

NORTHAMPTON INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION



**POSTGRADUATE
PROSPECTUS 2020
ENTRY**

www.northampton.ac

EDUCATION PhD

Duration: 3 years full-time, 6 years part-time

Education

At the Northampton Institute for Education (NIE) we have a commitment to addressing social justice, and to enabling evidence informed educational change through both our scholarly activities and our collaborative partnerships with professionals. Our work builds upon a longstanding reputation for excellence in educational research and teaching with a tradition stretching a focus for study within The University of Northampton Online programmes.

The Northampton Institute of Education approach to research is distinctive through a focus on equity and practice, making a significant contribution to the University's goal of social responsibility. Our aim is to ensure that research is at the cutting edge of theory and practice, and that it contributes to improvements in the overall quality of education for students, their families and communities in educational settings throughout the world. Productive partnerships with policy-makers and practitioners have been developed in order to interplay ideas, evidence and strategy.

Key research themes include:

- disadvantage and poverty;
- critical education policy and leadership;
- critical pedagogies and maths education;
- special educational and additional needs, which comprises three areas – applied prevention in education, special educational needs and disabilities, and educational and counselling psychology.

Entry requirements

Degree awarded PhD Duration 3 years +

A First or Upper Second Class Bachelor's degree (or its international equivalent).

A relevant master's degree, with Merit and a minimum average grade of 60% in both the taught course

-units and your dissertation (or international equivalent of 60%).

"The values of the team here and the research being done aligned with my interests, particularly around addressing inequality and mental health, so when I saw a funded position available, I knew this would be a perfect fit for me.

Adolescence is a really crucial time in the development of mental health difficulties, so this research shouldn't just be something that's done behind closed doors, it should be shared and talked about.

It's often said that investing knowledge and making change in this area is important because it's economically beneficial, but for me and many of the people here, this is seen as an ethical responsibility to help figure out how we can support children and young people.

Khalid Ahmad
Education PhD

Accreditation & Recognition

What Is Accreditation?

Accreditation is certification by a recognized agency that an educational institution has voluntarily gone through a review and examination by that agency. Accreditation gives public recognition to institutions that meet certain standards. It is a promise that the institution will provide the quality education it claims to offer. Accreditation assures the student that the institution:

- Is financially sound.
- Has approved programs of study, qualified instructors, adequate facilities and + equipment, and effective recruitment and admission policies.
- Advertises its courses truthfully.
- Some functions of accreditation (and accrediting agencies) include:
 1. Verifying that an institution or program meets established standards.
 2. Assisting institutions in determining the acceptability of transfer credits.
 3. Involving faculty and staff in institutional evaluation and planning.
 4. Helping determine institutions' eligibility for federal assistance.+



Higher Learning Commission (UK)
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Email: info@hlcommission.org.uk
Web: www.hlcommission.org.uk

Newcastle Regulation
Rotterdam House, 116 Quayside,
Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE1 3DY
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National Bureau of Post-Secondary Education
is listed by the U.S. Department of Education as a recognized accrediting agency
Avenue NW Suite 300, Washington, DC Avenue NW Suite 300,
Plaza, Suite 300, Bethesda, Maryland, 20817
Tele/Fax: +1 202-793-6400
Email: info@nbspe.org
Website: www.nbspe.org

Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DETC).
1 Berry Street, Aberdeen,
ABERDEENSHIRE, AB25 1HF
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Tele: +44.191 3300010345
Email: info@detc.org.uk
Website: www.detc.org.uk

Medical Council of America
6701 Democracy Boulevard,
Plaza, Suite 300, Bethesda, Maryland, 20817 Washington, DC
Email: membership@mcamerica.org
Web: www.mcamerica.org

United States Bar Council
1776 I St Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20006
Email: info@usbarcouncil.org
Web: www.usbarcouncil.org



LAW PhD

Duration: 36 months full-time, 72 months part-time

- Overview
- Degree awarded
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Duration
- 3 years (full-time); 6 years (part-time)
- Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements are:

an Upper Second class honours degree with minimum grade averages of 65%(or overseas equivalent) in Law or a relevant discipline;
a master's degree at merit level with overall average marks of 65% in taught modules and a minimum mark of 65% in the dissertation/research element (or overseas equivalent) and no mark below 55%, in Law or a relevant discipline, plus prior research training at postgraduate level.

PhD applications are welcomed across our research themes:

We're currently focused on the following

research themes:

- Bioethics, health and law
- Law, money and technology
- International law
- Private and commercial law
- Regulation and social justice

Coursework and assessment

For a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), you must successfully complete a period of supervised research and training, the results of which show convincing evidence of your capacity to pursue research and scholarship, and to make an original contribution and substantial addition to knowledge.

Research training in legal methods: full-time PGRs are expected to attend at least 50% of the research training seminars over the course of the first year.

Part-time PGRs are required to attend a 25 percent minimum of seminars in their first year and another 25 percent in their second year. Second and third-year PhD candidates may return to take seminars they missed the previous year on an optional basis.

You must prepare a substantial thesis of up to 80,000 words, and also satisfy the examiners in an oral examination on the subject of the thesis. The subject is chosen by you, but must be approved by the School's Research Committee.

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Khalid Ahmad
Education PhD

- The Northampton Centre for Regulation, Governance and Public Law
- Northampton International Law Centre (NILC)
- Centre for Social Ethics and Policy (CSEP)

You'll be working on important research that shapes law, policy and social change through active engagement with policy-makers, legislators, NGOs and activists working in a broad range of disciplines and sectors.

EDUCATIONAL AND CHILD PSYCHOLOGY (D.ED.CH.PSYCHOL)

Duration: 3 years full-time

Our Doctorate in Educational and Child Psychology is an initial professional training programme for educational psychologists, approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

You will undertake a practical placement as a central element of your programme, and will also complete five programme units to support your practical work:

- Communication and Interpersonal Effectiveness
- Consultation, assessment and intervention 1: Social, Organisational and Ecological Context
- Consultation, assessment and intervention 2: Child and Adolescent Development;
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Research in Educational and Child Psychology

Programme units vary from year to year. Above are examples of the topics planned for 2020.



COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY (D.COUNCS.PSYCH)

Duration: 3 years full-time

This is a professional doctorate, aimed at education professionals. These programmes will train you to doctorate level, helping you to gain the specialist knowledge to transform your career. The Professional Doctorate in Counselling Psychology (DCounsPsych) at The Northampton doctoral programme in counselling psychology offered by a Online Group university.

- Focus on the development of appropriate theoretical knowledge, research skills and therapeutic practice skills, as well as personal development.
- Learn a pluralistic approach to therapy, with a focus on humanistic counselling during the first year and cognitive behavioural therapy in the second.
- Work with staff who are active psychologists in the fields of both research and clinical practice in counselling psychology.

Research interests of current staff include:

- Counselling psychology and social justice
- The interface between education and therapy
- Technologically mediated therapy
- Applied psychology education
- Reflexive therapeutic practice

You'll benefit from our excellent connections within the community of counselling psychology in the US, as well as strong local links with voluntary sector organisations working around mental health provision for disadvantaged and minoritised populations.

On completion, you will be eligible to apply for HCPC registration and USAP Fellow status.



WHAT TO EXPECT AS A POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHER

During your doctoral studies you'll develop an original piece of research on a topic of your choice, using a range of methods.

You'll take the lead on your project, but will also be supported by at least two supervisors, meeting around once a month to discuss your progress.

Our PhD community is home to a diverse and passionate group of researchers from nearly 100 different countries working in a range of disciplines. This brings a real sense of community, with individuals to look to for inspiration, friendship and support.

We encourage interdisciplinary working and the sharing of ideas, and you'll be respected and valued for your individual contributions, working in partnerships with our wider academic community.

There'll also be plenty of opportunities to get involved in activities, such as:

- workshops
- seminars
- conferences
- international research trips
- funded fieldwork
- regular opportunities to share your findings with your peers
- the chance to get hands-on teaching experience as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.



"There are quite a number of people who are inspiring. I live in Delaware and I like it. I like going to the museums and it's interesting getting to know the history of the people and the city that you live in. Towards the final years it's pretty lonely because you have to write and do it by yourself but every time somebody comes to the office they're like "is anybody on campus today, let's have coffee!"

Neny Jonnes
PhD student

FINDING YOUR SUPERVISOR

The relationship you'll have with your supervisors will be a key part of your PhD – they will develop your thinking, inspire you and encourage you.

Things to consider:

- You'll have at least two supervisors to support you throughout your PhD, a main supervisor and co-supervisor.
- It's a close relationship, formed over at least three years, so you'll need to feel comfortable asking questions and sharing your thoughts and ideas.
- In order to develop your potential as a researcher, it's best to find a supervisor who works in your specific field, shares your research interests, and believes in your proposal.
- Get in touch with potential supervisors before you apply. Most supervisors will provide support and advice on developing your research proposal, which could increase your chances of securing funding.



WRITING YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

As part of your application you'll need to write a research proposal. This is the main way we can judge whether you have what it takes to excel as a doctoral candidate and for you to share your ideas and interests with us.

- Give your proposal the time and energy it deserves, and you'll give yourself the best chance to turn your idea into a realistic research project. The earlier you can start this, the better.
- Make sure you're aware of the context of your research and anything similar that's happening out there. But when it comes to your proposal, keep the literature focused and directly relevant to your project.
- Keep your proposal concise, and make sure your title is clear. Typical proposals tend to be around 1,500-2,000 words but do vary by programme, so make sure to check with your programme's admissions team or prospective supervisor.
- Include a work plan in for your research, with timelines and milestones. This will show assessors you're confident you can realistically achieve your research aims.
- Give your proposal a clear structure. We suggest: title, abstract, literature review, research questions, methods, work plan, conclusion, references.
- Make sure your proposal is correctly referenced and your bibliography is comprehensive.
- You'll probably work through several versions before it's ready to submit so allow time for editing and proofreading as part of the process.



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