

Hello!

Vardis Ntoukakis

Professor at the School of Life Science

Research/ teaching

Director of the Midlands Integrative Bioscience Training
Partnership (MIBTP)



A little about me

Tell us about the
programme





Overview

Midlands Integrative Biosciences Training Partnerships (**MIBTP**) is a BBSRC funded Doctoral Training Partnership between the universities of Aston, Birmingham, Harper Adams, Leicester and Warwick. 50 studentships per year are funded by BBSRC and from the Universities.



Funding

Tuition fees (cost of UK&international fee rates), a tax-free **annual stipend**, a travel allowance in year 1, a travel/ conference budget, a generous consumables budget and use of a MacBook Pro for the duration of the programme.



Research Areas

PhD Studentship projects are focused on the use of interdisciplinary and quantitative approaches to vital research areas such as:

- ❖ **Sustainable Agriculture and Food**
- ❖ **Understanding the Rules of Life**
- ❖ **Renewable Resources and Clean Growth**
- ❖ **Integrated Understanding of Health**



Eligibility

Both **UK and international students** (up to 30% of awards may be made to international students) from a wide diversity of academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Including theoretical disciplines (e.g. maths, computer science, statistics) and experimental science (e.g. biology, biomedicine, chemistry, biotechnology).



Academic Requirements

- ❖ Those who have a 1st or a 2.1 undergraduate degree in a relevant field are eligible.
- ❖ Evidence of quantitative training is required. For example, AS or Alevel Maths, IB Standard or Higher Maths, or university level maths/statistics course.
- ❖ Those who have a 2.2 and an additional Masters degree in a relevant field may be eligible.
- ❖ Those who have a 2.2 and at least three years post-graduate experience in a relevant field may be eligible.
- ❖ Those with degrees abroad (perhaps as well as postgraduate experience) may be eligible if their qualifications are deemed equivalent to any of the above

Webpage: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mibtp/



Other Opportunities

Industrial CASE studentships:

- ❖ Designed to provide students with a mutually-beneficial research experience via academic and non-academic partner collaborations.
- ❖ Placement period of a minimum of 3 months, and up to a maximum of 18 months.

UG Summer Research Placements:

- ❖ Designed for UG students to gain experience in the lab and find out if a PhD is for them.
- ❖ Eligibility:
 - In the middle years of their first-degree studies.
 - Registered for a science degree (including mathematics and engineering) at a UK university
 - Expected to obtain a first or upper second-class UK honours degree
 - Priority will be given to applicants from non-MIBTP Midland based universities, or applicants from an underrepresented background.

What **advice** can you
give?



Academic Record 50%	Achievements and experience (40%)	References 10%	Panel interview
Criteria (Based on awarded or predicted marks)	Criteria (Based on CV and references if available)	Criteria (Based on references if available)	Criteria (Based on interview)
BSc degree	Academic criteria		
<p>High 1st (mark: 85-100) at UG level or in integrated MSc program or equivalent: 5</p> <p>Mid- low 1st (mark: 70-84) at UG level or in integrated MSc program or equivalent: 4</p> <p>Mid-High 2:1 (mark: 65-69) at UG level or in integrated MSc program or equivalent: 3</p> <p>Low 2:1 (mark: 60-64) at UG level or in integrated MSc program or equivalent: 2</p> <p>Less than 2:1 (mark: <60) at UG level or in integrated MSc program or equivalent: 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BSc+MSc degrees:</u></p> <p>High MSc distinction (85-100) with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 1st (mark: 85-100) at UG level - 5 Mid- low 1st (mark: 70-84) at UG level – 5 Mid-High 2:1 (mark: 65-69) at UG level - 4 Low 2:1 (mark: 60-64). at UG level – 3.5 Less than 2:1 (mark: <60) at UG level - 2 <p>Distinction at MSc level (mark 70-84) with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 1st (mark: 85-100) at UG - 5 Mid- low 1st (mark: 70-84) at UG level – 4.5 Mid-High 2:1 (mark: 65-69) at UG level - 4 Low 2:1 (mark: 60-64). at UG level – 3 Less than 2:1 (mark: <60) at UG level - 2 <p>Merit at MSc level (mark: 60-69) with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High 1st (mark: 85-100) at UG - 5 Mid- low 1st (mark: 70-84) at UG level – 4 Mid-High 2:1 (mark: 65-69) at UG level – 3.5 Low 2:1 (mark: 60-64). at UG level – 3 Less than 2:1 (mark: <60) at UG level - 1 <p>Pass at MSc level (50-59) in a programme which could have awarded merit or distinction: shouldn't be considered</p> <p>MSc degree in a programme which did not have classifications (e.g., some MRes courses; some international courses):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> if outstanding academic reference provided: is considered a Distinction at MSc if excellent academic reference provided: is considered: Merit at MSc without further evidence from references shouldn't be consider. 	<p>Own research published in scientific journal / preprint server / posters/oral presentations of own research presented at academic/industry conferences: 5</p> <p>Excellent performance during relevant research project/placement of at least 6 weeks in duration (could be in academia or in industry, could be part of degree or could be summer placement): 4</p> <p>Very good performance during relevant research project/placement of at least 6 weeks in duration (could be in academia or in industry, could be part of degree or could be summer placement): 3</p> <p>Good performance during relevant research project/placement of any duration: 2</p> <p>Completed research project/placement of any duration: 1</p> <p>No experience: 0</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Non-academic criteria</u></p> <p>Outstanding performance in employment (e.g. industry experience, working to fund studies, agricultural sector, education): 5</p> <p>Excellent performance in relevant employment (see examples above): 4</p> <p>Very good performance in employment (see examples above): 3</p> <p>Good performance in employment (see examples above): 2</p> <p>Evidence of experience: 1</p> <p>No experience: 0</p> <p>Performance can be evaluated based on quality of work, creativity, tasks achieved, consistent improvement, feedback received, responsiveness to feedback, revenue generated, ability to take ownership, completion of tasks on time and on budget and collegiality.</p> <p>Use the highest score between academic and non-academic criteria.</p>	<p>All candidates automatically receive the maximum mark of 5 unless there is a particular problem with the references, e.g.</p> <p>A clear expression of concern about the candidate's ability to work independently.</p> <p>Score here to be assigned depending on level of concern (0=most concern, 5 = no concern).</p> <p>Otherwise, references are to be used to verify and inform the academic record score and the achievements experience score.</p>	<p>Outstanding overall performance: 5</p> <p>Excellent overall performance: 4</p> <p>Good overall performance: 3</p> <p>Average overall performance: 2</p> <p>Below average overall performance: 1</p> <p>Poor overall performance: 0</p> <p>Students will be assets based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> motivation (passionate about science and making a positive impact) ability to articulate and communicate scientific understanding ability to think independently curiosity understanding and engagement with quantitative biology aspirations and future plans resilience organization independence work ethic honesty and integrity answers to competency-based questions <p>Panel interview scores are independent of shortlisting scores.</p>

What you need:

- CV– 1- 2 pages
- Transcripts
- Two Reference letters

What you don't need:

- Research proposal
- Personal statement

Published in journals
/pre-print servers

Presentations at
conferences
(Posters or Oral)

Scientific
Communication

Research Project
or Placement

ACADEMIC RECORD
ACHIEVEMENTS & EXPERIENCE

References

Work or
Industry Experience

At least 6 weeks

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Completed

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Completed

Performance Evaluation



- Quality of work
- Creativity
- Tasks achieved/completed
- Consistent growth & improvement
- Independent thinking & working
- Feedback received
- Responsiveness to feedback
- Ownership
- Income/Revenue Generated
- Task management including time & budget
- Collaboration

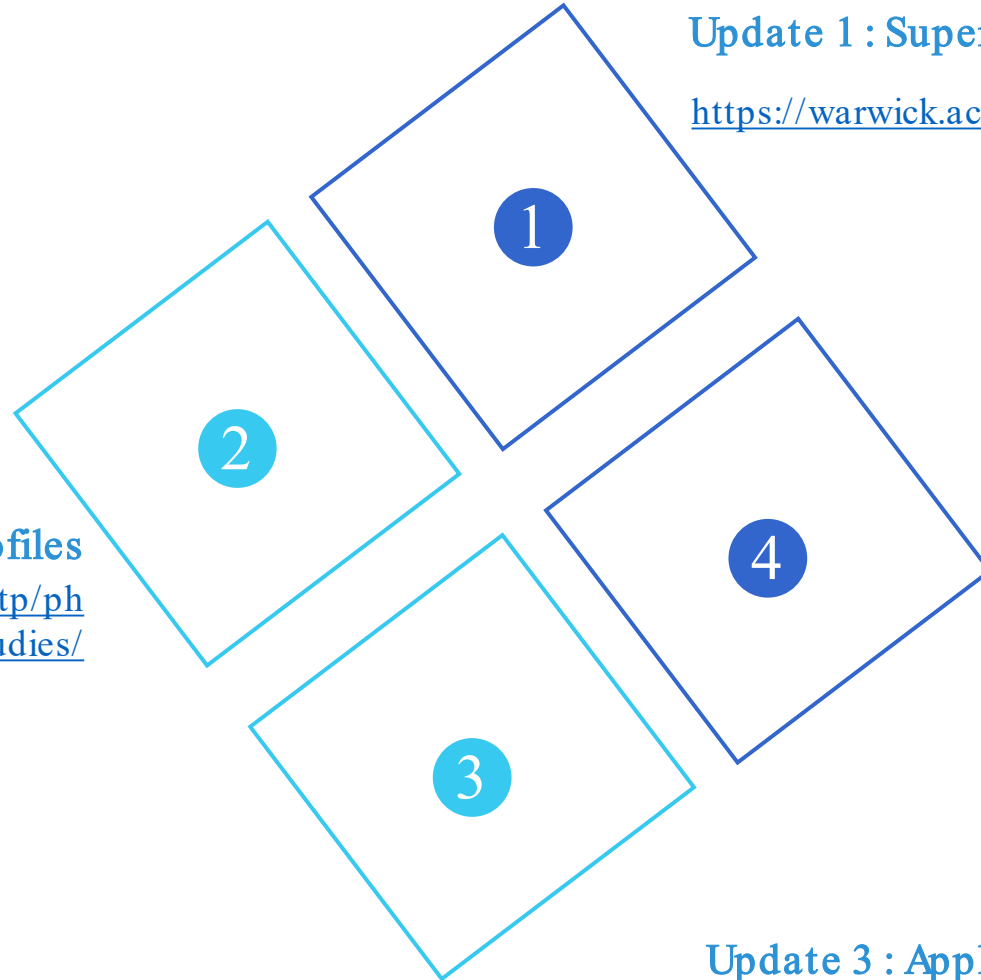
Interview



- Motivated...
- Passionate about research/making a positive impact
- Ability to articulate and communicate
- Understanding of & engagement with topic
- Independent thinking & working
- Resilience
- Aspirations and future plans
- Work ethic
- Answers to competency-based questions
- Organisation
- Honesty & Integrity

Spill the tea





Update 1 : Supervisor Profiles directory

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mibtp/phd/supervisors/

Update 2: Student Profiles

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mibtp/phd/student_case_studies/

Update 4: MIBTP visits to universities in the Midlands

These visits are designed to enhance student awareness of PhD opportunities within our partnerships. During the visits directors and student representatives from our partnership will demystify MIBTP recruitment process; will advertise PhD projects; we will provide help with PhD applications; and we will perform mock interviews.

Update 3 : Applications for entry in

October 2024 now open

Deadline: 4th January 2024

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mibtp/phd/