

PhD study in Computer Science at the University of Birmingham

Dr Hayo Thielecke

Postgraduate Open Day

What is a PhD - in the UK

PhD study in
Computer
Science
at the
University of
Birmingham

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Thielecke

What is a PhD

Our Research

Applying

PhD and
Masters

Scholarships

Web pages

- Three years of research, guided by your supervisor
- Few, if any, taught courses (unlike in the USA)
- Thesis Proposal after one year
- PhD thesis, 100–250 pages
- Contribution to knowledge, publishable results
- Examined by two examiners in a viva (thesis defence)
- PhD is required for jobs in academia and research

Research in the School of Computer Science

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- Computer Science at Bham is very diverse
- Loose, overlapping research groupings
- Academics have their own research interests
- You need to find something you are interested in **and** that someone is willing to supervise
- Some research topics are suitable for Maths or Physics graduates
- Final-year or MSc projects are often related to research interests

How and when to apply

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- Need to apply as **early as possible** to get scholarships
- For students from outside EU: should apply this month
- PhD applications take some time to be processed
- Apply online to university, not UCAS
- Documents: transcripts, 2 academic references, research proposal

PhD and Masters

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- You may wish to do a PhD **or** an MSc
- You can do an MSc **and then** a PhD
- Many of our PhD students come from our MSc degrees
- MSc in Computer Security
- MSc in Natural Computation
- MSc in Advanced Computer Science

Scholarships for PhD students

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- College scholarships in January, mainly non-EU students
- Departmental scholarships in July, mainly EU students
- By nomination only
- No application for **scholarships**, but must apply for **PhD**
- Apply in good time!
- In addition: scholarships for specific projects:
PhD must be on that project

Where to find more information

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- See <http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/admissions/postgraduate-research/>
- Or go to www.cs.bham.ac.uk and click on “PhD” in the sidebar
- We have pages on scholarships, entry requirements, etc
- Now is the time to ask questions!