

PGR Induction

School of Economics, Politics and
International Relations

Welcome

Graduate and Research College (GRC)

- Nicola Huxtable: pgradmin@kent.ac.uk

GRC induction 8th October, 9:30-10:30am



School of Economics, Politics and IR (EPIR)

- Dr Charles Devellennes, School Director of Graduate Research Studies (SDoGRS), responsible for Politics and IR: c.devellennes@kent.ac.uk
- Dr Christian Siegel, deputy SDoGRS, responsible for Economics: c.siegel@kent.ac.uk
- Dr Wei Jiang, admissions, Economics: w.jiang@kent.ac.uk

Post Graduate Research

- PhD, MA by Research, visiting scholars
 - PhD:
 - 3 years minimum period of registration
 - Continuation Year (4th year)
 - PhD (part-time): 6 years
 - MA by Research
 - 1 year (part-time: 2 years)
- Big jump from Taught studies.
- Independent project, competing responsibilities
- Importance of project management and organisation
- Feedback is important, but you are responsible for your project
- [Research Programmes Administration Guide - Your studies - University of Kent](#)

Supervisors

- First supervisor: main point of contact. Get in touch with them as soon as you arrive. Agree to meet regularly. Meet at least once per month, record meetings in KentVision.
- Second supervisor: more general support, not involved in monthly meetings.
- Supervisors advise, but you decide on the direction of the project.
- Issues with supervision? Contact the GRC or the SDoGRS (or deputy).

Reviews

Type of student	Review stages
FT PhD student	1 Induction Review (6 weeks) 2 Probation Review (10 months) 3 End of Year 2 Review (24 months) 4 Submission Review (33 months) 5 Continuation Year Review 1 (41 months) 6 Continuation Year Review 2 (46 months)
PT PhD student	1 Induction Review (6 weeks) 2 Probation Review (12 months) 3 End of Year 2 Review (24 months) 4 End of Year 3 Review (36 months) 5 End of year 4 Review (48 months) 6 Submission Review (57 months) 7 Continuation Year Review 1 (65 months) 8 Continuation Year Review 2 (70 months)
FT MPhil student	1 Induction Review (6 weeks) 2 Probation Review (10 months) 3 Submission Review (21 months)
PT MPhil student	1 Induction Review (6 weeks) 2 Probation Review (12 months) 3 End of Year 2 Review (24 months) 4 Submission Review (33 months)
FT Master's student	1 Induction Review (3 weeks) 2 Probation Review (4 months) 3 Submission Review (10 months)
PT Master's student	1 Induction Review (6 weeks) 2 Probation Review (9 months) 3 Submission Review (18 months)

Training

- Training provides essential skills for a career in research.
- Organised by discipline
 - **Economics**
 - **Politics and IR**
 - Graduate Research Training Seminar (GRTS)
 - SOCI8190 Quantitative Data Analysis (SPR)
 - SOCI8170 Qualitative data analysis (AUT)
 - SO8330 Social Research Design (SPR)
 - SO8320 Truth Power and Ethics (AUT)
- GRC training
 - Details at the GRC induction
- External courses

Examination

- The PhD is assessed through a viva (oral examination), based on the submission of a written work.
- The written PhD can follow one of two routes:
 - Traditional PhD: a thesis of between 80,000 – 100,000 words
 - Papers-based PhD: a thesis on the basis of multiple individual papers (usually 3), linked together by an introduction
- Typically, the viva is done with an external and internal examiner. They decide whether the thesis meets the criteria of the discipline.
- MA by Research is up to 40,000 words (no viva).

Practical information

- Offices are available for PGR students in Sibson (Economics) and Keynes (Politics and IR)
 - <https://student.kent.ac.uk/life/postgraduate-spaces>
- New students can have access to a University laptop upon arrival.
- Can contact our **School Administration Officer (Katherine Duncan)** for access:
epsops@kent.ac.uk

Funding

- There is funding available for PhD students to carry out their research while at the University of Kent. You can ask for up to £300 per year in your minimum period of registration (pro rata for part time).
- Please ask students to send requests for funding to our **School Administration Officer (Katherine Duncan)** at epsops@kent.ac.uk, detailing what the fund will be used for, detailed costs, reasons behind the request and when the activity/spend will take place. The SDoGRS will then review this. Please note these funds cannot be carried over from one financial year into the next, they must be allocated and spent prior to year-end (31st July).

Student feedback

- Supervisors' comments
- SDoGRS (or their deputies) in reviews
- Through your student representative
- Become a student rep!
- Present your work for feedback
- Student Voice Forum
- Getting in touch with GRC
- Fill in survey

#YourWelcomeWeekYourSay
2025

