

Integrated PhD Programme

Frequently asked questions and answers

What is the aim of an Integrated PhD?

The aim of the Integrated PhD programme is to provide an integrated approach to combining taught material with the experiences of PhD level research. This programme offers the opportunity for students to broaden and deepen their knowledge in support of their chosen field of research and their future career.

What is my pattern of study?

The programme will normally not exceed 4 years and will not be less than 3 years full-time study.

You will be required to satisfactorily complete 120 credits of assessed modules within 18 months of the start of the course. A further 60 credits of modules may be audited at the discretion of your School, successful completion of these credits will typically be based on attendance and they must be completed within 36 months. Your programme will also require the equivalent of 540 credits of research work.

This is an integrated programme of study where you do not have to complete the taught element before starting your research and this is why you can continue taking modules after the first year.

How do I choose my modules?

- The choice of taught modules (120 - 180 credits) must be in consultation and agreement with your supervisor and tailored to suit your needs.
- Normally, credits will be accumulated from modules at level 3 or above, in exceptional circumstances you may take a small number of credits at a lower level.
- In addition to the 120 assessed credits there may be 60 'audited' credits. 'Audited' means you must complete the module to the satisfaction of the School but you are not awarded a mark. Normally, this is considered to be attendance on the module and taking part in practical and coursework exercises with no formal assessment or examination being undertaken.
- Up to 20 credits of Graduate School modules can be taken as audited modules as long as these modules are not part of the normal School requirement for PhD students. It is expected that you will take the

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Graduate School modules required by your School as part of your research training.

How do I record my credits?

A Module Entry Form (MEF) should be available from your School and you must select 120 taught credits for recording on your student record during your period of registered study, with a further 60 taught credits to be audited at the discretion of your School.

All assessed modules will be presented to the exam board of the School offering the module and a mark will appear on your Diploma Supplement. The audited credits/module will be officially certified by your School when you have completed the module(s) to the satisfaction of the School and will also be listed on your Diploma Supplement.

You must ensure you are taking the correct number of credits!

How am I assessed?

At the end of every 12 month period of study you are assessed in the annual review procedure. Feedback on module results will be given in line with normal practices in your School (normally after an exam board meeting). Until you have completed the required number of taught credits the assessment will be based on the taught modules and the research project progress. The balance between these elements is expected to change from a dominance of the taught element to a dominance of the research element.

What award will I get?

If you successfully complete an Integrated PhD Programme you will be awarded a traditional University of Nottingham PhD degree. In addition, you will be given a transcript of marks for your taught modules as part of your Diploma Supplement. This will include information on the pass mark for the level of modules taken to identify the standard you have achieved and will also include the title of your thesis.

What are the entry requirements for a Integrated PhD?

These are exactly the same as those for a standard PhD.

What is the pass mark for taught modules?

The pass mark for each module should be related to the module level; normally, levels 1 – 3 have a 40% pass mark and level 4 have a 50% pass mark.