

# NewRoutePhD™

an integrated doctorate



## Programme Structure

The NewRoutePhD™ is an integrated programme of postgraduate training which combines research with advanced training in discipline specific and generic skills. The model which was developed with full support of the UK Government, the Higher Education Funding Council of England (HEFCE) and the British Council has been taken up by leading UK Universities and is offered across a range of disciplines including Arts, Bioscience, Business, Communication Studies, Education, Engineering, Environmental Science, Law, Linguistics, Medical Science, Politics, Social Sciences and a range of further disciplines.

The structure of this 'Integrated PhD' is designed to place students in an enhanced learning environment, where their achievements in research are underpinned by a structured programme of formal training. Taught masters level courses provide advanced theoretical and practical research skills to ensure a secure knowledge of the research area. These discipline specific courses are front-loaded into the early years of the programme to provide a secure platform for the research. In addition to generic training in professional and personal skills is provided throughout the programme.

This training is of direct value to the world of work, whether in academia, industry or government. The research project itself will be undertaken in the high quality UK research environment. Participating universities have excellent research ratings and a strong reputation for effective research supervision.



## Benefits

### ...to the Student

Successful graduates of the NewRoutePhD™ programmes are equipped as independent researchers with the personal and transferable skills required to make a significant contribution to their chosen field. Whether as professional educators, researchers or business leaders in public or private sector, their high level of training will give them a distinctive competitive edge when entering the world of work. Graduates benefit from:

- ◆ An individually designed structured research programme
- ◆ Explicit training in effective research skills
- ◆ Acquisition of generic skills, including leadership and enterprise
- ◆ High likelihood of completion within timeframe
- ◆ Development as an independent researcher

### ...to the Sponsor

The NewRoutePhD™ programmes retain the core elements of the traditional UK PhD but is augmented by additional formal training to support the academic and individual development of the student. The student is supported by an academic supervision team, who will advise on the project, monitor progress and performance and give regular constructive feedback. Formal assessment of the doctoral thesis is via the traditional Viva Voce oral examination conducted by internal and external expert examiners. Studentship sponsors will benefit from:

- ◆ Enhanced formal training of sponsored researchers
- ◆ A broad range of skills for the workplace
- ◆ Trainees able to network with the international research community
- ◆ Quality assurance of programmes via institutional and national QAA audit
- ◆ High likelihood of completion within time period

## Research Environment

The NewRoutePhD™ Consortium of UK Universities are committed to International excellence in postgraduate training. Programmes are subject to audit and review by the consortium to share best practice in training. NewRoutePhD™ students are often members of a cohort group and enjoy the supportive environment of other cohort members, as well as the support of regular PhD students in their area. In recent years cohorts of NewRoutePhD™ graduates from as far afield as ASEAN countries, China, SouthEast Asia, the Indian Sub-continent and Islands, the EU, the Middle East, North Africa and the UK itself have embarked on distinctive careers in education, linguistics, management science, environmental science, biological sciences and a wide range of engineering disciplines.

## Typical NewRoutePhD™

Discipline Specific Taught Courses*			
Generic Skills			
Research			
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4

\* minimum 120 credits normally delivered over the first 18 months

## Completion Time

Students studying on the NewRoutePhD™ programme normally qualify for their award after four years of full-time study although this varies by programme. The four-year integrated framework is widely accepted by UK Research Councils as model for postgraduate training. Interim awards at Diploma, Certificate or Masters level, and professional qualifications as appropriate to the discipline may be offered in some NewRoutePhD™ programmes.

## Entry

The academic and English language requirements for entry into the NewRoutePhD™ are set at the same level as for the traditional UK PhD. All programmes are open to students from the UK and throughout the world. For further details of how to apply please refer to the NewRoute PhD™ website ([www.newroutephd.ac.uk](http://www.newroutephd.ac.uk)).

## A Powerful Learning Experience

Through the specific research training and generic & transferable skills elements of the framework NewRoutePhD™ students are given an advanced start to their research and rapidly acquire training for their future career. Training topics are personally selected from a menu of taught modules, which will include:

- ◆ Subject-specific research modules, giving depth and clarity in the research area
- ◆ Interdisciplinary studies to broaden subject knowledge

Presentation and communication skills  
 Successful “grantsmanship”  
 Enterprise & spin-out companies  
 Language skills  
 Team building  
 Management  
 Interpersonal communication

Media skills  
 Research Ethics  
 Technology transfer  
 Teaching  
 IT and Web skills  
 Career planning  
 Teamwork





# NewRoutePhD™

“The NewRoutePhD™ is most useful for people like me who leave academe for practical industrial experience, then return to teach a diversity of modules. It has refreshed my knowledge and confidence about doctoral level research work.”

NewRoutePhD™ Research Student  
in Chemical Engineering

“This integrated NewRoutePhD™ programme allows me to broaden my knowledge in educational linguistics and improve my skills of academic practice. It also enables me to learn from other postgraduate students so I may not feel as isolated and lonely as the traditional research students during the PhD process.”

NewRoutePhD™ Research Student in Education  
(Educational Linguistics)

“The rapid technological changes in the 21st century have put enormous pressure on academics, demanding a constant update in knowledge and expertise. To meet these challenges and to broaden my horizons, the NewRoutePhD™ was the answer.”

NewRoutePhD™ Research Student in  
Land and Water Management

“With the NewRoutePhD™ I can widen my base with elements of pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences, oncology and microbiology. I will be in the best position for jobs in the pharmaceutical industry demanding cross-subject knowledge.”

NewRoutePhD™ Research Student in Microbiology

To find out more about the  
NewRoutePhD™ visit the website:  
[www.newroutephd.ac.uk](http://www.newroutephd.ac.uk)

Mark Pearson  
NRPhD Administration  
Tel: +44 (0)191 222 6534  
Email: [M.Pearson@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:M.Pearson@ncl.ac.uk)

