

# A Successful Start For Masters Students

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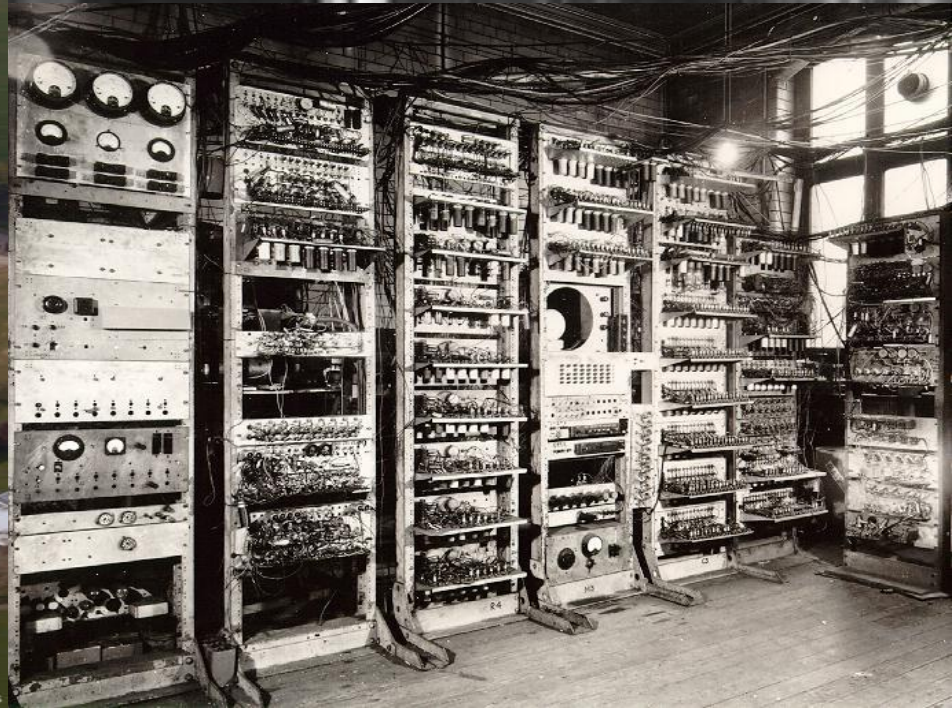
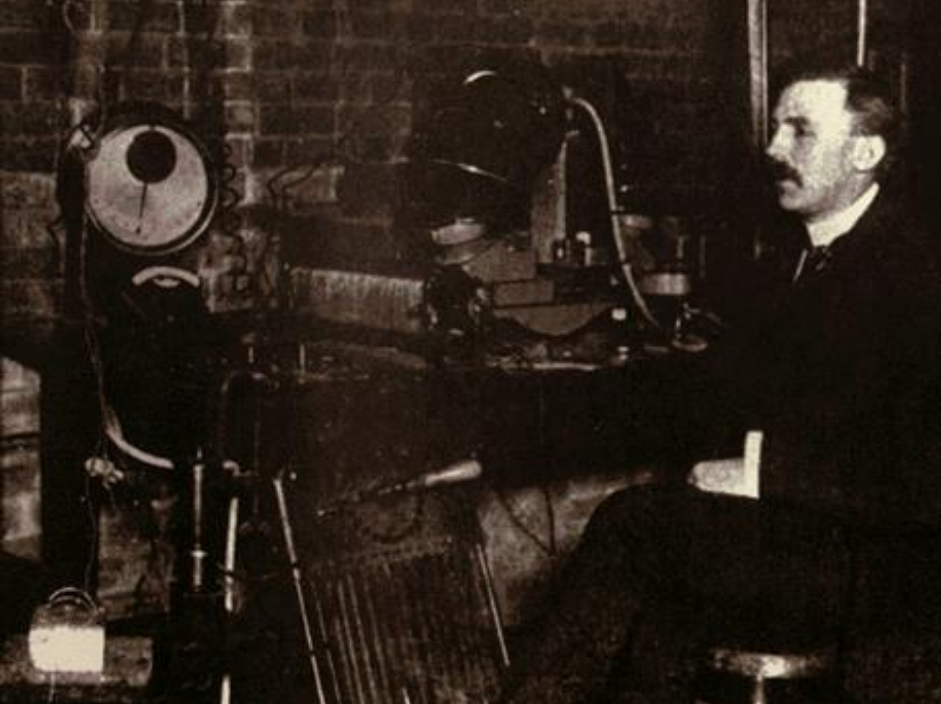
**School of Mechanical, Aerospace  
and Civil Engineering**



# Welcome to the University of Manchester







# Congratulations on Selecting Manchester!

- World Class University
- World Class Facilities
- World Class Research
- World Class Teaching
- World Class YOU!





# Life as a Graduate Student

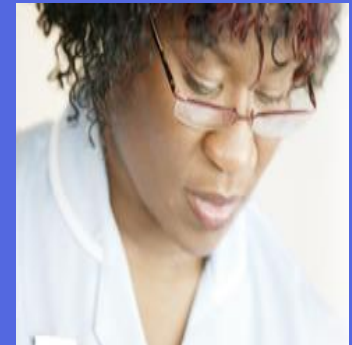


# The Challenge of a Masters Year



# What opportunities will a Masters offer You?

- Study at the forefront of your chosen academic discipline or profession
- Systematic and creative analysis of complex issues
- An understanding of how knowledge can be advanced through research
- Demonstrating originality in the application of knowledge and in tackling and solving problems



# What will a Masters do for You?

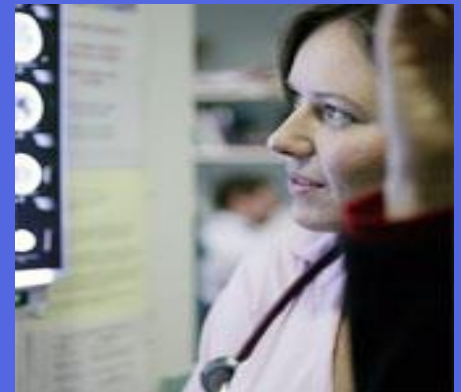
- Prepare you for the application of advanced or specialist knowledge in roles in industry or a profession;
- Prepare you for further study and research towards a higher degree;
- Or Both!





# Masters Graduates Should...

“Show the qualities needed for employment in circumstances requiring sound judgment, personal responsibility and initiative, in complex and unpredictable professional environments.”

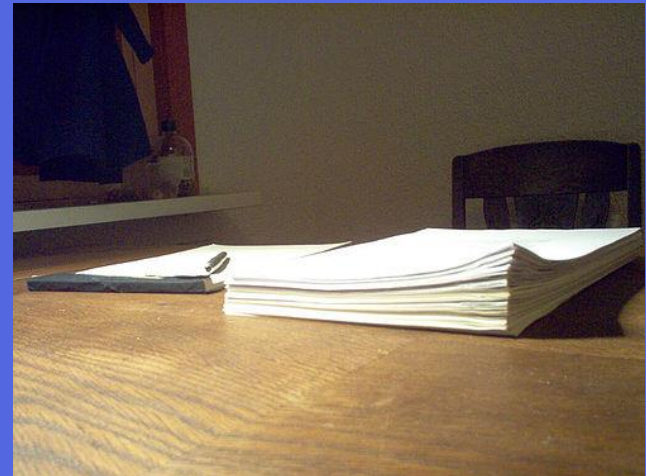


# The Masters Year

- 180 Credits (1 credit = 10 hours of student effort)
- One year full time FT (2,3 or 5 years PT)
- Course Units (e.g. 8 x 15 credits)
- Research Project (e.g. 60, 90, 120 credits)
  - including the preparation of and submission of a Dissertation.

# Assessment

- Course work
- Group work
- Field work
- Case studies
- Presentations
- Projects
- Examinations
- **Dissertation**





# The Challenges

- This year will seem EXCITING but VERY SHORT!
- This year will be HARD WORK!



- The expectations of you will be of greater depth and intellectual maturity than at undergraduate level!

# Possible Pitfalls

- Regulations and Deadlines
- Plagiarism and Academic Malpractice
- English Language
- Research Methods
- Health and Safety Issues
- Personal Problems

# Your School Support Systems

- Induction, Programme Handbook and Training
- Programme Director/Tutor
- Programme Administrator
- Personal Tutor
- Research Project Supervisor
- Staff/Student Committees



# Other Support Systems

- Library Staff
- Faculty PGT Contacts – IT Support
- University Careers Service
- University Language Centre
- International Student Advice Team
- International Society
- University Counselling Service

# Our Advice

- Learn to manage your time and workload effectively
- Be aware of regulations/deadlines
- Seek help if you need it – as soon as possible
- Use the resources well
- Ensure that you know what you are going to do next and *plan ahead – particularly for your project/dissertation*

# What Next?

- Start to plan TODAY!
- Consider what you want and talk to programme graduates – research students
- Use the Careers Service  
([www.careers.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk))
- Research Degree Opportunities?



# Feedback

## Us to You

- Course work
- Individual Progress and Development
- Response to issues raised

## You to Us

- Programme feedback questionnaires
- University feedback questionnaires
- Student representation on Staff/Student committees

# Key Things to Remember

- Read your programme handbook!
  - Ask for Guidance
  - Manage your time
  - Use your support systems
  - Plan Ahead
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- Enjoy a balance between academic work and benefiting from/contributing to a massive INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY!

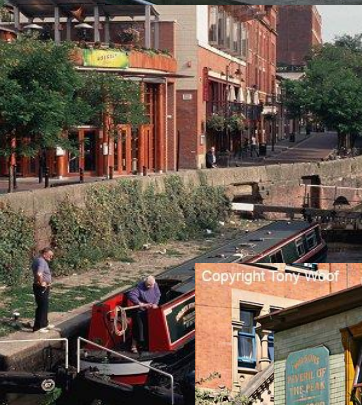




# Manchester



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