indicative of progress in the development of disciplinary skills, meaning students can move on to the next stage, in which they will complete a dissertation.

## Modules

- Business and Management as a Social Science
- Quantitative Methods in Business and Management
- Qualitative Methods in Business and Management
- Advanced Research Methods

## Career prospects

The Management MRes programme provides grounding for those intending to expand into a PhD in business and management.

The advantage for students pursuing a career in academia is that, if they are successful in gaining a PhD place, they can use MRes training to fast track the early part of their doctoral studies.

The programme is also interesting to those working, or intending to work, in commercial, policy and professional organisations, where research is a significant aspect of the work activity, including consultancies, research units and non-governmental organisations.





# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

## Entry requirements

Applications for our highly competitive research programmes are welcomed, and will be considered from qualified graduates who would typically hold a UK first degree or equivalent in the 1st or 2:1 class, in a relevant subject.

Applicants should also refer to the table below for relevant English language entry requirements.

## English language requirements

<b>IELTS Academic requirement – SELT and non-SELT</b>	Overall 7.0 no band below 6.5
<b>TOEFL iBT requirement</b>	Minimum 100 overall with L 21 R 21 W 21 and S 23
<b>C1 Advanced CAE requirement</b>	Overall 185 with no less than 176 in any paper
<b>PTE Academic requirement</b>	69 with minimum scores of 61 in each component
<b>Trinity College London, Integrated Skills in English (ISE II)</b>	ISE II with an overall pass with merit in components
<b>Cambridge IGCSE as a First Language</b>	Grade C
<b>Cambridge IGCSE as a Second Language</b>	Grade B
<b>Cambridge English Level 3 Certificate in ESOL International (Proficiency)</b>	Overall 185 with 176 in components
<b>Cambridge English Level 3 Certificate in ESOL International (Advanced)</b>	Overall 185 with 176 in components
<b>Cambridge English Level 2 Certificate in ESOL International (Advanced)</b>	Overall 185 with 176 in components



# FACILITIES

Postgraduate students at the Management School enjoy exclusive access to a 'Hot Desk' working environment.

As they progress through the programme, there is an option for students to be assigned a space in a shared postgraduate student office, in the School's Doctoral Suite or in Mulberry Court.

In addition to printing/photocopying/scanning facilities, the Management School has two dedicated computer suites located on the ground floor:

- The **McKenzie Trading Room** offers 40 PCs with Bloomberg access. Each PC has a dual monitor and a Bloomberg keyboard
- The **Grove Wing Computer Room** has 28 PCs running on the standard University of Liverpool Network, with DataStream available on several computers



# FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

**UK students £4,800 per year\***

**International students £20,400 per year\***

The costs of studying for a PhD can be met in several ways, including:

- Funded research degrees, commonly known as studentships, which cover the cost of your degree and often provide a stipend to cover living expenses
- Self-funding your PhD, covering the costs yourself or through other sources
- Applying for scholarships, grants and bursaries, which may cover all or part of your fees and help towards other expenses
- Postgraduate Doctoral Loan
- Working while you study

Securing funding can be complex and time consuming, so it is important you start your search early.

Find out more about research fees and funding opportunities.



**Scan the QR code** to find out more about research fees and funding opportunities, or visit: [liverpool.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/fees-and-funding](https://liverpool.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/fees-and-funding)

\*Prices for full-time UK and international students.



# HOW TO APPLY

Research degree applications can be made online and are open all year round, however the application process for your PhD will depend on how it is funded.

For a self-funded research degree, you will need to identify a supervisor, develop a research proposal and source your own funding.

Funded studentships and research projects have separate and specific application processes, which you must follow to complete your application.

To complete your application, you will also need to provide the following supporting documentation:

- School or college transcripts/certificates
- University transcripts
- Degree certificates
- English language certificates (EU/International applicants only)
- Personal statement
- Two academic references (signed and on letter headed paper)
- Research proposal (may be tested for plagiarism, collusion and other irregularities)



**Scan the QR code** to start your application, or visit: [liverpool.ac.uk/management/study/postgraduate-research](https://liverpool.ac.uk/management/study/postgraduate-research)



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management/study/postgraduate-research](https://liverpool.ac.uk/management/study/postgraduate-research)