



**Bournemouth
University**

JOHN KENT INSTITUTE IN TOURISM

PHD STUDENTSHIPS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) - 3 years full-time: the normal entry requirements for a PhD programme are a first or second class honours UK degree or equivalent, and normally a Master's degree with Distinction. Students registering for the degree of PhD are initially enrolled for an MPhil. Direct registration for the degree of PhD may be permitted to candidates who already hold an MPhil. There is a transfer procedure to PhD that normally takes place in the second year of study. Continuation of registration is dependent upon satisfactory progress, including a six-month probationary period, a review after twelve months and annual review thereafter. Applications for admission to a research degree programme will be considered in conjunction with the University's Equal Opportunities and Disability and Discrimination policies, Research Degree Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degrees.

NON-STANDARD ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS

Applications from candidates holding qualifications other than those stated above will be considered on their merits and in relation to the nature and scope of the programme proposal. If you wish to be considered you will be asked to supply the names of two suitable persons whom the University may consult concerning your academic attainment and ability to undertake research. You may also be required to provide other evidence to support your application to register, as stipulated by the School Postgraduate Research Committee.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

If English is not your first language, you will need to provide evidence that you can read, write, speak and understand English to a satisfactory level. The normal evidence of English language ability is **IELTS**, where we require a score of **band 7 or above on the Academic scale**. Results must be from within two years of the expected start date of your research degree. If you have alternative evidence of English language proficiency (e.g. you have a different English language qualification; you received the majority of your education through the medium of English; or you have a degree in English language/literature), please indicate this on your application form. Please take time to look at our **International Students** pages on the University's website.

HOW TO APPLY

A copy of the application form can be found at: www.bournemouth.ac.uk/johnkent/phd-studentships.html

This should be completed and returned to the School Research Administrator in the School of Tourism, preferably as an electronic copy (see contact details below).

A few things to remember when you fill in the application form:

- Write clearly in capital letters, completing all sections.
- Remember to show the title of the project you are applying for.
- Be detailed in your information, giving details of your qualifications, work experience, results pending, dates, duration, etc.
- If you have any **additional learning needs** then please let us know so that we can aim to support you during your studies.
- Please include an e-mail address where we can contact you and ensure that it is clearly written on the form and that your account is checked regularly.
- Sign and date the personal declaration on the last page of the application form.
- If you are unsure about anything, then please ask for advice.

Please ensure you include the following documents with your application:

- A copy of your final degree certificate (if applicable).
- A copy of your transcript – a list of the units you have studied and the marks/grades you have obtained.
- A copy of your IELTS or other recognised English language test certificate (if applicable).
- A detailed personal statement stating your reasons for wanting to undertake research at Bournemouth University.
- Your research proposal (see below for details)

If you have yet to complete your degree or you are required to undertake an English test and have not done so, please provide dates of when your results are due. Copies of the above documents can be scanned and sent electronically, although if you are accepted on to the programme you will have to provide original copies of the documents.

Before you complete the application form, please ensure that you meet the entry requirements above. Please also note that incomplete applications will not be processed.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

You are asked to provide a Research Proposal based on the project that you have chosen to apply for. We suggest that your research proposal should be approximately 1,500 words and contain the following:

- The title of the proposed research.
- An abstract (150 words) summarising the project and stating the research problem, its context and significance.
- An overview of the general area of study and of the discipline of which it is a part.
- A summary of the proposed research, including the aim and objectives.
- A short literature review of key articles and books in the proposed area of research.
- Identification of the research questions you will be seeking to answer and an explanation as to why they are significant.
- A statement of methodology and your understanding of the methods that will be used to conduct the research.
- Timescale, i.e. what you hope to achieve in each year of the research.
- Bibliography, i.e. a short list of the key articles and books mentioned in your application.

REFERENCES

We require two references, at least one of which must be academic. The School Research Administrator will request references on your behalf, therefore please ensure that you provide full contact details for your referees, particularly their address, telephone number and if possible, their e-mail address on your application form. References must not be from friends or family. If there is any reason why we should not contact your referees prior to an offer being made, please make this known to us.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

On receipt of your Application Form, Research Proposal and other supporting documents, your application will be reviewed by relevant members of the JKIT Board, the potential research supervisors and the Head of Postgraduate Research within the School of Tourism. The JKIT Board, and clearly any potential supervisor, must be confident that an applicant has sufficient understanding of what is required in terms of their understanding of the research process, which demonstrates that they are likely to be able to work at the required level and contribute to the body of knowledge.

It is not uncommon for an applicant to be asked to revise their initial research proposal based on the comments made by the academic reviewer(s). If the

subsequent re-submission is not sufficiently developed enough to be considered for supervision, then it will not be possible to re-submit the proposal for further review. If your application has met all the academic and administrative entry requirements, you will be invited to an interview and may be asked to submit additional documentation.

Where possible, you should attend the University in person; however, if you are an overseas applicant or are genuinely unable to travel, you may be interviewed via telephone, video conferencing, web cam or other suitable means. The interview panel will normally include the JKIT Board, potential supervisors, the Head of Postgraduate Research and/or other relevant academics. If the interview panel recommends that an offer should be made, your application will be referred to the School Postgraduate Research Committee for approval. If your application is successful, an offer will be made to you in writing. You will be asked to confirm your acceptance of the offer by completing an Acceptance Form to secure your place on the programme.

If you are an international student, it is important that you check whether you require a visa or entry clearance to study in the UK. It is your responsibility to arrange your student visa or to apply for entry clearance if required. **Please note that the offer letter that will be sent to you cannot be used for visa purposes.** An official visa letter will be issued to you once any conditions of your offer have been met.

Throughout the process candidates will be kept informed of the progress of their applications; however as the decision to offer a place is Committee-led, the process between initial enquiry and final outcome may take some time.

RETURNING YOUR APPLICATION FORM

The application form can be submitted either by post or e-mail. You should be aware that when you e-mail BU the possibility exists, however minimal, that unauthorised individuals may be able to intercept your message and any personal data. We therefore recommend you post your application to the School Research Administrator using the contact details below. We look forward to receiving your application form and supporting documents.

CONTACT DETAILS

School Research Administrator: kward@bournemouth.ac.uk