

Postgraduate Admissions Statement

PhD Archaeology and Anthropology

Programmes covered

This admissions statement applies to the following programmes: Archaeology and Anthropology (PhD, MPhil)

Applicants should also refer to the relevant prospectus entry for further programme details.

This admissions statement should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate Research/Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Arts

Admissions team and contact details

Postgraduate Admissions
Faculty of Arts
University of Bristol
3-5 Woodland Road
Bristol
BS8 1TB

Email: artf-pgadmissions@bristol.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 0117 331 8443

Admissions cycle

2017

Application process

Online application

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly into the application form. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the [How to Apply FAQs](#).

Applicants should make every effort to choose the correct programme in the application form by reading the prospectus entry and admissions statements fully. Applicants should contact the relevant Admissions Team if clarification is required.

The University of Bristol is part of the South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership (SWW DTP). The partnership is a collaboration of eight leading research universities and partners from the creative economy, working together to develop arts and humanities researchers for the future. The SWW DTP will be offering studentships for September 2017. Full details of the scheme can be found here <http://www.sww-ahdtp.ac.uk>

For further information on funding opportunities available, please see the Faculty of Arts funding pages www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/gradschool/funding/

Application Deadline

There is an application deadline for this programme, which is displayed on the individual programme page within the [University course finder](#).

Required documents

All documents must be translated into English. Degree certificates and transcripts should be certified copies and list subjects taken and grades/degrees achieved. If your degree is not yet complete, please provide transcripts of subjects taken and marks achieved to date. All documents must be uploaded into the online application form unless otherwise noted. Applicants who have already submitted an application can upload additional documents into the 'Post-submission uploads' section. You can find information about how to upload documents to your application form in our [How to Apply FAQs](#).

Required documents for this programme are:

- Two academic references
- Degree certificate(s) from first and subsequent degrees
- Academic transcript(s) from your first and subsequent degrees
- Personal statement
- [Research statement](#)
- Research training statement (optional)
- English language certificates if English is not your native language and your undergraduate degree was not in an English-speaking country (please see the English Language Requirements for a list of English-speaking countries)

A curriculum vitae (CV) is not required but can help your application. You can include other relevant qualifications to assist with your application. Please do not include any school (pre-university) certificates.

Interviews

Interviews are part of the admissions process.

Correspondence with applicants

Applicants will normally receive communication via email to the email address used to set up their application form account. Applicants should ensure that this profile email address is kept up-to-date.

Admissions criteria

Academic entry requirements

Successful applicants to the PhD will normally hold an Masters degree with a strong research component. Exceptionally we may admit applicants holding a BA Honours degree at high 2.1 or above, or international equivalent.

Admission will normally be direct to the PhD though in some cases applicants may be offered initial admission to the one-year MPhil.

Applicants admitted directly to the PhD will, at the end of the first year of PhD study, undergo a Progress Review. This involves submission of work in progress and a viva assessment carried out by independent reviewers. Following review, students will be permitted either to progress to the next year of the PhD, or may be offered the option of working towards submission for an MPhil.

Students offered initial admission to the MPhil will undergo a Transfer Review prior to the end of the year of study. Successful review, involving submission of work in progress and a viva assessment by two independent assessors, will enable students to transfer to the PhD.

All applicants are required to complete a research statement using the [research statement template](#) provided. Applications submitted without a research statement will not be considered.

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please see our [International Office](#) website.

English language criteria for non-native English speakers

For applicants whose first language is not English, it is necessary to achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test specified in Profile C of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You can find information about the University of Bristol's Pre-Sessional English courses at the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

Reference criteria

References should either be submitted directly by the referee using the online reference form, or submitted directly by the applicant.

References should be on headed paper, with clear contact details and signed by the person who wrote it.

Applicants should arrange for referees to provide electronic references, which can be submitted through the online application system. Non-electronic references should be on headed paper, with clear contact details and signed by the person who wrote it. References should either be submitted directly by the referee using the online reference form, or submitted directly by the applicant.

Personal statement criteria

A clear and persuasive explanation as to why the programme has been chosen and the applicant's ability to engage with the specific nature of the programme at Bristol (approx. 500 words).

Research statement and research training statement criteria

Research statement (approx. 1000 words):

The primary requirement for the research statement is to define and situate your research within an academic/disciplinary context. You should remember that people in the academic community are the primary audience/readership for postgraduate research. This means that you will need to identify:

1. The research questions or problems that you intend to address;
2. The research context for your project/programme of work;
3. The methods you think you will use to pursue the key questions;
4. How the project will be managed;
5. How the research will be published and disseminated.

Please ensure that you follow the [research statement template](#) provided when writing your research statement.

Research training statement (optional):

Please provide details of any training requirements you may need during your studies.

Interview criteria

Interviews will be undertaken by the Head of Subject and/or the potential supervisor. The interview may take place by telephone, Skype or in person and will offer applicants an opportunity to discuss further both their proposed study and how it will fit in with the particular strengths in Bristol. The interviewer is likely to discuss the prior academic record and trajectory of the student. The suitability of the topic and aims of the student will also be considered in relation to the supervisory categories at Bristol.

Additional requirements

A sample of work may be requested before a decision is made.

Selection process and offers

Selection process

All applications are considered in accordance with the [University's policy on equality and diversity](#). The University of Bristol upholds the principles of equality and diversity, respect and dignity. Candidates are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion or belief, disability, health or age.

Once a complete application has been submitted, which includes all required information, it is considered by the Head of Subject/Subject Lead. All admissions to postgraduate research are subject to the approval of the Faculty Graduate Education Director. Applications are considered against selection criteria, which include:

- academic achievement
- research statement
- academic references
- personal statement
- interview
- sample of work (if applicable)

Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into their application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept their offer of admission, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Deferrals

Deferred entry is not available for this programme.

Deposits

There is no deposit required for this programme

ATAS

An ATAS certificate is not required.