



# University of East London

## **How to apply to study for a PhD in Applied Positive Psychology and Coaching Psychology**

<https://www.uel.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/phd-applied-positive-psychology-coaching-psychology>

The School of Psychology offers suitably qualified individuals access to the opportunity to study part-time and full-time PhD programme of research in “Applied Positive Psychology & Coaching Psychology” operating under Part 9 of the Research Degree Regulations of the University of East London. We especially welcome applications from individuals in our community that are underrepresented in UK Higher Education.

### **What qualifications do I need to apply for this PhD?**

Applicants should hold a BSc (Hons) degree, preferably in psychology or social sciences (second class upper division or above) and a MSc in Psychology or MSc in Coaching Psychology and/or in Positive Psychology.

### **Language**

If English is not your first language, a minimum IELTS score of 7 overall with a minimum of 6.5 in all components is required for PhD entry level. Assessments of English language competence must normally have been undertaken no more than 2 years prior to application. Relevant and more recent undergraduate study in a UK Higher Institution may be accepted as sufficient proof of language ability.

### **Topics**

Topics include, but are not limited to,

- Positive arts and creative approaches to coaching and positive psychology
- Using a tool-box approach in positive education
- Measuring well-being and engagement in the workplace and developing effective organisational positive psychological interventions
- Coaching: group coaching, wellbeing coaching, coaching for social impact/not for profit organisations, coaching and health or health-related organisations, coaching for leadership
- Existential Coaching
- Growth through adversity & Posttraumatic growth



# University of East London

## How do I apply?

Before you submit a formal application, you should be liaising with suitable academics in the school, have agreed a research topic and formulated a substantial research proposal.

## List of academics

### Directors of Studies

Professor Ilona Boniwell

[Professor Aneta Tunariu](#)

[Dr Andrea Giraldez-Hayes](#)

### Supervisors

[Dr Akshay Kumar](#)

Dr Ana Nacif

[Dr Burcin Baskurt](#)

Dr Candan Ertubey

[Dr Hanna kampman](#)

Dr David Tee

[Professor Ian Tucker](#)

Applications are processed and lodged with The Graduate School and are submitted online using this link: <https://www.uel.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/phd-applied-positive-psychology-coaching-psychology>

Queries about your applications should be addressed to [pgradmiss@uel.ac.uk](mailto:pgradmiss@uel.ac.uk)

The application should include:

- Evidenced statements and a list of relevant qualifications referring to your skills, experience and abilities, especially in relation to research skills in psychology
- Details of participation in research projects/internships
- A 1,500-word research summary detailing the PhD programme. Please see <https://www.uel.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/applying-postgraduate-research> This file should be named "Research Summary"
- A PDF applicant reference from an academic who supports your application and can comment on your research skills and motivation to carry out a PhD (on headed paper, signed and dated). This file should be named "Academic Reference".
- A separate document containing details of the academic research team<sup>1</sup> who will supervise the PhD. This must include the name of the Director of Studies and the second supervisor. The file should be named "Supervision Team". Please see the list

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<sup>1</sup> A supervision team is expected to have a combined experience of research degree supervision to successful completion of not less than 2 students.



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of academics above. The second –and eventually third– supervisor, in agreement with the director of study, can work at a different university.

- Relevant copies of your academic qualifications including detailed transcripts.

## **What happens next?**

If your application meets the essential criteria, the research proposal is viable and of PhD standard, you will be invited to a competitive interview with the Programme Leaders and the proposed Director of Studies. Successful candidates at this stage will be offered a January of September start.

## **How long does a PhD last and what is expected of me?**

A full-time PhD lasts about 3 years and a part-time PhD about 6 years. You are expected to carry out a series of original connected studies, write these up in a thesis format and then sit a viva. It is also advisable to ensure that your studies are accepted for publication before the viva.

## **Still not sure? How can I speak to?**

Dr Andrea Giraldez-Hayes is the PhD in Applied Positive Psychology and Coaching Psychology co-programme leader. You can contact Andrea on [a.giraldez-hayes@uel.ac.uk](mailto:a.giraldez-hayes@uel.ac.uk)

## **Home students closing dates for January 2022 entry**

The closing date for January 2022 entry is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of January. This allows us to process applications in good time and arrange interview panels.

The closing date for September 2022 entry is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

If you are an international student, please contact the International Office and visit <https://www.uel.ac.uk/international>