

PhD Geographical Sciences (Human Geography)

Programmes covered

Human Geography (PhD)

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 Social Sciences and Law

Admissions team and contact details

Postgraduate Student Administrator

School of Geographical Sciences

University of Bristol

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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.

Application Deadline

There is currently no application deadline for this programme but early application is advised.

There is a deadline for funded applications (ESRC and Bristol funding) for this programme. This 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 references (at least one academic)
- Degree certificate(s) from first and subsequent degrees
- Academic transcript(s) from your first and subsequent degrees
- Personal statement
- Research statement
- 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 research training statement is not required but can be submitted to support your application.

Interviews

Candidates may be invited for interview, and to visit the school and meet the supervisors.

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

An upper second-class honours degree (or international equivalent) in a relevant subject and a Master's qualification from a UK university or equivalent.

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 D 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.

Referees should be familiar with the applicant's academic work. Referees should address an applicant suitability for the course. While there is no set format, references typically address several of the following: academic achievement and potential; motivation; intellectual maturity and independence; relevant experience; potential for benefiting from and contributing to the course; written and spoken communication skills; ways in which an applicant performance does not reflect their ability, including special circumstances.

Personal statement criteria

The candidate should give their motivation and reasons for applying for this specific project and detail any relevant experience they have that might enhance their application. They should also outline their future goals.

Research statement and research training statement criteria

Unnecessary if applying for a specific project where the research project is outlined. However, candidates can upload additional information how their previous/current research experience will benefit them in their chosen research field.

If applicants are applying for a non-specific project, they need to state the research area, outline their project ideas and suggest a potential academic supervisor who has similar research interests. Applicants can also use the training statement to highlight the skills they have acquired to date, if relevant.

Your research training statement should describe research training you have received to date, including that received as part of your employment.

Interview criteria

Interviews last approximately 20 minutes and are held with a panel of two or three members of academic staff. Applicants will be scored on their academic achievement, research potential, fit to the project and strength of references, as well as their interview performance.

Additional requirements

There are no additional requirements for this programme.

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.

Applicants are subject to the entry requirements above. Each application for the PhD in Human Geography is considered by the postgraduate admissions team. All applications are assessed on individual merit.

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.

We aim to process complete applications and to make decisions within 21 days of receiving all supporting documents required.

Supporting documents to provide proof of meeting offer criteria should be submitted as soon as available but no later than 1 August.

If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept their offer of admission, this will be stated in the offer letter.

There will be an internal review of progress of the candidate within 21 months of admission (or equivalent for part-time students). If the candidate does not meet the requirements at the review, they may be able to exit with an MPhil award (provided they meet the requirements for an MPhil). Full details will be made available on registration.

Deferrals

Applicants are able to defer their place for one year, after which applicants will need to reapply.

Deposits

There is no deposit required for this programme

ATAS

An ATAS certificate is not required.