



Durham  
University

# School of Education

Postgraduate study opportunities 2012/13

World-class taught and research degrees to PhD

**Ranked 7th**

for Education by *The Independent  
Complete University Guide 2012.*



**85%**  
of the School's research was recognised as being of world-class or international quality in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise.

## School of Education

Durham University's School of Education has a thriving community of over 700 postgraduate taught and research students. The School is one of the leading departments for educational research in the UK as well as being an 'outstanding' provider of Initial Teacher Training.

### ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School has a lively postgraduate environment capitalising on the academic strengths and diversity of its large body of teaching and research staff, and its population of around 1,100 students.

We offer a range of high-quality postgraduate provision to suit our students' needs. Many of our courses are designed to offer optimum flexibility through their mode of delivery, whether through part-time teaching at evenings/weekends to suit those engaged in full-time employment, or through part-time International Postgraduate Programmes (IPPs) which are delivered through a combination of intensive summer school teaching and independent study. Our postgraduate provision offers training and development for the teaching profession as well as programmes for those interested in education as an academic discipline in its own right.

We regularly secure top ten placements in UK university league tables such as *The Times Good University Guide* and

*The Complete University Guide*, and are delighted to have been graded 'outstanding' by Ofsted in February 2011 for all aspects of our initial teacher training. Meanwhile 85% of the School's research was recognised as being of world-class or international quality in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise.

### POSTGRADUATE FACILITIES

The School has a dedicated and well-resourced on-site Education Library with comprehensive print and online information resources, study facilities, generous opening hours and dedicated staff to support all users. Our research students have access to a recently refurbished research block which provides shared office space and areas for relaxation. Wireless access is available throughout the University. Equipment such as laptops, voice-recorders, transcribing machines and digital cameras are available for loan.

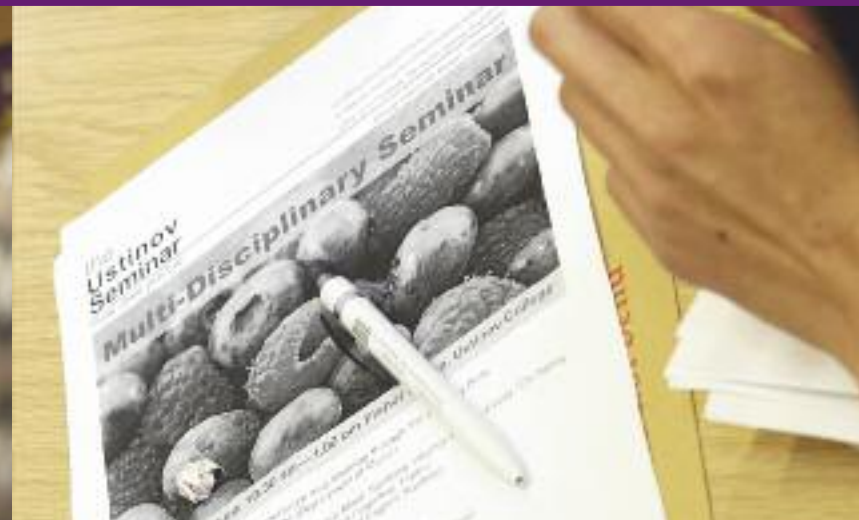
All students are supported in their studies through Durham University Online (duo).

### OUR POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

We offer a broad range of taught and research programmes which are available through a variety of delivery routes to suit home and international students alike. Those in full-time employment are able to undertake postgraduate study through our flexible part-time routes and international postgraduate programme (IPP) routes.

### INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES (IPPS)

In addition to our traditional full-time and flexible part-time delivery routes, some of our programmes are available as a part-time IPP route delivered through a combination of intensive summer school teaching and independent study. The IPP summer teaching runs in Durham throughout July each year and attracts students from a wide range of backgrounds and countries, including the UK, and is ideal for those seeking part-time study in a truly international context. IPP students benefit from a range of extra academic and cultural activities organised by the School.



### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREES

We have a vibrant research culture in the School of Education, with staff who are experts in a diverse range of fields; we can therefore offer supervision in a wide range of areas.

#### Doctorate in Education (EdD)

The EdD has been designed to provide a professionally relevant high level degree which offers the opportunity to study educational issues and develop research skills in order to carry out doctoral level research. The programme provides a broad-based knowledge of a number of aspects of education through a system of taught modules that develop a base for the thesis and its opportunity to research a specific issue of professional concern in depth. As with a PhD, EdD students are required to produce a substantial piece of original research, demonstrating a high level of proficiency in professional research skills and an in-depth knowledge of the chosen field.

The EdD programme has two distinct stages:

- A taught phase where students are offered intensive tuition in small groups. The teaching is based on

the most important and current international research, policy and practice

- A thesis phase where students undertake supervised and independent doctoral level research to produce a 60,000 word thesis.

The thesis stage begins after successful completion of the taught phase. During this stage students are supported by two supervisors. For part-time students much contact will be through electronic media.

#### Study routes available:

The EdD is offered full-time over three years in the UK, part-time over six years in the UK and through our part-time International Postgraduate Programme (IPP) route (see *International Postgraduate Programmes* above).

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to receive a relevant Masters degree or equivalent. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).

#### Doctor of Philosophy in Education (PhD)

A Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD) provides the opportunity to research a topic in depth and to contribute new knowledge to the world. Students are required to produce a substantial piece of original research (100,000 word thesis) demonstrating a high level of proficiency in professional research skills and an in-depth knowledge of your chosen field. All PhD students undertake individual specialised research on an agreed topic. This could relate to any aspect of the theory, policy and practice of education and may be drawn from any phase of education from early years to post compulsory education. Research topics must align with the interests of a potential supervisor.

#### Study routes available:

The PhD is offered full-time over three years or part-time over six years.

#### STAFF RESEARCH INTERESTS

Staff research interests focus on subject specialisms (e.g. Science, Maths, English, the Arts, ICT) as well as more generic disciplines with particular expertise in the Psychology, Sociology and Philosophy of Education. There are strong traditions in the School of both qualitative and quantitative research.

The links with CEM (Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring) provide excellent opportunities for students to engage in associated research projects. For further details see [www.cemcentre.org](http://www.cemcentre.org)

#### MAIN AREAS OF RESEARCH Assessment, Evaluation and Effectiveness

This group includes the work of CEM, which is the largest educational research unit in a UK university, and has a major impact on education in England and many countries beyond. Research topics include: development of monitoring systems, performance feedback, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and use of ICT in schools. For further information see [www.cemcentre.org](http://www.cemcentre.org)

#### Psychological Perspectives and Issues

Research topics include: motivation including cross cultural analyses and factors that affect student motivation, dynamic assessment including the use of computerised measures, dyslexia, working memory, special educational needs and children's behaviour.

#### Science and Mathematics Education

Research topics include: differences in children's responses to realistic problems in Mathematics, the use of crisp and fuzzy set approaches to the analysis of data, children's use of representations for multiplication, problems in the transition to abstract mathematical thought, evidence in science, pupils' understanding in science and teaching for understanding.

#### English, the Arts and Creativity in Education

Research topics include: teaching of English and Drama, Arts in Education, creativity in curriculum and pedagogy and Music education.

#### Philosophical and Critical Approaches

Research topics include: the nature of educational research, the romantic and post-modern strand in educational thinking, use of arts to present research data and outcomes, history of women in education and philosophical perspectives on brain-based learning.

#### RECENT THESIS TITLES

- "Towards a Learning Organisation: A Business Excellence Approach"
- "Image analysis in Photographic Education: A Programme Evaluation"

- "Exploring the reasons for aberrant response patterns in classroom maths tests"
- "Intercultural education for a multicultural society: A case study of perceptions and responses to cultural diversity in a national primary school in Malaysia"
- "The grass is greener... a comparison of two distinct pathways to qualified teacher status with particular reference to the expectations and experiences of secondary physical education trainees".

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to receive a relevant Masters degree and must be able to demonstrate proficiency in research methods, e.g. through the successful completion of a taught Masters degree which includes substantial research methods training. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).



#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Our PhD is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council for +3 funding for eligible candidates. Other sources of funding for PhD are often available and students should refer to [www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search](http://www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search) for further information, or contact the School.

#### RESEARCH PREPARATION PROGRAMME

**MA in Research Methods (Education)**  
This programme is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council for research training in preparation for PhD study. This programme is taught jointly between the School of Education and the School of Applied Social Science (Sociology) and provides students with a thorough grounding in research methods across the Social Sciences. There may be the opportunity to gain hands-on experience and contribute to current educational research projects, working, for example, with CEM (Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring), at Durham University.

#### Study routes available:

The MA in Research Methods (Education) is offered on a full or part-time basis.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (generally a 2:1 or equivalent) in any relevant subject and be able to demonstrate their ability, or potential, to undertake quantitative, as well as qualitative research. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).

#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

This programme is recognised by the ESRC 1+3 funding, and eligible applicants who intend to continue to PhD study may apply for funding.

#### POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

##### Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) with Qualified Teacher Status

This full-time one year programme provides graduates with the academic and professional training required to become a UK qualified teacher in either primary (ages 5–11) or secondary (ages 11–16). The Durham PGCE is renowned for its high standard of Initial Teacher Training (ITT), with the School having received an 'outstanding' grading by Ofsted for all aspects of our ITT provision in February 2011. The PGCE balances a theoretical base provided by academic experts with professional experience gained within our well-established network of regional partnership schools. The close and integrated collaborative nature of the

“There is a very supportive study environment, helpful staff, and the IT link provided by the duo (Durham University Online) system provides an important connection with the University.”

Richard Sugden, EdD Education.





partnership between the University and professional training co-ordinators in schools is a major strength of this programme and helps to support students' development of skills and experience. The PGCE Primary Programme offers a broad training across the National Curriculum. Students are expected to be capable in all the subjects in the primary school.

The programme runs for 38 weeks with 21 weeks dedicated to school based activities and experience. Students on the PGCE Secondary programme apply as subject specialists in one of the following subject areas: English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages (French, Spanish or German), Music, Physical Education, Religious Education or Science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics).

This subject specific work links with cross curricular themes focusing on school and classroom-based issues preparing students for the extensive teaching practice undertaken in the school environment. The Durham PGCE can also form the first year of our part-time MA in Education with QTS programme, thus providing our newly

qualified teachers with a competitive edge on entering the job market.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Primary: Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (2:1 or equivalent) in any relevant subject
- Secondary: Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (2:1 or equivalent) in a subject closely related to the chosen specialism
- For either programme, GCSE/GCE O' Level passes in English Language, Science and Mathematics (Grades A–C) or equivalent will be required and candidates should possess a strong desire to teach and a commitment and enthusiasm for working with children.

#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PGCE

British and EEA citizens may be eligible for government support towards payments of tuition fees. British applicants are advised to contact their local authority for advice. PGCE Training Salaries may also be available – further information can be found on the TDA website: [www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk)

#### MA IN EDUCATION WITH Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)

Students who undertake our full-time PGCE programme are entitled to progress to our MA in Education with QTS programme (subject to meeting necessary academic requirements). This innovative qualification was introduced to enable Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) to complete a higher degree by combining elements of their PGCE with further Masters level work. The programme takes three years to complete. The first year comprises the full-time PGCE year. The next two years are studied part-time. During the part-time years participants complete Masters level modules. Most participants in years 2 and 3 are full-time teachers, although this is not a requirement.

#### Typical routes:

##### Route 1

- Evaluating Educational Research
- Dissertation.

##### Route 2

- Education Research in Action
- Optional Module
- Supervised Independent Study.

#### Study routes available:

The MA in Education with QTS programme is offered part-time over two years. The part-time teaching is delivered through intensive teaching weekends scheduled around (Durham) school half-term holidays to enable students to combine work as a practising teacher with postgraduate professional development.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Only students who have taken the Durham University PGCE programme are entitled to entry onto this programme.

#### MA IN EDUCATION

This degree has been designed to meet the needs of educational professionals especially those in teaching, management or administration at all levels of education.

It aims to provide students with a clear understanding of the nature and significance of educational issues, both generic and subject specific, and will examine the ways in which research in education might illuminate these issues. A key feature of the programme is that students can make it their own: that is, while studying a limited range of modules, students can choose the

contexts in which to apply the core ideas. During the dissertation there is further opportunity to select areas of personal interest and concern. Some students select one context to consider in all of their modules, e.g. ideas from the programme applied to, say, science education or informal learning. Others use the opportunity to broaden their understanding of education by selecting different foci in different modules. In our modules we aim to introduce students to key ideas and ways of thinking that enable them to engage with related issues in contexts that are relevant to them.

#### Study routes available:

The MA in Education is available as a one year full-time route in the UK, a three year part-time route in the UK and through our part-time International Postgraduate Programme (IPP) route (see *International Postgraduate Programmes* above). The part-time teaching is delivered through intensive teaching weekends scheduled around (Durham) school half-term holidays to suit those in full time employment who wish to engage in postgraduate study.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (generally a 2:1 or equivalent) in any relevant subject. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).

#### POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THE PRACTICE OF EDUCATION

This certificate level programme comprises one research in action module plus another module which is chosen from a list of optional modules offered on our MA in Education programme.

With the option of transferring to the MA in Education upon successful completion of both modules, this programme is ideal for those who are interested in postgraduate study but are reluctant to initially commit to a full Masters programme.

#### Study routes available:

This programme is available as a one year part-time programme.



#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (generally a 2:1 or equivalent) in any relevant subject. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).

#### MSC IN EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

This programme has been developed to meet the need for specialists in educational assessment within schools and more widely within the education system. The programme combines the expertise of two leading institutions in assessment, the School of Education and CEM (Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring). Students learn to construct and use tests, classroom assessments, interviews, school inspections and more. The programme is hands-on; candidates learn about the theory of assessment and the challenges associated with assessment, but there is also a strong focus on providing training into the conducting of assessment. Completion of the programme will enable you to

apply for the status of Fellow with the Chartered Institute of Educational Assessors (CIEA).

#### Study routes available:

The MSc in Educational Assessment is available as a one year full-time route in the UK or a two year part-time route in the UK. Teaching is delivered through twilight teaching sessions (5–8 pm) to suit those in full time employment who wish to engage in postgraduate study.

#### TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should possess or expect to achieve a good Honours degree (generally a 2:1 or equivalent) in any relevant subject. Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language (for details of the entry levels required, please refer to the departmental website [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate)).

#### CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

Career opportunities in education are wide and include classroom teaching, educational leadership and management, administration and policy development.

For further information on career options and employability, including the results of the Destination of Leavers survey, student and employer testimonials and details of work experience and study abroad opportunities, please visit [www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate/employability](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education/postgraduate/employability)

“It is so good to be part of a genuine learning community. I feel that the University helps you develop your full potential as a learner in a supportive environment. I was delighted with my university experience.”

Richard Sugden, EdD Education.

Name:  
Richard Sugden

Home Country:  
UK

Postgraduate Course:  
EdD Education

Durham University has a high reputation in the field of education; I was aware of the postgraduate programmes but I heard about the Doctorate in Education course from another teacher who was taking an MA at Durham. I was attracted to the course by its modular nature which provided a natural progression from my MA. The course design suited me as a part-time student, allowing me to fit modules into a busy working life.

The taught units of the EdD provided me with a chance to meet with other postgraduate students in a relaxed, but intellectually demanding environment whilst offering me the chance to study an area in depth, building my skills as a researcher and developing my own perspective on education.

There is always a chance to become involved in the really useful training programme and conferences. As a postgraduate researcher it is good to have access to Durham's supportive teaching and research staff. The chance to meet other researchers from different faculties and disciplines is valuable and has been a great way of broadening my research outlook, networking and celebrating the diversity of the University. The setting of the University in the beautiful City of Durham is a real bonus!



## Contact details

For further information on postgraduate degrees contact:

### MA/MSc Enquiries:

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 8315

Email: [ma.secretaries@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ma.secretaries@durham.ac.uk)

### Edd Enquiries:

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 8409

Email: [durham.edd@durham.ac.uk](mailto:durham.edd@durham.ac.uk)

### PhD Enquiries:

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 8401

Email: [research.degrees@durham.ac.uk](mailto:research.degrees@durham.ac.uk)

### PGCE Enquiries:

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 8406

Email: [pgce.office@durham.ac.uk](mailto:pgce.office@durham.ac.uk)

School of Education  
Durham University  
Leazes Road  
Durham DH1 1TA  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 8310

Fax: +44 (0)191 334 8311

[www.durham.ac.uk/education](http://www.durham.ac.uk/education)

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