

## Research MPhil/PhD

### **MPhil or PhD, project or thesis?**

A research degree is an independent programme of work involving the thorough study of a research topic. At University College Falmouth (UCF) you have the choice of MPhil or PhD by project or thesis.

UCF encourages a range of research degree registrations based on creative practice, theoretical analysis and experimental work. UCF's focus on the art, design and media subject areas means that students can follow programmes of study in which creative work can form a significant part of the intellectual enquiry.

Where practical or creative work forms part of the submission for the award of MPhil or PhD, the submission must include evidence of research through practice and, where appropriate, the examination may also include an exhibition of the student's work.

### **Supervision**

A research degree may be taken in any subject area where UCF can provide appropriately qualified supervision. There is research activity in all of the main subject areas in which UCF is involved: fine art; graphic, product, interior and spatial design; history and theory of art and design; cultural studies; and media and communication studies.

Interdisciplinary projects will be considered. Art and design projects combined with scientific or social subjects may be arranged through collaboration with other universities.

### **Course structure**

Research degree students may study full time or part time. Full time students are expected to devote an average of 35 hours a week to their research during term time and part-time students at least 16 hours a week.

Students will normally make their application to register for a research degree within 6 months of enrolment for full time study or 9 months for part time study. Confirmation of MPhil or PhD route normally takes place after a probationary period of 12 to 18 months for full time students or 24 to 30 months for part time students.

Typical registration periods are as follows:

Route	Minimum	Normal duration	Maximum
MPhil Full time	1 year and 3 months	1 year 9 months	3 years
MPhil Part time	2 years	2 years 9 months	4 years
PhD Full time	2 years	3 years	6 years
PhD Part time	3 years	5 years	8 years

### **When and how to apply**

Enrolment takes place in October each year. Applications should therefore be received in good time for interviews to take place, normally April/May, for enrolment in October. Applicants seeking funding from external bodies such as the AHRC should aim to apply in the autumn term (October - December) in order to fit in with funding deadlines.

### **Entry requirements**

A master's degree in an appropriate subject is considered to be a particularly valuable preparation for a research degree, although the normal minimum entry requirement for a research degree is an upper second class honours degree of a British University or recognised institution of higher education.

In some instances, applicants without this requirement may be considered if they can demonstrate appropriate alternative qualifications, professional experience or previous research.

Those for which English is not a first language will have to pass an Internal English Language Test (IELTS) scoring at least 7.0+ (with a 7.0 in writing), or achieve TOEFL scores of 600 (Paper), 250 (Computer) and at least level 6 in the Test of Written English (TWE) in order to be accepted as a research degree student. Scores should be as recent as possible (i.e. within the last year).

### **Application forms**

Application forms can be downloaded from the UCF website or requested in hard copy from the Admissions Office at [admissions@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@falmouth.ac.uk). The Admissions Office can provide help with completing the form if required.

### **Studentships**

There are a limited number of research degree studentships available. These are normally advertised in the spring, but may, in exceptional circumstances, be offered to suitable candidates at other times. Full details are available from the Admissions Office.

### **Equal opportunities**

Applicants are considered solely on the basis of their academic and artistic or professional record, their suitability for the work proposed and the quality of the proposal.

Applications are welcome from international and EU students and from all members of the British community.

### **Further information**

Course fee sheets are available from the Finance Office. For a prospectus, other course leaflets and any further information, please write to or call the Admissions Office at University College Falmouth.

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Details are correct as at August 2007.