

MIE PhD Programme Details

The Manchester Institute of Education PhD programme is a three year full-time programme (six years part-time). Your PhD will be a bespoke combination of *supervised research* on the topic outlined in your application proposal; *research training* to provide you with the skills to design robust research projects in your field; and *researcher development* to give you the personal and professional skills required to promote your employability. Your programme, therefore, will consist of mandatory elements, but will also provide opportunities for you to access learning from other parts of SEED, and wider University and beyond, to ensure you get a programme tailored to your needs.

Supervised research

Throughout your PhD you will be planning, executing, analysing and writing up your research. You will commence work on your research from the start of your PhD. During your first year, in addition to developing an in-depth understanding of your research topic, you will complete comprehensive research training to enable you to design a robust methodology for your doctoral project. In your second year, you will move on to fieldwork, to recruit participants to your research, collect data and begin analysis, while also drafting early chapters of your thesis. Your third year will involve finalising analyses and writing a full draft of your thesis ready for examination. Your supervisory team (usually two academics with expertise in your research area) will have regular monthly and additional meetings with you throughout the period of your studies, to guide you through your research and write up, and to prepare you for examination.

Research training

You will follow a structured programme of research training in the first year of your studies, to complement development of your research design. During this year, you will spend around 60% of your time gaining the advanced research and transferable skills, and specialist knowledge that you need to finalise your doctoral research plans. Further research training opportunities will be available throughout the programme, not just in the first year, from SEED and other providers. You will be encouraged to regularly review your training needs and to take advantage of relevant opportunities to enhance your skills.

Researcher development

Throughout your PhD studies, the emphasis will be on development of the personal and professional skills required to produce a high quality PhD. Career development opportunities will also be provided to enhance your employability and ability to make the most of research opportunities as they arise. Many of the training and development opportunities offered, outside the formal research training programme, are linked to the Researcher Development Framework.

You can read more about the Researcher Development Framework here:

<https://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers-professional-development/about-the-vitae-researcher-development-framework>

Disability support

Practical support and advice for students and applicants is available from the Disability Advisory and Support Service. Email: dass@manchester.ac.uk