



WELCOME TO OUR  
WORLD!

POSTGRADUATE  
RESEARCH AT KENT  
2021/22

*PROFESSOR PAUL ALLAIN  
DEAN OF THE GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE*

# GETTING STARTED

Familiarise yourself with the online Postgraduate Research Student Handbook - [blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/](https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/).

- Introduce yourself to your **Divisional Postgraduate Administration Team**.
- Find out who the **Director of Graduate Studies and Experience** is within your Division and your school.
- Acquaint yourself with your School's support processes for research students.
- Ensure that you have a meeting set up with your Main Supervisor within the first two weeks of registration.
- 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 OVERVIEW

Division of Arts and  
Humanities  
(ArtsHums)

Division of Computing,  
Engineering and  
Mathematical  
Sciences  
(CEMS)

Division of Natural  
Sciences  
(NS)

Kent Business School  
(KBS)

Division for the study  
of Law, Society and  
Social Justice  
(LSSJ)

Division of Human and  
Social Sciences  
(HSS)



*‘WITH PASSION AND  
FOCUS, YOU CAN  
ACHIEVE  
ANYTHING.’*

# GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE / ABOUT US

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.

The Graduate and Researcher College Board is responsible for all aspects of postgraduate education and research, as well as for shaping academic and research staff development. It includes student and staff members, and is one of many forums, including student representative systems in Schools and Divisions and the [Researcher Development Advisory Group](#) for staff, where voices can be heard.



# GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE / HIGHLIGHTS

- Postgraduate Research Student Handbook: [blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/](https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/pgrhandbook/)
- Researcher Development Programme
- Skills Training
- *GradPost*
- Postgraduate Community Experience Awards
- Graduate and Researcher College Prizes

See more on our [Graduate and Researcher College Information Site](#)





# RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT & RECOGNITION

# RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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.

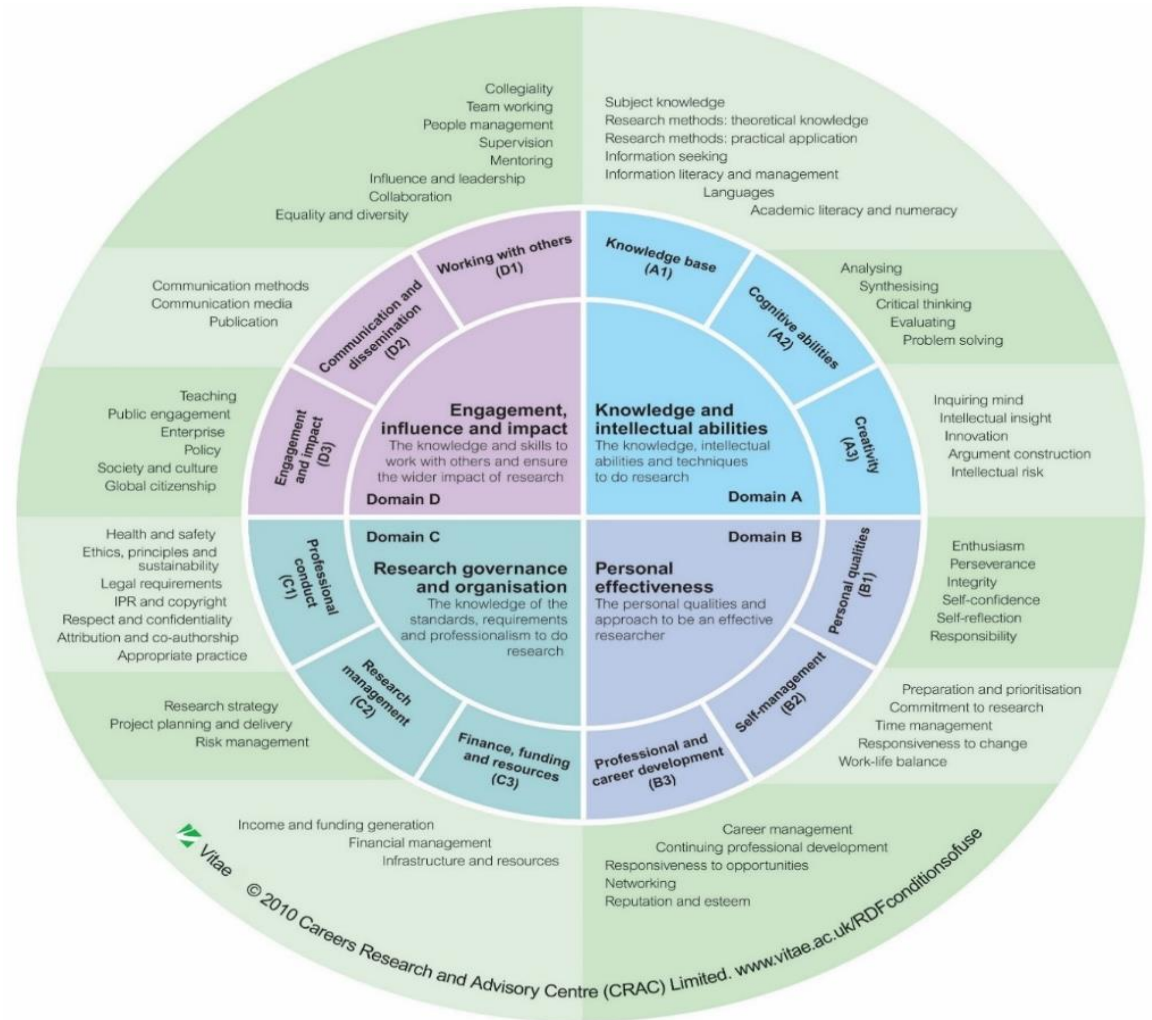
[www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college/skills-training/researcher-development-programme](http://www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college/skills-training/researcher-development-programme)





# RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CONT)

- 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.



# SKILLS TRAINING

## Examples of workshops/training

Kickstart your PhD (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Progressing in your PhD (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

Finishing your PhD (3<sup>rd</sup> 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



# SKILLS TRAINING / 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

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

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 (if necessary)	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](http://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:

[www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-school/news#gradpost](http://www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-school/news#gradpost)

For more information on how to get involved contact:

[gradpost@kent.ac.uk](mailto:gradpost@kent.ac.uk)



# POSTGRADUATE COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE AWARDS / TURNING GREAT IDEAS INTO REALITY!

Each year the Graduate and Researcher College runs the Postgraduate Community Experience Award. We offer funding of up to £1,500, for applicants to run events or projects which have an interdisciplinary and/or external focus and will build the postgraduate community at the University of Kent.

For more and previous winners see here:  
<https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/graduateschoolnews/postgraduate-community-experience-award/>



# GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE PRIZES

To recognise the excellence of our postgraduate researchers and the outstanding work carried out by academic and professional service staff, in support of postgraduate research and education, we run the Graduate and Researcher College prizes, each year!

Be in with a chance to win £250 to put towards travel and subsistence, in relation to research. Including conference fees, books, consumables, survey costs or any other cost that can be shown in relation to your research. Or staff development courses and related travel and subsistence costs.

For more and previous winners see here:

<https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/graduateschoolnews/graduate-school-prizes/>

[www.kent.ac.uk](http://www.kent.ac.uk)







# POSTGRADUATE STUDY, STUDENT EXPERIENCE & SUPPORT

# POSTGRADUATE SPACE / WHERE TO STUDY

Canterbury: [www.kent.ac.uk/guides/where-to-study-on-canterbury-campus](http://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/where-to-study-on-canterbury-campus)

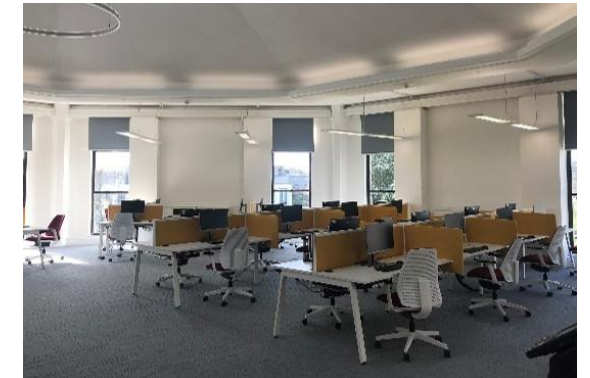
Medway: [www.kent.ac.uk/guides/study-space-and-pcs-on-the-medway-campus](http://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/study-space-and-pcs-on-the-medway-campus)

[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.



# POSTGRADUATE SUPPORT AND RESOURCES



**Digital Library**



**IS Research Services**



**Quiet Study Space Booking**



**Research Administration Guidance**

# #PGVOICE / 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 [www.kent.ac.uk/academic/sslc/index.html](http://www.kent.ac.uk/academic/sslc/index.html)
- 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 Supervisor or Academic Advisers.
- Send your feedback to the Graduate and Researcher College: [kentgrc@kent.ac.uk](mailto: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

[www.kent.ac.uk](http://www.kent.ac.uk)



# KENT UNION ADVICE CENTRE / WHAT KIND OF THINGS DO WE COVER?

- Academic
- Care Leavers
- Employment
- Welfare
- EU Students
- Health
- Housing
- Available Funding
- International Students
- Tier 4 Visas
- Safety
- 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, Monday to Friday.

# 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 (nonacademic)

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



# STUDENT SUPPORT & WELLBEING

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

[www.kent.ac.uk](http://www.kent.ac.uk)

## 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](http://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/mental-health#additional-support)



# GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE / ONLINE



[www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college](http://www.kent.ac.uk/graduate-researcher-college)



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