

The Masters by Research (MRes) programme is our latest addition to BU's portfolio of research degrees. This leaflet provides key information about the MRes programme and processes.

Overview

This new MRes programme allows you to undertake a one year (full time) research degree by undertaking a research project at Masters' level which would be assessed via submission of a thesis and a viva voce. It contains no formally assessed taught component although you are expected to fully engage with the Postgraduate Researcher Development Framework, which includes research methodology training. It may also be attractive for individuals who are working in higher education or are in public or private sector wishing to undertake research and development activities.

Your MRes project will be developed in collaboration with our experienced academic members of University staff, who will provide you with the specialist knowledge and supervisory input, whilst accessing BU's vast technical and information resources.

The MRes is intended to provide research and professional development training in any BU subject discipline area and is particularly aimed at those who would like to have more comprehensive training in original research and/or have the desire to go on to do doctoral studies.

What is an MRes?

The MRes is focused on the development of generic research knowledge and critical analysis skills applied to independent research on an approved topic. You would normally complete your study within 1 year full-time study (2 year part-time). Your MRes programme of research would normally involve a literature study, an experimental or hypothesis-testing phase, an evaluation phase and a writing-up phase.

Your independent research would be written up as a thesis, which is expected to be between 15,000 and 30,000 words (depending on discipline). Assessment of your thesis will consist of two stages:

- presentation of the thesis; and
- the oral examination, normally including a 30 minute presentation and a 60 minute *viva voce* examination.

What will I study?

This new MRes has been designed to enable you to carry out a unique research project within any research area covered by one of BU's 8 research themes, supported by experts within one of our 4 Academic Faculties.

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 Faculty. www.bournemouth.ac.uk/thegraduateschool

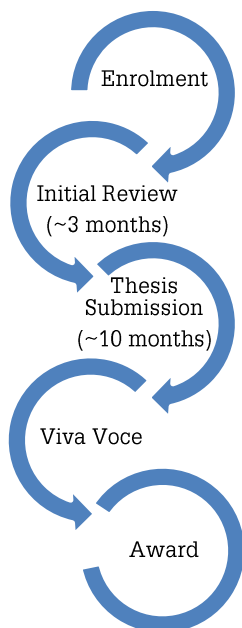
Key features of the MRes

The MRes allows you to tailor your project to your specific research interests or career aspirations and is ideal if you wish to develop your research skills before undertaking a PhD. On successful completion of your MRes, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of research methods in your chosen field via research methods training
- Develop research skills and to solve complex problems
- Critically analyse information in the literature within your chosen field and identify information gaps
- Develop and design a research project which addresses novel issues in your chosen discipline
- Carry out your research project with the best practice in your discipline area
- Produce a written critical analysis of the research data
- Present research through a thesis and defend it by *viva voce* examination, to the satisfaction of examiners
- Advance your professional and personal development and associated skills

MRes Process

Your MRes will follow the standard research degree process and key milestones (*indicated times for full time study*) and include:



Full details, including timescales, are set out in our Code of Practice for Research Degrees

<http://microsites.bournemouth.ac.uk/graduate-school/code-of-practice-for-research-degrees/>

Support

In undertaking your MRes, you will be fully supported at BU by:

- **Your Academic Faculty** – 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

How do I apply?

If you would like to study for an MRes degree, you can apply directly to Bournemouth University (BU) using our standard Research Degrees application form. For further details on applying directly to BU, please visit the Graduate School pages on www.bournemouth.ac.uk/thegraduateschool and follow the How to Apply instructions

Key Facts

Start dates:

September 2015; January 2016; April 2016

Location:

Bournemouth University
(Talbot/Lansdowne Campus)

Faculty:

Relevant Faculty or Academic Faculty

Duration:

1 year full-time; 2 years part-time

Delivery method:

Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements:

A good Bachelors Honours degree, 2:1 or above in a relevant subject area. Exceptionally, equivalent professional experience may be considered.

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

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