

# Postgraduate and Professional Guide

One University: **10,000** experiences



“Whilst the university has excellent buildings and facilities, its key strength is in the quality of its people - the academic and other university staff and also the students.”

**Jim Onions** MBA  
Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service

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# Why Choose the University of Gloucestershire?

Opting to study at postgraduate or professional level could be a life changing decision. Taking on the challenge offers you the opportunity to gain a competitive edge in the jobs market, acquire specialist knowledge within your chosen field, or even change career direction altogether.

By choosing the University of Gloucestershire, you would be joining a vibrant, forward-thinking institution, founded on a tradition of academic excellence that spans more than a century and a half. With over 10,000 students encompassing over 100 nationalities, the university has a diverse community that encourages independent thinking and provides an inspiring learning environment.

Postgraduate students at the university enjoy:

- class sizes that generally range from 5-20 students, ensuring greater support from academic staff
- a choice of over 100 course options, a number of which are professionally accredited
- high quality teaching and dynamic research departments
- a supportive environment where individual needs are catered for and personal ambition is encouraged
- networking opportunities with fellow students, many of whom hold senior management positions with South West or Midlands-based employers
- a beautiful and historic setting in one of the most-visited parts of the UK, the Cotswolds

This guide will introduce the range of opportunities available to you as you look to develop yourself and your career. It will tell you a little about each type of course and address some of the questions you may have. If you are thinking about applying, it will also provide details of what to do next.

Starting a postgraduate or professional programme is an exciting, challenging and ultimately rewarding experience and will open up a whole new chapter in your life. You will meet new people, make important contacts and gain confidence as you learn new skills and knowledge. And in just 12 or 24 months from now, you could be walking proudly to the podium to accept your award and the recognition that goes with it.



If you would like to find out more then come and visit us during an Open Day (see [www.glos.ac.uk/open](http://www.glos.ac.uk/open) for details) or alternatively contact us using the details on page 8.

# Our Courses

## Taught Postgraduate

The university has an extensive range of taught postgraduate provision enabling you to benefit from high quality teaching informed by innovative research. The majority of Masters programmes are available over one year full-time or two years part-time. All taught courses are modular and credits are accumulated for each part of the course. Postgraduate Certificates consist of 60 credits, Postgraduate Diplomas 120 credits and Masters degrees 180 credits.

The following taught programmes are available:

**Graduate Diploma**  
**Management (CMS, DMS)**  
**Master of Arts (MA)**  
**Master of Business Administration (MBA)**  
**Master of Education (MEd)**  
**Master of Laws (LLM)**  
**Master of Science (MSc)**  
**PGCE Primary**  
**PGCE Secondary**  
**Postgraduate Certificate**  
**Postgraduate Diploma**

For a complete list of our current postgraduate courses, please visit: [www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate)

## Research Degrees

A research degree programme allows you to define your own area of research enquiry and attain thorough and specialist knowledge within your chosen field. The University of Gloucestershire has very active research centres across all faculties, producing research rated as internationally excellent in most subject areas. Students can draw on the knowledge, expertise and support of experienced researchers and supervisors throughout their study. You will receive comprehensive training in research techniques and methods as well as acquiring a range of generic and transferable skills as you work towards producing an original thesis.

The university offers the following research degrees:

**Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA)**  
**Doctorate of Education (EdD)**  
**Doctorate of Engineering (DEng)**  
**Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD)**  
**MA by Research**  
**MSc by Research**  
**Master of Philosophy (MPhil)**  
**Master of Research (MRes)**

For more details of the current research opportunities, please visit: [www.glos.ac.uk/research](http://www.glos.ac.uk/research)

## Professional Courses

For some careers, individuals must obtain specific professional qualifications to gain recognised status within the profession. Similarly, many employers place a high value on candidates with specialised practical knowledge and a proven commitment to continuous professional development (CPD). With over 170 years experience of professional education provision, excellent industry partnerships and internationally-accredited qualifications, the University of Gloucestershire is the perfect place to launch the next phase of your career and boost your earnings potential.

These courses are designed for those currently working and are only available for part-time study.

The university offers professional courses in the following areas:

**Accountancy (ACCA, CIMA)**  
**Child Care Practice**  
**Early Years Professional Status (EYPS)**  
**Healthcare**  
**Human Resources (CIPD)**  
**Practice Teacher (NMC)**  
**Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)**

For a complete list of our current professional provision, please visit: [www.glos.ac.uk/professional](http://www.glos.ac.uk/professional)





“I was invited to a university open day, which I attended and it gave me a chance to experience what the campus was like and the atmosphere of the Faculty. I was immediately made to feel welcome by the staff members and current students.

I think the university has great sporting facilities on campus with the chance to learn from and work with top level lecturers in the area of study. This coupled with numerous professional sports clubs situated in the area or within easy commute makes the university a great place to study.

The cohort of students on my course are great, it makes the experience more enjoyable. The staff are incredibly friendly, helpful and knowledgeable and that means the course content is specifically

tailored to what I need to learn. The course has specific modules that other courses around the UK do not have, such as the Youth Training module which is important if you want to work with youths. I enjoy the seminars that follow our lectures as these are practical-based, allowing us to put into practice what we have previously learnt.

I am currently a part-time intern at a professional tennis academy having spent a season interning at a premier league football academy.”

**Phil Hazelwood**  
MSc Sport Strength and Conditioning

# Our Location

The University of Gloucestershire enjoys an enviable location set over three campuses at the base of the Cotswolds. The author J B Priestley famously described the area as “the most English and the least spoiled of all our countrysides” and indeed the region is formally recognised as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Alongside the Cotswold’s rolling hills, lush river valleys and charming villages lie the thriving Regency spa town of Cheltenham and the bustling historic waterfront city of Gloucester, both of which we are proud to call home.

## Cheltenham

Renowned for its many festivals, its majestic racecourse and its stunning Regency architecture, it was no surprise when a national property survey voted Cheltenham as the ‘Best Place to Live in Britain’ (*The Independent*). Not just a beauty spot, Cheltenham is also a base for a number of major regional employers such as GCHQ, Zurich Financial Services, Nelson Thornes, UCAS and GE Aviation. Cheltenham is also inextricably linked with the history of the University of Gloucestershire and both our Francis Close Hall and Park campuses are based here.

Francis Close Hall campus dates back to 1847 but for today’s students it boasts state-of-the-art laboratories, teaching rooms and design studios. As well as extensive library

and IT facilities, it also incorporates the Hardwick Centre for Art and Photography, a purpose-built facility opened in 2011.

Park campus is set in 24 acres of landscaped grounds and gardens yet is just 10 minutes walk from the chic Montpellier shops and bars. A wide range of facilities are based here, from playing fields to specialist computing laboratories. The campus is home to the Business School and the ultra-modern Park Media School, which also opened its doors in 2011.

## Gloucester

The city of Gloucester is steeped in history boasting Roman foundations, Victorian docklands and the imposing Norman Cathedral. The latter, where some of the scenes from Harry Potter films were shot, also provides an impressive setting for our annual graduation ceremonies. Gloucester is a hallowed destination for fans of rugby union but with the Quays development, the city is also earning a well-deserved reputation for quality shopping. A large number of aerospace companies such as Messier-Dowty have a presence in the city as well as financial services’ employers such as Ecclesiastical Insurance and Lloyds Banking Services. Our Oxstalls campus was built on the edge of the city in 2002 and has developed strongly since then. Many of our sports, events, hospitality and tourism courses are based

here and this is reflected in some of the facilities on show. As well as a gym, sports hall and large Astro turf pitch, the campus boasts high-tech biomechanics, biochemistry and physiology laboratories that are equipped with some of the most modern equipment available.





# Frequently Asked Questions

## How do I apply?

Applications for most courses can be made online via our website at

<http://www.glos.ac.uk/apply>

Please see overleaf for more on the application process.

## Is there a closing date for applications?

Applicants are recommended to apply early for postgraduate and professional courses as places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. For professional courses it is important to also check the requirements of your awarding body (eg ACCA) as many work to a specific calendar in terms of member or exam registration. Applications for PGCE courses received after 1 December in the year preceding entry will only be considered in the event that places remain available at this stage.

## When is the next intake for my course?

The vast majority of courses begin in September each year, however we do offer different start times throughout the year for a number of courses. Your start date may also be different in the event that you have been awarded credit for previous study.

## Do I need a degree to qualify for postgraduate or professional study?

For postgraduate programmes, applicants are expected to possess at minimum a 2.2 UK honours degree (or international equivalent). Candidates with other qualifications or who can demonstrate relevant professional experience will be considered on an individual basis. Applicants looking to begin a professional qualification should check with their awarding body as to the entry requirements that are specific to them. Applicants for Doctorates need at least 2 years' professional practice or demonstrate professional competence of high standing in the research area plus an appropriate postgraduate degree.

## Can I gain credit for previous qualifications?

The university can award credit (APL) towards one of our taught masters programmes if you have previous academic experience of the chosen subject. Decisions are taken based on the relevancy, currency and academic level of your previous study. In certain cases, applicants with evidence of exceptional relevant professional experience can also gain credit (APEL). If you are unsure whether you qualify or have any further questions, please feel free to contact our postgraduate recruitment team on 01242 714500 or email: [postgrad@glos.ac.uk](mailto:postgrad@glos.ac.uk)

## How much does my course cost?

As we offer a wide range of courses at this level, clearly the fees can vary considerably. For details of the fee that applies to your chosen course, please visit the course pages of the university website, accessible from [www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate). We appreciate the significant investment involved in taking an advanced level qualification and as a result we also offer you the chance to take our taught programmes in stages – Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and finally Masters stage. It is also possible to study stand-alone modules initially and, if desired, then progress towards one of our named awards.

## Do I have to pay all of my fees upfront when I enrol?

No, when you enrol at the start of your course you can opt to pay in instalments by direct debit. The number of instalments will depend on the duration of your course – the longer the course, the more instalments available. If you are being sponsored by your employer, your fees will be due in full at the start of each year of your course.

## Is there any help with funding available?

For research students, funding is available through the various national research councils such as ESRC, AHRC and so on. The university also offers a range of full-time research studentships which are advertised nationally as they become available. Trainee teachers of STEM subjects can avail themselves of government-backed bursaries provided by the TDA (please see [www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk)). At present, both professional and taught postgraduate courses are, to a large extent, privately funded, be it via employer sponsorship, a career development loan or personal savings.

## What other support is available?

Each of our campuses has a dedicated Student Helpzone where advice, assistance and support can be obtained. Areas covered include disability, counselling, welfare, accommodation and finance, as well as help with academic skills such as essay writing and numeracy. In addition the University Careers Centre is a valuable resource and our well-qualified careers and employability staff are always happy to provide guidance when sought.

## I am currently in full-time employment; can I combine this with my course?

Many of our students work full-time alongside their studies, often successfully balancing parenthood as well! The majority of our courses can be taken on a part-time basis, which allows for a less demanding time commitment. Some courses have lectures only in the evening, others require day attendance, and others still teach in weekend blocks. Ultimately, with a degree of flexibility and good time management, there is nothing to stop you achieving your academic ambitions and developing professionally at the same time.

## Do you offer short courses?

We offer an extensive range of accredited and non-accredited short courses which will allow you to improve your knowledge, sharpen your skills or simply to enable you to try something new. See [www.glos.ac.uk/shortcourses](http://www.glos.ac.uk/shortcourses) for a full list of the courses available.





“I was looking for a creative media course that took an inter-disciplinary approach to the subject. This course seemed to be the perfect fit as it appeared to be so broad and flexible. When I signed up for this course, I wanted something that would not only sharpen my skills for the workplace, but also give me an edge over others as it is a Masters in the field of media. I’m happy to say that the course has lived up to my expectations. As students, we’re encouraged to fit it to our own personal career goals and I think that that’s a very good thing.”

**Sneha Kadaba** MA  
Media and Creative Enterprise

# How to Apply

Applying for a postgraduate or professional course at the University of Gloucestershire couldn't be easier. Simply visit your chosen course webpage accessible from [www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate) and click on **Ready to Apply**.

The online application process allows us to dramatically reduce our use of paper and therefore our carbon footprint. You also benefit as we can now provide you with a prompt admissions decision. Successful applicants will usually receive a formal offer within 7 working days of receipt of application, although for some courses an interview or portfolio assessment will first be required. On some occasions we may ask you to provide us with further information or evidence, otherwise we will make you an unconditional offer. You will receive enrolment instructions approximately 6 weeks before the start of term and soon after your journey towards graduation will begin.

The only exception to the above is PGCE applicants, who must apply externally through the Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR) website: [www.gttr.ac.uk](http://www.gttr.ac.uk)

If you would like advice or have any questions regarding any of the above, our postgraduate recruitment team is always available to assist you. Please contact us on either 01242 714500 or [postgrad@glos.ac.uk](mailto:postgrad@glos.ac.uk) and we will be happy to help.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Postgraduate Taught & Professional

01242 714500  
[postgrad@glos.ac.uk](mailto:postgrad@glos.ac.uk)  
[www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.glos.ac.uk/postgraduate)

### Postgraduate Research

01242 715367  
[researchadmin@glos.ac.uk](mailto:researchadmin@glos.ac.uk)  
[www.glos.ac.uk/research](http://www.glos.ac.uk/research)

### Short Courses

01242 714104  
[shortcourses@glos.ac.uk](mailto:shortcourses@glos.ac.uk)  
[www.glos.ac.uk/courses/shortcourses](http://www.glos.ac.uk/courses/shortcourses)

### Finance Advice

01242 714535  
[moneyadvice@glos.ac.uk](mailto:moneyadvice@glos.ac.uk)  
[www.glos.ac.uk/money](http://www.glos.ac.uk/money)

### Fees Department

01242 714222  
[fees@glos.ac.uk](mailto:fees@glos.ac.uk)  
[www.glos.ac.uk/money](http://www.glos.ac.uk/money)

### Accommodation

01242 714544  
[www.glos.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.glos.ac.uk/accommodation)  
[accommodation@glos.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@glos.ac.uk)

### Accreditation for Prior Learning (APL)

01242 714430  
[apl@glos.ac.uk](mailto:apl@glos.ac.uk)

# Location Map

For directions to the university please visit:  
[www.glos.ac.uk/travel](http://www.glos.ac.uk/travel)



“ Having studied various courses at several different universities over the last 15 years, I was astounded by the level of dedication, support, professionalism, courtesy and total commitment to education demonstrated by all of the staff involved on the course. Working full-time and completing a course was a particular challenge for me and I am grateful for all the time help and advice that each of the lecturers provided which ensured that my experience whilst learning at the University of Gloucestershire was both effective and enjoyable. The knowledge and skills that I have gained have been extremely beneficial to my current practice and will undoubtedly have a positive effect on the care that I deliver for years to come.”

**Aaron Geoghegan**  
Diploma in First Contact Care

