

Professional Doctorate (Research Practice)

The Professional Doctorate (Research Practice) “DProf (Research Practice)” is the latest addition to BU’s portfolio of research degrees. This leaflet provides key information about the DProf (Research Practice) programme and processes.

Overview

This new generic DProf (Research Practice) programme allows you to undertake professional doctorate (part time) through critical investigation and evaluation of an approved research topic plus an organisation-centred research practice topic resulting in an original contribution to theory and practice.

As a DProf (Research Practice) candidate, you will undertake original research that is relevant to your subject specialism as well as investigating an aspect of research practice in a professional setting.

Your DProf (Research Practice) project will be developed in collaboration with our experienced academic members of BU staff, who will provide you with the specialist knowledge and supervisory input, as well as access to BU’s vast technical and information resources. In addition, you will have a local supervisor from your home institution or industrial/business environment.

What is a DProf (Research Practice)?

This DProf (Research Practice) aims to up-skill staff from academic institutions, or other industrial research practitioners, by offering them the opportunity to gain a BU professional doctorate award.

The DProf (Research Practice) contains no formally assessed taught component although you are expected to fully engage with the online research skills training and submit assignments at end of Stages 1, 2 and 3. You will be expected to demonstrate initiative and originality in problem solving, and act autonomously in project planning and delivery with high professional standards.

Your independent research would be written up as a thesis, which is expected to be between 40,000 and 80,000 words (depending on discipline).

You will be assessed via submission of a thesis and a viva voce.

Am I required to visit BU?

You will normally be required to make several visits to BU visits over the course of your DProf

(Research Practice) study. These visits have several functions:

- Induction and preparation for research degree quality assurance process
- Introduction and training on research methods
- Face to face supervision
- Cohort activity including sharing good practice and information via seminars and group discussions

The programme of the visits will be coordinated centrally by the Graduate School to ensure consistency, effective delivery of research methodology training, cross disciplinary learning and sharing good practice.

What will I study?

This new DProf (Research Practice) has been designed to enable you to carry out your research within any research area covered by one of BU’s research themes, supported by experts within one of our Academic Schools.

Full details of our exciting research areas can be found on www.bournemouth.ac.uk/research

You will also be part of BU’s wider PG community and have access to the suite of research, professional and personal training offered through The Graduate School and your Academic School. www.bournemouth.ac.uk/thegraduateschool

Key features of the DProf (Research Practice)

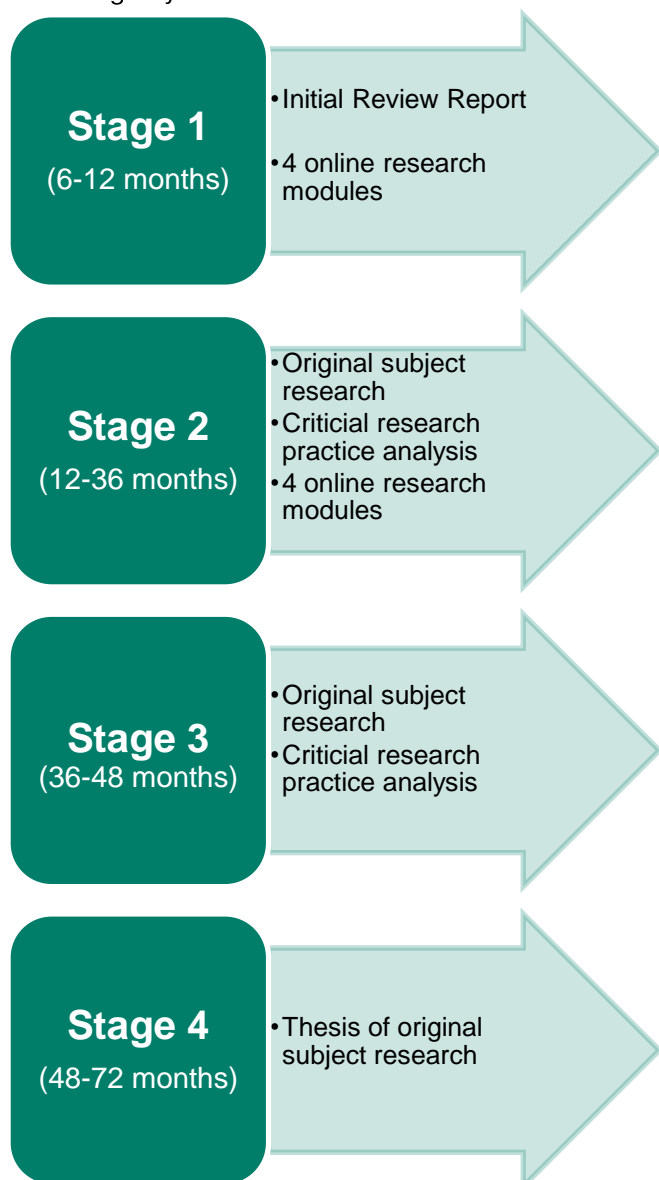
The DProf (Research Practice) allows you to tailor your research to your specific subject interests and relevant research practice focus or career aspirations. The programme is ideal if you wish to develop your knowledge of research practice. On successful completion of your DProf (Research Practice), you will be able to:

- Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of research methods in your chosen field via research methods training
- Critically analyse the information in the literature in your chosen field and identify information gaps

- Demonstrate understanding of research philosophy in your chosen subject discipline
- Develop and design a research project which addresses novel issues in your chosen discipline
- Produce written critical analysis of the research data
- Critically analyse and reflect research practice in relation to your own profession which may result directly in organisational or policy change
- Present research through a thesis and defend it by viva voce examination, to the satisfaction of examiners
- Advance professional and personal development and associated skills

DProf (Research Practice) Process

Your DProf (Research Practice) will follow the following key milestones:



Full details, including timescales, are set out in the DProf (Research Practice) Handbook and the Code of Practice for Research Degrees

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/studentportal

Support

In undertaking your DProf (Research Practice), you will be fully supported at BU by:

- **Your Academic School** – through your Supervisors, immediate research community, postgraduate researcher peers and your Research Administrator
- **The Graduate School** - through professional and personal development opportunities and the wider PG Community
- **Academic Services**- through a network of purpose-built libraries, laboratories and open-learning centres equipped with the latest technology, including on-line virtual learning environments

Key Facts

Start dates:

May 2014; September 2014; January 2015

When visiting BU - Location:

Talbot and/or Lansdowne Campus

School:

Relevant Academic School

Duration:

4-6 years

Delivery method:

Part-time

Entry requirements:

First Degree + 5 years' continuous experience in higher educational or research practice context experience or

Masters + at least 3 years' experience (as above)

If English is not your first language:

IELTS 6.5 (Academic) or above.

Relevant subjects:

See BU's Research Themes

Related courses:

Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy

Fees

Fees will be in line with all Research Degree Fees

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/fees

How do I apply

If you would like to study for a DProf (Research Practice) degree, you can apply directly to BU using our application form. For further details, please visit the Graduate School pages and follow links to the How to Apply page.

Further Information:

Further information can be obtained via **The Graduate School**

Tel: +44 (0)1202 968255

Email: graduateschool@bournemouth.ac.uk

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/thegraduateschool

askBU also provides a one-stop question-and-answer service for both prospective and current BU students

Tel: +44 (0)1202 961916

Email: askBUenquiries@bournemouth.ac.uk

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/askBU



Supporting a
vibrant
postgraduate
community