Welcome
This survey asks about your experiences of your postgraduate research programme. Your responses will be combined with those of others to help inform your institution about the experience of postgraduate researchers, helping to improve future support. The results are also used nationally to help advise policy and improve the postgraduate research experience across the sector.

Many thanks for your participation.

Data Protection
All data collected in this survey will be held securely. All participating institutions have agreed not to identify any individuals when reporting their results both internally and externally, and to use their best efforts to ensure that no individuals can be identified by implication. The full PRES dataset will be available to the Higher Education Academy and selected third parties in order to conduct national level research and analysis.

Some information held by your institution, for example age, is attached to your response so that you do not have to provide it again. This data helps your institution and the sector better meet the needs of postgraduates like you.

Please confirm below that you have read the data protection statement and consent to the data being used in the way described (if you do not consent then please close this browser window to exit the survey).

- I have read and understand the data protection statement
- I consent to my responses being used as described in the data protection statement

Notes for completion
If a question does not apply to you, or you cannot offer any opinion on it, then please leave blank or mark “Not applicable”. The questionnaire should take around fifteen minutes to complete. When you arrive at the final 'thank you' page, you will know that your responses have been recorded on our database.

Where “programme” is used in the questionnaire, this refers to your whole programme of study at your institution, for example MRes in Sociology, PhD in Physics, etc.

After each section you will be asked for any further comments on the issues covered, to enable staff to gain a better understanding of what has gone well and what has worked less well. Please do not identify yourself or other individuals (including staff) in your comments. If you have a complaint or need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please contact the UCL Student Centre.
Once you click ‘continue’ you will be directed to the first section of the survey.

## Supervision

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about supervision?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. My supervisor/s have the skills and subject knowledge to support my research</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I have regular contact with my supervisor/s, appropriate for my needs</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. My supervisor/s provide feedback that helps me direct my research activities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. My supervisor/s help me to identify my training and development needs as a researcher</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. If you have any additional comments about supervision, please write them in here:

## Resources

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about resources?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. I have a suitable working space</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. There is adequate provision of computing resources and facilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. There is adequate provision of library facilities (including physical and online resources)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. I have access to the specialist resources necessary for my research</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. If you have any additional comments about resources, please write them in here:
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the research culture?  
(Note: Where we have used the term ‘department’ please answer with respect to your centre, school, institute or other unit where you are primarily based or attached for your research.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. My department provides a good seminar programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I have frequent opportunities to discuss my research with other research students</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. The research ambience in my department or faculty stimulates my work</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. I have opportunities to become involved in the wider research community, beyond my department</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. If you have any additional comments about the research culture, please write them in here:

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7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about induction, progression arrangements and assessment?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. I received an appropriate induction to my research degree programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I understand the requirements and deadlines for formal monitoring of my progress</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. I understand the required standard for my thesis</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. The final assessment procedures for my degree are clear to me</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. If you have any additional comments about induction, progression arrangements and assessment, please write them in here:
## Responsibilities

9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about responsibilities?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. My institution values and responds to feedback from research degree students</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I understand my responsibilities as a research degree student</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. I am aware of my supervisors’ responsibilities towards me as a research degree student</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Other than my supervisor/s, I know who to approach if I am concerned about any aspect of my degree programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. If you have any additional comments about feedback mechanisms and student/staff responsibilities, please write them in here:

## Research Skills

11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about research skills development?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. My skills in applying appropriate research methodologies, tools and techniques have developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. My skills in critically analysing and evaluating findings and results have developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. My confidence to be creative or innovative has developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. My understanding of ‘research integrity’ (e.g. rigour, ethics, transparency, attributing the contribution of others) has developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. If you have any additional comments about research skills development please write them in here:

Professional Development

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about professional development?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. My ability to manage projects has developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. I have developed contacts or professional networks during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. I have increasingly managed my own professional development during my programme</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. If you have any additional comments about professional development, please write them in here:

Opportunities

15. Please indicate which of the following opportunities you have experienced during your research degree programme (select all that apply):

- ○ Agreeing a personal training or development plan
- ○ Receiving training to develop my research skills
- ○ Receiving training to develop my transferable skills
- ○ Receiving advice on career options
- ○ Taking part in a placement or internship
- ○ Attending an academic research conference
- ○ Presenting a paper or poster at an academic research conference
- ○ Submitting a paper for publication in an academic journal or book
- ○ Communicating your research to a non-academic audience
16. Please indicate whether you have taught (or demonstrated) at your institution during your research degree programme.

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No (go to question 17)

16 a. **If yes,** to what extent do you agree that you have been given appropriate support and guidance for your teaching?

- [ ] Definitely disagree
- [ ] Mostly disagree
- [ ] Neither agree nor disagree
- [ ] Mostly agree
- [ ] Definitely agree
- [ ] N/A

Did you receive formal training for your teaching?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] N/A

### Overall Experience

17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your experience?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Overall, I am satisfied with the experience of my research degree programme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. I am confident that I will complete my research degree programme within my institution’s expected timescale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. If you have any additional comments about your experience of your research degree programme, please write them in here. For example, what would further improve your experience?
## Motivations

20. The main motivation for me pursuing a research degree programme was:

- My interest in the subject
- Improving my career prospects for an academic/research career
- Improving my career prospects outside of an academic/research career
- I was encouraged by a former academic tutor/supervisor
- The funding was available
- It felt like a natural step for me
- I felt inspired to work with a particular academic
- Professional development or training
- Other (Please specify) .................................................................

## Institutional Questions

21. What type of career do you have in mind for when you complete your research degree?

- Academic career in higher education (either research and teaching, or teaching only)
- Research career in higher education
- Research career outside higher education (e.g. in a private research organisation, a charity or in an industrial environment)
- Teaching (at a level below higher education)
- Returning to or remaining with employer who is sponsoring your degree
- Returning to or remaining with employer who is not sponsoring your degree
- Self-employment (including setting up your own business)
- Any other professional career
- Not sure or not decided yet
- Other (Please specify) .................................................................
### You and your programme

19. I am currently registered as doing:

- PhD (including DPhil)
- Professional doctorate (e.g. EdD, EngD, MD, DBA)
- PhD by published work
- New Route PhD
- MPhil with transfer to PhD
- MPhil
- Master by research
- Other (Please specify)

19 a. If you are a doctoral student, is your training programme provided through a Training Centre (e.g. Doctoral Training Centre, a Doctoral Training Partnership or a Centre for Doctoral Training)

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

22. I am:

- 25 years old or younger
- 26-30 years old
- 31-35 years old
- 36-40 years old
- 41-45 years old
- 46-50 years old
- 51-55 years old
- 56 years old or older
- Prefer not to say
23. I am:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify) ..........................................................

24. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

24 a. **If yes**, please indicate which of the following apply (select all that apply):

- A social/communication impairment such as Asperger’s syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
- Blind or a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- Deaf or serious hearing impairment
- A long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- A mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder
- A specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or ADHD
- A physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches
- A disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above
- Prefer not to say
25. Please select which of the following most closely matches your primary discipline:

- Clinical Medicine
- Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care
- Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy
- Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience
- Biological Sciences
- Agriculture, Veterinary and Food Science
- Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematical Sciences
- Computer Science and Informatics
- Aeronautical, Mechanical, Chemical and Manufacturing Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Metallurgy and Materials
- Civil and Construction Engineering
- General Engineering
- Architecture, Built Environment and Planning
- Geography, Environmental Studies and Archaeology
- Economics and Econometrics
- Business and Management Studies
- Law
- Politics and International Studies
- Social Work and Social Policy
- Sociology
- Anthropology and Development Studies
- Education
- Sport and Exercise Sciences, Leisure and Tourism
- Area Studies
- Modern Languages and Linguistics
- English Language and Literature
- History
- Classics
- Philosophy
- Theology and Religious Studies
- Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory
- Music, Drama, Dance and Performing Arts
- Communication, Cultural and Media Studies, Library and Information Management
27. I am currently registered as studying:

- Full time
- Part time

28. What year of your research degree programme are you in?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Other (please specify) .................</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

29. I currently:

- Am in the taught stage of programme
- Am planning or doing my research
- Am writing up my thesis
- Have submitted my thesis and I am awaiting my viva
- Am making amendments to my thesis following my viva
- Am awaiting to graduate
- Have graduated
- Other (Please specify)........................................................................................................

30. I am:

- Primarily a face-to-face learner (for example: based at my institution)
- Primarily a distance learner
31. When you started your course, did you consider yourself to be fluent in the language you are taught in?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

31 a. To what extent do you agree or disagree that you have received appropriate support for your language needs

- Definitely disagree
- Mostly disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Mostly agree
- Definitely agree
- Not applicable

31 b. If you have any further comments on the support for your language needs provided by your institution, please provide them here:

33. Where do you consider to be your permanent home?

[Country list]

34. What is your ethnic group? (Please choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background):

- White or White British
- White or White British: Gypsy or Traveller
- Black or Black British: Caribbean
- Black or Black British: African
- Any other Black background
- Asian or Asian British: Indian
- Asian or Asian British: Pakistani
- Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background
- Mixed: White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed: White and Black African
- Mixed: White and Asian
- Mixed: Any other Mixed background
- Arab
- Any other ethnic background
- Prefer not to say
35. Are you currently in paid employment?

- Yes
- No

35 a: **If yes**, how many hours of paid employment do you undertake in a typical week (term time)?

- 1-10 hours
- 11-20 hours
- 21-30 hours
- More than 30 hours

36. How do you fund your tuition fees?:

- Self-funded (including family or other personal contributions or loans)
- Part self-funded, part externally funded
- Externally funded (including funding body, university, employer, government)

**Thank you**

Thank you very much for your time in completing this questionnaire. If you have a complaint or need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please contact the UCL Student Centre.