



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 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



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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

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 team¹ 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

¹ 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

Home students closing dates for January 2022 entry

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

The closing date for September 2022 entry is Friday 27th May 2022.

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