

POSTGRADUATE STUDY AT KENT 2021/22

*Dr Tim Hopthrow
Deputy Dean of the Graduate and Researcher
College*



Welcome to our world - Taught / Research

- Familiarise yourself with the online Postgraduate Student Handbook
 - PGT/Master's - <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgthandbook/>
 - PhD/Master's by Research - <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/>
- Introduce yourself to your Divisional Postgraduate Administration Team.
- Find out who the Programme Convenor / Director of Graduate Studies and Experience is within your Division and your school.
- Researchers - Ensure that you have a meeting set up with your Main Supervisor within the **first two weeks** of registration.
- Taught - Find out when and where your lectures, seminars, labs, work spaces are (online and on campus).
- Find out the name of your [academic liaison librarian](#) and visit the library to discover the resources available in your subject area.
- Check your Kent emails on a regular basis.
- HAVE FUN!

Academic Divisions

Division of Arts and Humanities

- [Kent School of Architecture and Planning](#)
- [School of Arts](#)
- [School of English](#)
- [School of European Culture and Languages](#)
- [School of History](#)
- [Centre for Music and Audio Technology](#)

Division of Natural Sciences

- [School of Biosciences](#)
- [School of Physical Sciences](#)
- [School of Sport and Exercise Sciences](#)
- [Medway School of Pharmacy](#)
- [Kent and Medway Medical School](#)

Division of Computing, Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

- [School of Computing](#)
- [School of Engineering and Digital Arts](#)
- [School of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science](#)

Academic Divisions

Kent Business School

- [Kent Business School](#)

Division of Human and Social Sciences

- [School of Anthropology and Conservation](#)
- [School of Economics](#)
- [School of Politics and International Relations](#)
- [School of Psychology](#)

Division for the study of Law, Society and Social Justice

- [Kent Law School](#)
- [School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research](#)
- [Centre for Journalism](#)

GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE

With passion and focus you can achieve anything

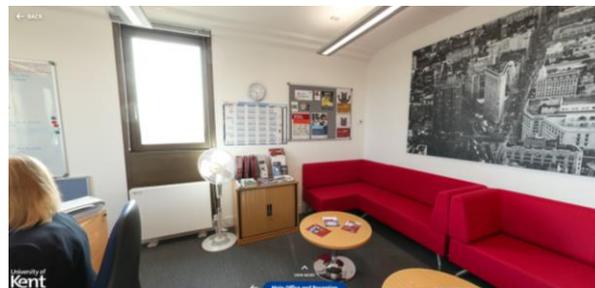
The Graduate and Researcher College works in partnership with academic schools, divisions, central service departments and Kent Union to enhance the quality of the postgraduate student experience across all campuses and create a vibrant postgraduate community at Kent.

Graduate and Researcher College highlights:

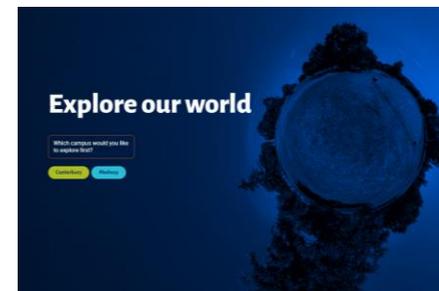
- **Postgraduate Taught Student Handbook:** <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgthandbook/>
- **Postgraduate Research Student Handbook:** <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/>
- **Global Skills Award / Researcher Development Programme**
- Postgraduate Community Experience Awards
- Kent Researchers' Showcase
- *GradPost*



Graduate and Researcher College training room



Graduate and Researcher College main reception



Kent experience tour



Global Skills Award Programme for Master's Students

The GSA programme is designed to enhance global awareness and improve your employability.

- All Master's degree students are invited to enrol onto the programme, alongside their Master's.
- The programme is open from October 2021 - May 2022.
- Students attend a lecture series on national and global issues and a selection of workshops.
- Due to the unprecedented circumstances of COVID-19, most events on the programme will initially run online, with a small proportion taking place face-to-face.
- All those who complete are invited to a reward ceremony and receive a GSA Programme Certificate.

Examples of previously held lectures

Walking, talking solidarity: calling for an end to indefinite detention

Pandemics: past, present and future

Racism in the UK: panel discussion

Flexible working

What does the future of legal gender regulation look like?

Climate change

Exploring global cultures

Examples of previously held workshops

Researching and managing a dissertation

Using LinkedIn

CV and cover letters

Presentation skills

Leadership sessions

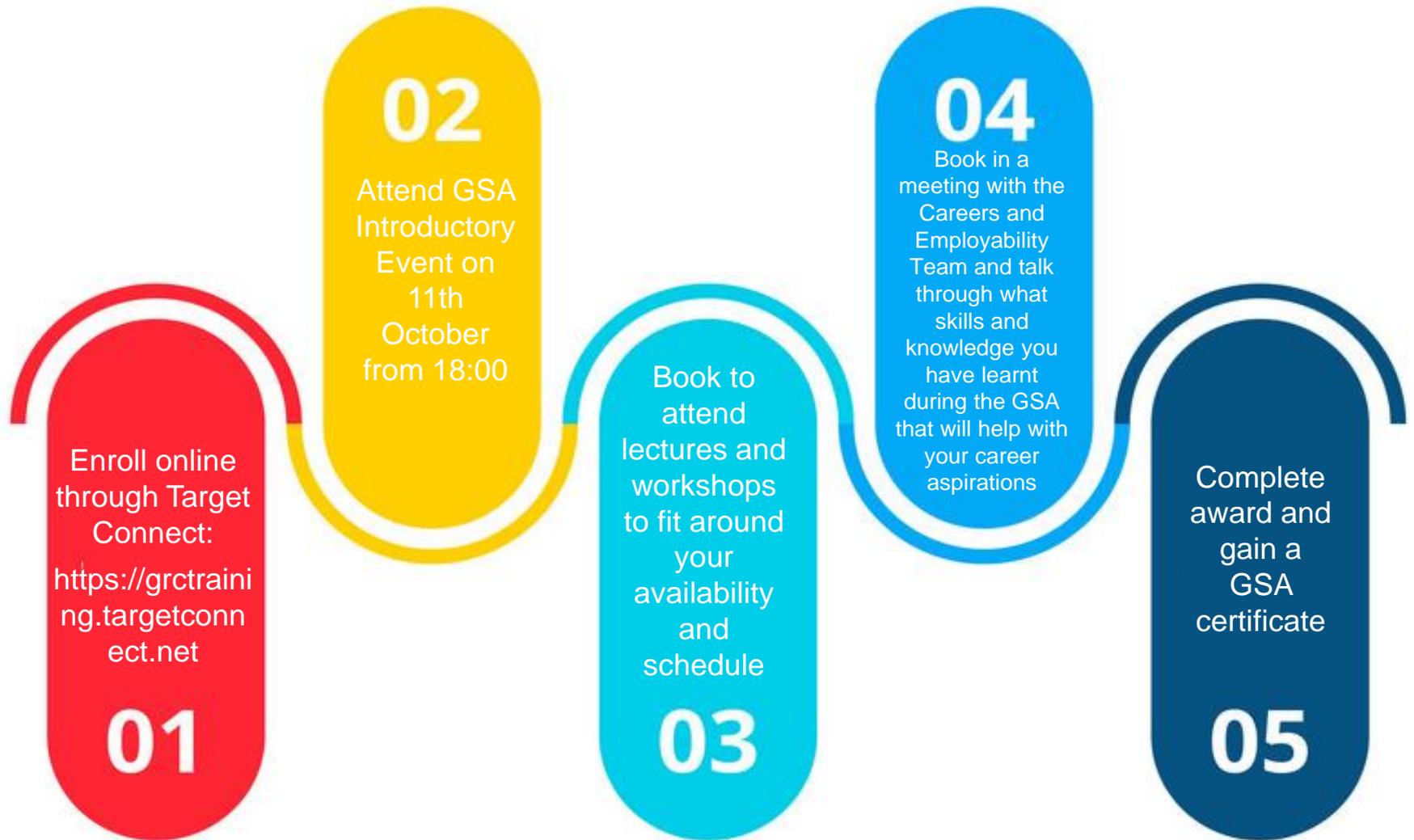
Negotiation skills

Time and stress management

Writing Skills

Teamwork in theory and practice

GSA Next steps



Researcher Development Programme for PhD and Master's by Research

The [Researcher Development Programme](#) (RDP) is designed to equip postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers with a full range of skills. It improves your effectiveness as a researcher and ensures that by the end of your research project, you are both highly qualified and employable in a variety of careers.

Examples of workshops/training

Kickstart your PhD (1st year)

Progressing in your PhD (2nd year)

Finishing your PhD (3rd years)

Research methods and statistics (including: Statistics, LaTeX, R, NVivo)

Writing skills workshops (one-to-one tutorials and writing retreats)

Writing for journals and getting published

1:1 online and face-to-face coaching sessions

Information management skills

Presentation skills and Impact

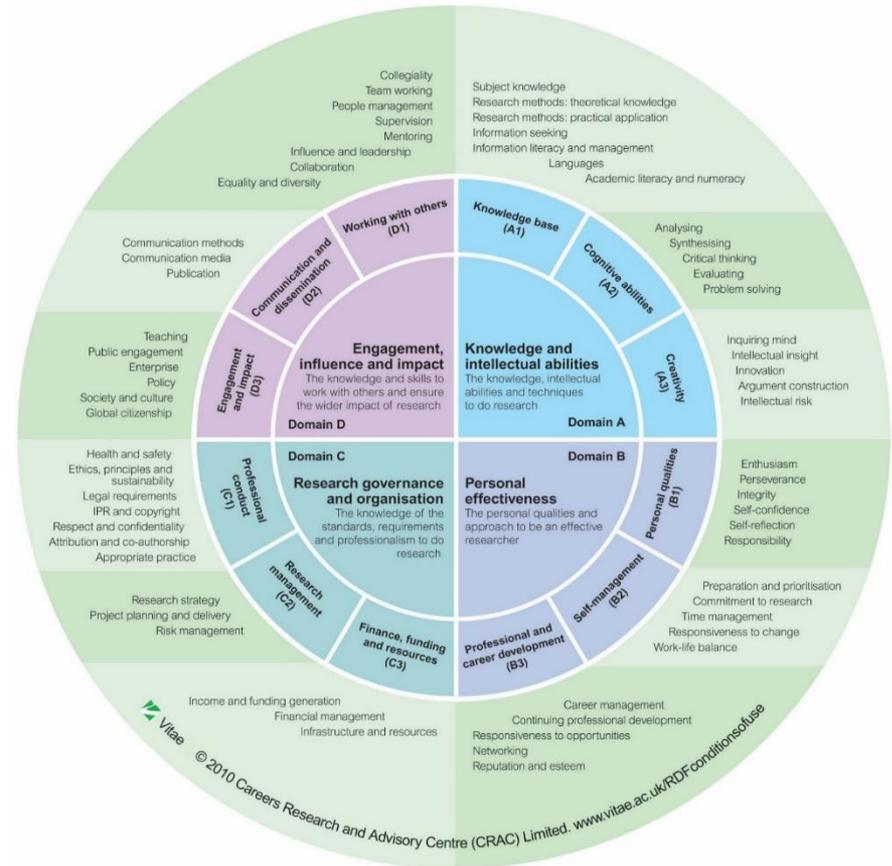
Time / stress management



www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college/skills-training/researcher-development-programme

Researcher Development Programme

- Our Researcher Development Programme offers a range of training workshops to help you develop research and transferable skills.
- These will be valuable to you during your study but also for your chosen career, whether in academia or beyond.
- Our RDP is mapped to the national Researcher Development Framework.



Kickstart your PhD Workshop

- Compulsory for all PhD students.
- Workshops held throughout the autumn term online and in person.
- Workshop topics:
 - Researcher Development Programme
 - Resources for PhD journey
 - Responsibilities of PG researcher
 - Supervisory relationship.
- The workshop also helps you to reflect on and assess your current skills and introduces the [Researcher Development Assessment](#) (RDA).

You must attend this workshop AND complete online assessment as part of the probation process.

Supervision for researchers

Ensure that you have a meeting set up with your Main Supervisor within the first **two weeks of registration** to discuss:

- How your supervisory team-student relationship will work (e.g. preferred means of contact, feedback mechanisms and turnaround times)
- Your meeting schedule
- Your work plan
- Any initial concerns
- Skills training requirements
- What you will be required to prepare for your induction review (six weeks after registration)
- How progression monitoring will be handled within your academic school (i.e. any school specific requirements)
- Facilities/resources

Progression monitoring for researchers

Review Stages	Timing
Induction review	Within 6 weeks of registration (for both PT and FT PhD students)
Probation/end of year review	10 months for FT PhD students and 12 months for PT PhD students
End of year reviews	At the end of each year
Mid-year reviews (<i>if necessary</i>)	Mid-year reviews may be scheduled in cases where concerns are raised at an end of year review
Submission review	3 months prior to the minimum period of registration (e.g. 3 years for FT PhD and 5 years for PT PhD students)

Progression and Examination Annex of the Code of Practice provides detailed information about the review stages and links to the review forms:

www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/index.html?tab=research-programmes

GradPost

A newsletter created *by* Postgraduates *for* the Postgraduate community.

The *GradPost* Editorial Team

Information on Gradpost opportunities that will look great on your CV and enhance your postgraduate experience at Kent can be found on our website:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-school/news#gradpost>



For more information on how to get involved contact: gradpost@kent.ac.uk

Postgraduate Space

Where to study:

Canterbury: www.kent.ac.uk/guides/where-to-study-on-canterbury-campus

Medway: www.kent.ac.uk/guides/study-space-and-pcs-on-the-medway-campus

Senate Postgraduate Study Hub

Woolf Foyer and Common Room

Templeman Library and Drill Hall – study carrels, student PC rooms, silent and social study rooms

Postgraduate space in your school – this may be a common room or shared desk space. Ask your Postgraduate Administrator for information.



#PGVoice - Taught

Get involved and make your voice heard!

There are a range of mechanisms you can use to provide feedback on the quality of your academic and social experiences as a postgraduate student at Kent. These mechanisms include:

- Student Voice Committees
- Speaking to Kent Union. They are your students' union and exist to make sure your voice is heard.
- Talking to your Student Reps – student reps act as the link between the student body, Kent Union and the University.
- Speaking to your Programme Convenor or Academic Advisers.
- Send your feedback to the Graduate and Researcher College: kentgrc@kent.ac.uk
- Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES)



Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2020 (during pandemic)

- 81.5% Overall Satisfaction

#PGVoice - Research

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- Speaking to your Supervisor or Academic Advisers.
- Send your feedback to the Graduate and Researcher College: kentgrc@kent.ac.uk
- Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES)



Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) 2020 (during pandemic)

- 80.5% Overall Satisfaction

KENT UNION

KENTUNION.CO.UK

Be heard

There are plenty of opportunities to shape your University experience and be represented whilst you study at Kent.

- Student Reps
- Advice Centre
- Student Networks

<https://kentunion.co.uk/>



What kind of things do we cover?

- Academic
- EU Students
- International Students
- Care Leavers
- Health
- Tier 4 Visas
- Employment
- Housing
- Safety
- Welfare
- Available Funding
- Finance

<https://kentunion.co.uk/here-for-you/advice>

- You can contact us via our website [contact form](#) and an adviser will usually get back to you within one to three working days.
- Or, alternatively, you can use our webchat function on our website by clicking on the icon at the bottom right of the screen to ask a quick question. If the adviser cannot help with your enquiry via webchat we may need to get back to you after the chat has ended. We're usually available during term-time between 10:00 – 16:00, Monday to Friday and between 13:30 – 16:00 outside of term-time.

Services and support at Kent

- Accessibility
- Wellbeing
- Mental Health
- Healthcare
- Inclusive Learning Plan
- Support for Specific Learning Difficulties

Student Support and Wellbeing



- Job hunting
- Career research
- Career planning
- Assessment Centre's
- CV and application writing
- Interview support

Careers and Employability



- Enhance learning experience
- One to one appointments
- PG related workshops
- Study guides and learning resources

Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS)



- Student welfare
- Pastoral support
- Chaplaincy
- Out of hours support
- Student complaints (non academic)

College and Community Life



- Digital Library
- Academic Liaison Librarians
- Research support and resources
- Study spaces and PCs
- Open Access

Templeman and Drill Hall



- Registration
- Intermission
- Supervision and progression monitoring
- Thesis and dissertation submission
- Examination

Administration Guidance





Doing a postgraduate degree is meant to be challenging but not overwhelming. Allow yourself some time to get to know what services are available to support you through your postgraduate journey at Kent.

Student Support and Wellbeing can help you with:

- Autism Support
- Support for Care Leavers
- Disability Support
- Personal Wellbeing

- Mental Health Support
- Specific Learning Difficulties
- Emergency Wellbeing Support
-and much more

Additional support

Aside from our free support provided by experts at the University of Kent, we also share many resources and have referral pathways to lots of external organisations who can provide expertise in different areas, such as Nightline, Togetherall, Student Minds, the Foward Trust, and rethink Mental Illness. Take a look at the extensive list to find the support that works for you:
www.kent.ac.uk/guides/mental-health#additional-support

Other useful links

- The Student Guide will have all the links and information you need to get started at Kent: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/student>. On the top bar you will find links to Moodle, Timetables and KentVision.
- Welcome Week Events by Division/School: www.kent.ac.uk/welcome/whats-on/divisional-and-school-events
- You can visit the Kent 'What's On' event calendar here: www.kent.ac.uk/welcome/whats-on
- You can visit the GRC workshops and events calendar here: www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college/news
 - You can also find out what workshops and training sessions are available to postgraduates (GSA for Master's and RDP for Researchers) through our online booking system: <https://grctraining.targetconnect.net/unauth>
- Coronavirus updates for students: www.kent.ac.uk/student/coronavirus
 - Where to get tested: www.kent.ac.uk/student/coronavirus/28767/covid-19-regular-testing-where-to-get-tested-on-campus
- Student Parking information: www.kent.ac.uk/transport/driving-parking/student
- Student timetable information: www.kent.ac.uk/timetabling/information/student_tt.html

Graduate and Researcher College Online



www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college



[@GRCKent](https://www.facebook.com/GRCKent)



[@GRCKent](https://twitter.com/GRCKent)