
PhDs in Classics and Ancient History at Warwick
Welcome!

Why do a PhD at Warwick?



- Thriving research community with PG study space in Dept Academic Studio
- Opportunities for exchanges/placements abroad
- Opportunities for further funding (workshop, conference)
- Links with museums, collections
- Well-connected campus
- Flexible living arrangements

- Classics PG colloquium (every year in May)
- Weekly seminar (Classics) : WiP (work in progress)

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/classics/research/seminars/wip/

What does it entail?

- <80,000 word thesis completed within 4 years ft/7 years pt
- Initially registered for MPhil with formal upgrade process after 9-12 months.
- Departmental and Faculty Training programmes
- Personal development opportunities
- Teaching opportunities from yr 2.
- Monthly supervisions with 1-2 supervisors
- Attendance at weekly work in progress seminars.
- On campus attendance requirements but commuting is possible.
- PT or FT study available.

"Studying at Warwick has given me the perfect balance of freedom to pursue my own interests and support from my supervisors who are genuinely interested in my research. I am in control of the direction my research goes in, and I can rely on the academic staff to have thought-provoking conversations about my work with experts on a wide range of topics. Events both within and outside the department have given me the confidence to approach leading scholars from across the globe to develop connections and discuss my ideas."

Christopher Parr
Current Student

The end point: **Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

To satisfy the requirements for the degree of PhD, a thesis shall constitute a **substantial original contribution to knowledge which is, in principle, worthy of peer-reviewed publication**. The thesis shall be clearly and concisely written, well argued, and shall show a satisfactory knowledge of both primary and secondary sources. In addition, it shall contain a full bibliography and, where appropriate, a description of methods and techniques used in the research.

In addition, the Board of Graduate Studies has resolved that a thesis submitted for the degree of PhD should be an **original investigation characterised by rigorous methodology and capable of making a significant contribution to knowledge commensurate with the normal period of registration** for a full-time or part-time student.

The thesis shall not exceed 80,000 words, exclusive of appendices, footnotes, tables and bibliography. Any requests to exceed the word limits set out above are subject to approval by the Academic Director.

An appendix may contain material that functions as data to supplement the main argument of the thesis, and may not contain material that is an essential or integral part of the thesis. The total length of all appendices may not exceed 5,000 words in length unless permission to exceed this length is given by the Academic Director.

Fees (Home fees tbc in 2027)

MPhil/PhD Fee Table		2027-28	
		Full-time	Part-time (60% ft)
Research Postgraduate students	Home	£5,395	£3,237
Research Postgraduate students Band 1	Overseas	£27,210	£16,326 But NB visa requirements

Entry Requirements

- Applicants will need to have achieved a First or high Upper Second Class BA degree in Classics/Ancient History/Archaeology, and to have achieved or be expecting to achieve at least a high merit mark on a Master's degree in a relevant subject to be considered for entry.
- Standard offers for successful applicants will typically be conditional on achieving a merit mark in a Master's degree (where applicable).

English Language Requirements:

- **Band B:** Overall IELTS (Academic, UKVI or Online) score of 7.0 and minimum component scores of two at 6.0/6.5 and the rest at 7.0 or above.

Applying for a PhD with us

- STEP 1: APPLY FOR A PLACE (ADMISSIONS)
- STEP 2: APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

Key Deadlines for Scholarship applications (NB Doctoral applications received after this date too)

All deadlines are 16:59 GMT and late submissions are not accepted.

Course Applications	7 December 2026
Scholarship Applications	10 December 2026
References	21 December 2026
Mid-stage Notification	25 January 2027
Offers Released	5 March 2027

APPLY FOR A PLACE TO STUDY WITH US

- Contact potential supervisor/DGS (check staff pages for research interests)
- Apply before the **7th of December 2026** to be eligible for scholarships
- Application : project, education information, CV, transcripts…

- Project: aims, methodology, sources, bibliography, timeline… (c. 1000 words excluding bibliography)

❖What area of research you intend to undertake and why (with reference to the most important relevant bibliography).

❖How you propose to conduct the research.

❖What background in the subject you already have and any skills you will need to develop further (eg language training).

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/classics/applying/postgraduate/howtoapply/

Scholarships: Central scheme. Dec deadline.

- You submit a single application to be considered for the following scholarships. All include payment of fees, stipend (est. £21,830 in 27-28*)* and are available ft/pt (subject to visa requirements) and for both Home/OS applicants.
- **Faculty Chancellors (up to 30)** 3.5 yrs, also includes £5000 research grant.
- **Interdisciplinary Chancellors (up to 12)** 3.5 yrs, + £5000 research grant
- **AHRC Doctoral Scholarships (up to 3)** 3.5 yrs, + £5000 research grant
- **Doctoral Access - Pathway (up to 3)** 3.5 yrs, + £5000 research grant
- Self-identify as being either Black or of Black heritage, additional statement.
- **Doctoral Access - Sanctuary (up to 2)** 4 yrs, + £5000 research grant. For those who have applied for asylum in UK: check details. Additional evidence required.
- Also:
- **China Scholarship Council (up to 30)** 4 yrs, must hold Peoples Republic of China Passport and be permanently resident in China or studying overseas.
- Check Warwick PGR Scholarship Competitions carefully.
- Other options: Funding for Postgraduate Research Applicants

How to Apply for Scholarships:
We strongly advise preparing applications well in advance of the stated deadlines.

1	Read the PGR Scholarship Competency-Based Assessment Criteria and Applicant Guidance Notes.
2	Submit your course application by the course application deadline.
3	Receive an automated e-mail with a 7 digit applicant ID number. Please allow at least 48 hours for this to arrive.
4	Register your ITS applicant account. Doctoral College cannot issue ID numbers.
5	Submit your scholarship application and any required supporting documents by the scholarship application deadline. All word limits are as counted by the scholarships portal and may not be the same as other word processing software.
7	Results of the Scholarships will be communicated by email by 5 March 2027.

Scholarship Applications

- Do read the guidance carefully: Warwick Doctoral College PGR Scholarship Applicant Guidance
- Your application will be assessed according to the **PGR Scholarship Competency-Based Assessment Criteria**
- Person and Preparedness
- Project and Place

- Assessors will NOT see your CV or your full research application so you need to ensure all relevant details are included by you and/or your referees.

Scholarship Application Questions

- Describe how you meet the Person and Preparedness Competences (<500 words)
- Research Question/Title (<20 words)
- Describe how you meet the Project and Place competencies (<800 words) No bibliography required
- Additional statements for particular scholarship (e.g. Interdisciplinary Chancellors, Pathway or China Scholarships)
- References, Degree certificate and transcripts will import from your application so make sure your referees also support your funding application. They will NOT be asked for separate references for this.
- Further guidance: Warwick Doctoral College PGR Scholarship Applicant Guidance

Criteria

- Person and Preparedness (grades, skills, academic references, transcripts)
- Project and Place (why this research here – both why the research is important and innovative and why Warwick is the place to do it – mention supervisory fit but also other academics, research centres where relevant)

- Departmental nomination/ranking
- University- or faculty-wide panel likely *not* made of specialists (!). Make sure your project is

How we can help:

- Prospective supervisor (project): dialogue about your **proposal**
- DGS : application process
- Campus visit; talk to current students?

How your Referees can help:

You should advise the referees providing references for your course application that the references will also be used for scholarship assessment (they will not be asked separately about this).

References should provide relevant, evidence-based information about your capability, preparedness and potential for doctoral study.

The deadline for receiving references is 16:59 GMT on 21 December 2026. tell your Referees in good time to expect a request and to be prepare to upload their reference.

Criteria: Person and Preparedness

- **Research Capability –** Demonstrates the intellectual ability, critical thinking, and subject expertise required to undertake doctoral research to an exceptional standard.
- **Researcher Potential –** Clear potential to develop into an independent researcher capable of producing high-quality original research.
- **Academic, Professional and Practitioner Excellence**
  - An outstanding and relevant professional or practitioner track record, which may substitute for traditional academic qualifications where these have not been attained, demonstrating equivalent intellectual ability, critical thinking, and subject expertise; and/or
  - A high-grade relevant undergraduate degree, Master's degree, or comparable academic achievement. Academic grades are considered alongside relevant contextual factors and/or structural inequities
- **Achievement and Impact –** Demonstrates excellence through research outputs, notable creative practice, innovation, leadership, or significant contributions to a field, profession, or community.
- **Readiness for Doctoral Study –** Supported by strong, evidence-based that attest to the applicant's capability and potential. Candidates should advise their referees that course application references are imported to their scholarship application and should speak to these assessment criteria. (2 academic references, in English)
- **Research Culture and Inclusion –** Ability to contribute positively to ethical, respectful, collaborative, and inclusive research environments.

Criteria: Project and Place

- **Originality and Significance –** Demonstrates strong potential to make a significant original contribution to knowledge at doctoral level through a clearly defined, relevant, and innovative research question or objectives.
- **Critical Engagement –** Shows a strong understanding of, and critical engagement with, relevant literature, theory, evidence, or practice.
- **Research Design and Feasibility –** Presents a coherent, well-developed, and achievable research plan with appropriate methods and a realistic timeframe for completion.
- **Institutional Fit –** Provides a clear rationale for undertaking the research at Warwick and demonstrates alignment with the University's research strengths and priorities.
- **Supervisory Alignment –** Demonstrates a strong fit between the project and supervisory expertise, or (for pre-defined projects) between the candidate's skills, knowledge, and experience and the project requirements.
- **Impact and Contribution –** Shows potential for wider academic, interdisciplinary, societal, policy, professional, or creative impact appropriate to the research area.

Nomination-led scholarships

Eutopia PhD co-tutelle:

With one of our Eutopia partners: e.g. Ca’ Foscari, University of Venice

(Others: CY Cergy Paris University; Nova University Lisbon,

Technische Inuversitat, Dresden)

Nominations made by the Home Dept

Date tbc (last year deadline for applications 20th May)

Doctoral loans

Doctoral Loans are available to Home or EU nationals who have settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme: Doctoral Loan: Overview - GOV.UK.

Worth up to £31,122 over 3 years for those who started in August 2026. Can be used for fees or living expenses.



No scholarship?

- Department of Classics and Ancient History runs a competition for fees bursaries
- Deadline for applications to study and for funding is 30th March 2027.
- Email classics@warwick.ac.uk and z.l.newby@warwick.ac.uk with a letter explaining why you think you deserve a bursary. Applications are ranked on academic merit but we take into account any special circumstances you may have.
- Funding is for Home fees only and for only one year, but you can reapply for future years.
- Check Alternative Ways to Fund Your Studies for other options.

Questions?



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