



University of  
Staffordshire

# Your place of possibility

**2025  
POSTGRADUATE  
GUIDE**

for University of Staffordshire students

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**Professor Martin Jones**  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive

I am delighted that you are considering in postgraduate study at University of Staffordshire.

For more than 100 years, we have been transforming lives through education. As a community that lifts all, we are a powerful force for change.

Through our industry connections, next-level teaching, personalised support and real-world research expertise, we can help you achieve your ambitions.

Start your journey from possibility to profession.

# Welcome

“ I’ve loved it at University of Staffordshire. If I could stay forever, I would. You’re more than just a student number here. You’ll get individual support and that’s massively important.

Comparing who I was at the start of my postgraduate course to where I am now, I feel like two completely different people.

I’m just about to finish my PGCE in Secondary PE and I’m becoming a confident teacher. It has prepared me 110%. Now I can stand in front of 30 teenage boys and have got the respect of the class. It’s taken resilience.

My course has involved a lot of time on placement. If you’re planning to do a Masters, I would recommend getting industry experience. With a placement, you’re getting your name out there – it can be who you know, not what you know. The lecturers have industry connections as well, so use that.

I did a degree in PE and Youth Sports Coaching here and thought I would give postgraduate study a go. I’m so glad I did. There were advantages to staying at the same university. If I needed to talk to my lecturer, I already had that connection.

From the start, I knew I wanted to have an impact on children’s lives. Now I’m going to be doing that for a career. ”

**Danny Rogers**  
PGCE Secondary Physical Education

“ Comparing who I was at the start of my postgraduate course to where I am now, I feel like two completely different people. ”





# This is your place

Find a place where you can turn possibility into reality. Your place.

Through postgraduate study, you will:

- Deepen your knowledge and become a specialist in your field
- Open doors to new opportunities, whether you're a career changer or just starting out on your professional journey
- Gain public and professional recognition for your skills, greater knowledge and experience, and be able to climb the career ladder

You will also increase your earning potential. Statistics show that Masters and doctorate holders are:

- **+9 %** more likely to be employed
- **+3 %** less likely to be unemployed vs undergraduate holders
- **+42 %** more likely to earn £30k+
- **+6 %** more likely to feel their job uses their learning



“ The transition going from undergrad to postgrad was smooth, even with a couple of years' gap. It was like I never left.

I have been able to get hands-on experience using tools and software I wouldn't have access to outside of uni. My placement has given me the opportunity to utilise my skills in real time.

Alongside that, I have grown in confidence within myself and my work, and I have been able to make connections within the industry. ”

**Aneesa Rauf**

MSc Digital Marketing Management  
Previously studied BA (Hons) Photography at University of Staffordshire

**3<sup>RD</sup> IN THE UK FOR  
CAREER PROSPECTS**

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2025

**TOP 5 FOR SOCIAL  
INCLUSION**

The Times and The Sunday Times Good  
University Guide 2025

**87% OF RESEARCH  
IMPACT IS  
"OUTSTANDING" OR  
"VERY CONSIDERABLE"**

Research Excellence Framework 2021

**68% OF RESEARCH IS  
"INTERNATIONALLY  
EXCELLENT" OR  
"WORLD-LEADING"**

Research Excellence Framework 2021





# Our personalised offer to you

**Our place. Built around you and your professional ambitions. Make it happen at University of Staffordshire.**

## 01 Cutting-edge Facilities

Become the next innovator using our cutting-edge tools and tech. You could be creating prototypes in our SmartZone, pursuing real-world research in our specialist labs, using the latest games technologies or investigating the future of renewable energy.



## 02 Next-level Teaching and Experiences

Take your knowledge to the next level with our leading modern courses. You'll get to put your skills into action in immersive and simulated environments – from crime scene to courtroom and ambulance to operating theatre.

## 03 A Community That Lifts All

Be part of a diverse, inclusive and uplifting student community. Our services are built around you and your needs, from financial advice and childcare support through to mental health and wellbeing.

## 04 Gateway to Industry

Build the connections and networks that open doors. From industry placements through to one-to-one coaching and professional mentoring, we'll help you develop your career.



## 05 Proven boundary breakers

Learn from our interdisciplinary teams – including academics with real-world expertise – who explore new-fashioned thinking and ideas. With flexible co-working spaces and collaborative projects, you'll mirror the practices found in industry.

## 06 Campus of Communities

Join our ecosystem for enterprise, where we bring the outside world onto campus. Our students have access to innovation and tech hubs, real-world projects and talks from industry professionals.

## 07 Everyday Impact

Become part of our global alumni community – a driving force for positive change. Whether pioneering advances in forensic science, championing sustainability or improving evidence-based care, you could be tackling society's challenges.



## 08 Revolutionary Heritage

Train for the specialist jobs of tomorrow. Innovation is in our DNA and, for more than 100 years, we have been championing new industries and shaping what comes next.



# Open days and important dates



## WHEN CAN I START?

Postgraduate study is flexible – and so are our course dates. Many of our most popular courses have intakes in September and January.

We also offer a range of programmes with additional start points throughout the year. Check individual course pages at [www.staffs.ac.uk](http://www.staffs.ac.uk) for specific deadlines.

## FAST TRACK APPLY

If you're progressing from an undergraduate course at University of Staffordshire, you can apply for postgraduate study in just 60 seconds. Simply fill in **our online form**.

You will need your most recent student number. If you no longer have access to this, email our **Student Connect** team to request it.

Some courses are not eligible for fast-track applications, but we are still here to help guide you through the process. **Get in touch with us** if you have any questions.

## OPEN DAYS

Deepen your knowledge and discover where postgraduate study can take you. Our on-campus and virtual Open Events cover Masters courses and research degrees. Get all your key questions answered and turn possibility into reality. For dates and further details, visit **our dedicated page**.

## WEBINAR SERIES

Gain insights from our experts on a range of topics. We've put together some **handy webinars** to inspire you.

Join us at one of our events



# Gateway to industry

Postgraduate study can boost your career prospects and give you a competitive edge. As many of our courses are accredited by professional bodies, they can provide an essential step towards becoming qualified or eligible for registration.

You can also earn professionally recognised certifications while you study. We offer lots of opportunities to gain industry experience too – through internships, placements and consultancy work.

## PROGRESS INTO A PROFESSION

Interested in taking your expertise to the next level? Follow one of our specialist progression routes to a career.

If you studied psychology at undergraduate level, our Health Psychology MSc will enable you to become a registered health psychologist. Or you progress from one of our business-related undergraduate degrees onto an MBA – the ideal qualification for future business leaders.

## WORK WITH INDUSTRY

Our postgraduate courses open doors. You can draw on our huge network of connections, including companies such as JCB, Bentley, Cisco, Rockstar Games and Sony Entertainment.

We also offer placement opportunities locally, nationally and internationally. Our Central Placements Team can help you source opportunities. Through our Innovation Enterprise Zone, you'll have the

chance to work with companies on bespoke projects as well.

## CAREER AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Achieve your professional goals with our all-year round careers support. This includes:

- One-to-one career coaching
- Help with interview techniques, CV writing and job applications
- Access to the careers portal, where you can look for jobs and book onto careers events
- Our in-house recruitment agency Unitemps, offering quality jobs across Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire

## CREATE YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Turn your big idea into reality through our Be-Inspired programme. Learn about market and customer research, sales and pricing strategies, business branding and other essentials to help get your business off the ground.





## Meet some of our team



Dean Northfield has worked on everything from murder investigations to large-scale drug importation cases. As a digital forensics expert with West Yorkshire Police, he has helped prepare evidence for court.

His high-profile convictions included the killer nicknamed the Crossbow Cannibal and the pair who staged the kidnapping of schoolgirl Shannon Matthews.

Dean – who served as a VIPER officer, senior imaging officer and with the force's Forensic Multimedia Unit – is now passing on his knowledge to the next generation of technical specialists. He is a Senior Lecturer at University of Staffordshire, teaching digital forensic undergraduate modules and on the MSc Digital Forensic Investigation.

The demand for these skills has grown substantially. He said: **“The National Police Chiefs’ Council announced that 90% of crimes now have a digital element. That’s the investigation of the crimes, rather than necessarily being cyber-crime. There will be some digital evidence there, such as mobile phone examination.”**

On the hands-on course, students deal with a range of evidence, including video, audio and drones. Using industry-standard software, such as Cellebrite and Amped Authenticate, they could be exploring how to improve grainy CCTV images or other real-world applications. The latest forensic challenges include being able to spot AI-generated deep fakes.

Dean added: **“It’s very easy to delete or add artefacts to an image or video. It’s becoming harder to detect.”**

The course brings together forensic, computing and law staff, who have a mixture of experience as practitioners and academics.

**“They know the industry and have the contacts,”** he said. **“There’s also our Staffordshire Forensic Partnership. It opens up student opportunities for visits, small projects, volunteering and real-world research.”**

Students also get to use our £2.2m simulation facilities to practise crime scene strategy, triaging and packaging evidence. It’s one of the reasons why they are highly employable by the time they graduate.

**Dean Northfield**

Senior Lecturer in Digital Forensic Investigation

Having worked as a visual designer, storyboard artist and concept artist, Senior Lecturer Dr Monireh Astani embodies the versatile skills of an animator.

**“If you’re a designer or animator, you can work in all sorts of industries. Animation is an ever-evolving platform and requires creativity,”** she said.

She began her career in her native Iran. After completing a PhD at Maynooth University in Ireland, Monireh joined the animation team at University of Staffordshire.

**“A lot of other universities do media studies, where they look at animation. But I wanted to find a place that focuses on animation and then brings in other media. The programme here is one of the strongest in the UK.”**

**“We do drawing, sculpture and stop-motion. There’s also the digital part. You can put on a VR headset and start creating animation in a 360-degree environment.”**

Monireh, who leads on 2D animation and teaches on the Arts and Creative Technologies (By Negotiated Study) MA, is exploring immersive media for her research. She said: **“We are looking at how to create the whole animation pipeline in real-time. It’s using Unreal Engine.”**



**Monireh Astani**

Senior Lecturer in Animation

When Associate Professor Joe Hazzam moved to Stoke-on-Trent, he found what was missing from his travels around the world. A real sense of community.

**“I love the place. It’s about the people, who are so friendly,”** he said. He grew up in Lebanon and worked in marketing in Dubai before joining academia. With the pick of UK universities, he chose University of Staffordshire.

**“I came here as a lecturer in 2022. In 2023, I became a senior lecturer and, in 2025, became Associate Professor of Digital Marketing.”**

Joe teaches on several courses, including Digital Marketing Management, and is Deputy Director of a research centre. His own research papers have been published in top journals and he’s delivered masterclasses to more than 300 SMEs.

These industry contacts have meant students have access to placements and internships. They can also work for an in-house marketing agency, where they support businesses.

Joe added: **“If I put myself in an international student’s shoes, I would find a place where I feel welcome.”**



**Joe Hazzam**

Associate Professor for Digital Marketing



# Types of study and career journeys



## MYTH-BUSTING ABOUT DISTANCE LEARNING

### POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT

- Involves more structured study, with a mixture of lectures, seminars and assignments
- You may get to explore a research project in depth through a dissertation
- Assessment could also involve essays, exams and group projects
- Examples include Masters programmes

### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

- Independent study and research exploring a specialist area, with little or no taught elements
- You'll be supervised by academic staff and will produce a thesis or portfolio
- Examples include an MRes (Master of Research) and a professional doctorate
- An MPhil or PhD is entirely based on research in your field

### FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

We offer full-time and part-time study options for many postgraduate courses. Some are delivered purely on campus and some through blended learning (a mixture of face-to-face and online). You can also study via distance learning, which is 100% online and means you learn at a time and place that suits you.



Only specific university providers offer distance learning



Distance learning is commonplace with postgraduate study and University of Staffordshire has years of expertise in delivering online courses



You'll miss out on support and networking



You'll have access to one-to-one meetings with staff, networking opportunities with other students, a virtual learning platform and lots of resources



Distance learning means studying alone



It can be very interactive, with online discussion boards, class chats, lectures and podcasts. You'll be part of an international learning community and can share ideas and experiences.

To find out more about types of study, visit our website by [clicking here](#)



# Finance support and scholarships

## Government-backed loans

### Masters loan

Whether studying full-time or part-time, you could get a **Masters loan** of up to £12,858 to help with your course fees, study expenses or living costs.

### Doctoral loan

If you're starting a full, standalone doctoral course, such as a PhD or professional doctorate, you could get a postgraduate **doctoral loan** of up to £30,301.

## University of Staffordshire Alumni Discount

Continue your studies with us and receive **up to 25%** off your postgraduate course fees:

- 25% discount – open to postgraduate students who have recently completed a University of Staffordshire undergraduate degree (excluding HNDs and foundation degrees)
- 10% discount – open to postgraduate students who completed an undergraduate degree with University of Staffordshire more than two years ago

## University of Staffordshire Bursaries and Scholarships

**Horizon Fund** – Postgraduate Employability Award – bursary support to help students access opportunities

**Creative Opportunity Award** – up to £200 to go towards a student's end-of-year show

**Dr Ruth Thompson Global Teaching Scholarship** – up to £1,500 to attend a world-class education conference chosen by the Institute of Education

**Dr Ruth Thompson PGCE Scholarship for the Teachers of Tomorrow** – a £1,000 scholarship to encourage more people from Staffordshire to train as teachers

**PGCE Bursary** – a £500 individual award to help PGCE students from low-income households

**The Friends Trust Education Bursary** – to support cadets and adult volunteers during their studies

**Sports scholarships** – available through our High Performance Academy for talented athletes competing at a regional, national or international level

More information and **eligibility criteria** [here](#).

## Government Grants

**Disabled Students' Allowance** – support for students who incur extra costs as a result of their disability

**Student parents and carers** – help with childcare costs or caring for adult dependants

**Care leavers and estranged students** – support for care-experienced students

More details are **available** [here](#)





# 25% Alumni Discount\*

Turn possibility into reality. Take a postgraduate course with us and qualify for a **25% alumni discount\***.

Current students can apply in 60 seconds at:  
**[staffs.ac.uk/admissions/postgraduate](https://staffs.ac.uk/admissions/postgraduate)**

\*Subject to eligibility. Find out more online.



University of  
Staffordshire





# Postgraduate taught courses

## Changing direction at postgraduate level

Planning to change career or fancy studying something new? We offer lots of flexible options at postgraduate level. You may be in the final year of your undergraduate degree and have realised you want to pursue a different career path. With a Masters, you can switch direction.

Some postgraduate programmes – including conversion courses – are open to graduates in any subject. They are a great way to gain the specialist skills and knowledge you need for your chosen profession. Check the individual course pages on our website for specific entry requirements.

### Masters courses

Discover our career-focused Masters courses which don't require a particular undergraduate subject (although you may need relevant experience):

Teacher training
PGCE Primary Early Years
PGCE Primary (General)
PGCE Post-Compulsory Education and Training
Nursing
MSc Nursing Practice (Adult)
MSc Nursing Practice (Mental Health)
Psychology
MSc Psychology
Social work
MA Social Work

### Rendezvous courses

How about taking a 'rendezvous' subject? A course which brings together graduates from different disciplines to explore issues in an interdisciplinary way. It adds breadth to your studies and helps you explore career options.

MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice
MSc Disaster Management
MA Education
MA International Law
MA International Relations
MA International Security
MSc Investigation Practice
MSc Leadership of Policing
MA Philosophy of Nature, Information and Technology
MSc Simulation Based Education
MA Transnational Organised Crime

## ART AND DESIGN

Stoke-on-Trent is the world capital of ceramics and is the perfect place to learn your craft as an artist or designer.

In recent years, students on our internationally renowned Ceramics MA have collaborated with the likes of Portmeirion and the V&A Wedgwood Collection. Whether creating tableware, sculptures or installations, you'll embrace different aspects of clay.

We also offer an MA in Contemporary Practice, where you'll be encouraged to take your art into the real world. Or you can design your own Masters through Arts and Creative Technologies (By Negotiated Study). Whichever course you study, you'll be guided by academics with lots of industry experience.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

### Facilities

We have workshops for metals, wood, plastics, ceramics and resin. It's where you can learn how to throw, slipcast and glaze your pottery. We are also one of the few universities in the UK to have a ceramic 3D printer. You'll have access to laser cutters and other specialist technologies too.

### Our courses

Course title	Award
Arts and Creative Technologies (By Negotiated Study)	MA/ MSc
Ceramics	MA
Contemporary Arts Practice	MA





# BUSINESS SCHOOL

We use real challenges to test the skills of future business leaders and entrepreneurs.

Take one of our suite of MBAs and learn how to drive change and strategic thinking. You could be exploring anything from how to expand a company overseas, sell off a loss-making operation, tackle trade issues, or manage risks.

Through our MSc in Digital Marketing Management, we will help you get to grips with SEO techniques, digital analytics, social media campaigns and marketing strategies. Or make your mark in the world of international finance or HR. The future is yours.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Business Administration	MBA
Business Administration (London campus)	MBA
Business Administration (Professional Practice)	MBA
Business Administration (Top-up)	MBA
Business, Tourism, Hospitality and Events*	MA
Digital Marketing Management	MSc
Executive MBA*	MBA
International Business Management	MSc
International Finance and Accounting	MSc
Strategic Human Resource Management	MA

\*From 2026, subject to validation.



# COMPUTING

Whether you want to be a software developer, cyber security expert or transform services using AI, we're your gateway to industry.

Our Masters degrees will build on your specialist computing knowledge. We offer flexible options, including September and January start dates and a choice between our Stoke-on-Trent or London campuses for some courses.

You'll have the chance to network, complete a placement year and draw on our links with leading companies like Google, Amazon and Cisco.

The courses are designed to meet the emerging needs of industry. You could go on to a variety of roles, such as being a systems analyst, programmer, IT consultant or web application developer.

## Facilities

Our networking labs feature Cisco and Cisco Meraki switches, routers, firewalls, wireless LAN controllers and network traffic generators. We also have a Data Analytics Centre, usability lab

Find out more by visiting our course pages

and software development environments for desktop, mobile and enterprise applications. Each of our cyber labs has a dedicated and isolated network. Students can access powerful forensic tools used in criminal investigations, such as EnCase and XRY.

## Accreditations



BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
AI and Autonomous Systems*	MSc
Business Computing	MSc
Cloud and Network Computing	MSc
Cloud and Network Computing (London campus)	MSc
Computer Science	MSc
Computer Science (London campus)	MSc
Cyber Security	MSc
Cyber Security (London campus)	MSc
Software Engineering	MSc

\*From 2026, subject to validation.





# CRIMINOLOGY

Explore a career in the criminal justice sector and debate issues surrounding crime on our exciting Masters course.

You'll be studying at one of the UK's leading universities for criminology, drawing on the expertise of internationally renowned researchers. The MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice is designed for people working, or aspiring to work, for organisations such as police forces, prisons and probation services.

You'll have the opportunity to explore modern criminological perspectives of crime and social control. We also cover more applied aspects of criminal justice and how the system works.

## Facilities

Our £2.2m simulation facilities help bring topics to life and include digitally enabled courtrooms, a custody suite and prison cell. Students can put their skills into action through role plays and learn about anything from offender management through to policing techniques.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Criminology and Criminal Justice	MSc

Find out more by visiting our course pages



# EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND TEACHING

Our Institute of Education can support you at every stage of your professional journey – from qualifying as a teacher through to leadership.

We have a suite of PGCEs, where you can focus on primary education, train as a secondary teacher in a specialist subject, or teach in post-16 education.

As a PGCE student, you'll spend time on placements with our partners, learning how to plan and deliver engaging lessons. On campus, you'll get personalised support and will have access to the latest evidence-based research.

We also offer an Education MA, where you can pursue research, network and develop your professional practice and ability to lead change.

## INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

You'll be part of our thriving community of educational professionals, led by staff who are active researchers and experts in school support initiatives. Our £4.4m Woodlands Day Nursery and Forest School – and 10-hectare nature reserve – will enable you to explore early years education and outdoor learning in action.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Education	MA
Higher and Professional Education	PgCert
Post-Compulsory Education and Training	PGCE
Primary Early Years	PGCE
Primary (General)	PGCE
Primary with PE Specialism	PGCE
Secondary Art and Design	PGCE
Secondary Biology	PGCE
Secondary Chemistry	PGCE
Secondary Computer Science	PGCE
Secondary Design and Technology	PGCE
Secondary English	PGCE
Secondary English with Drama	PGCE
Secondary Geography	PGCE
Secondary Mathematics	PGCE
Secondary Physical Education	PGCE
Secondary Physics	PGCE





# ENGINEERING

Engineering underpins everything from transport, communications and energy systems to smart technologies transforming our day-to-day lives.

With such a huge demand for skilled engineers, many of our graduates go on to secure jobs with leading companies. Our Masters degrees are designed with industry input, include placement opportunities and flexible start dates, and will prepare you for the careers of tomorrow.

Take Automotive Engineering and explore vehicle design, aerodynamics and advanced engine design. Or specialise in fields such as Robotics and Smart Technologies, where you'll develop expert knowledge on network-enabled devices and AI.

You'll be immersed in hands-on projects, professional skills development and research opportunities alongside our world-leading academics.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Facilities

Our £1.3m Smart Zone – featuring augmented and blended reality – is where you can 3D print and manufacture prototypes, and use robotics, sensors, laser cutting and milling tools. We have laboratories dedicated to renewable energy, reverse engineering, CAD modelling and other specialist areas. We also have a flight simulator with a professional PFC console and radio stack system.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Aeronautical Engineering	MSc
Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems*	MSc
Automotive Engineering	MSc
Electrical Engineering and Renewable Energy Systems	MSc
Engineering and Technology Management*	MSc
Mechanical Engineering and Sustainable Energy Technologies	MSc
Robotics and Smart Technologies	MSc

\*From 2026, subject to validation.



# FORENSIC SCIENCE

Explore the science behind solving crimes and get to grips with the rapidly evolving field of digital forensics.

You'll learn lots of real-world skills and will be taught by experts who are internationally renowned researchers. We also have a forensic partnership with Staffordshire Police.

Using our £2.2m immersive facilities, you'll document crime scenes, analyse evidence in the lab and explore scientific research. On the investigative side, you could be extracting data, exploring technologies such as drone imaging and injury mapping, interviewing witnesses and presenting evidence in our simulated courtroom.

Our students go on to a variety of careers, such as becoming toxicologists, analytical chemists, crime scene investigators and forensic computer analysts.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Facilities

We've invested £2.2m in crime scene simulation facilities, including living spaces, an office, shop and outdoor forensic area. You could also be using industry-standard forensic software such as Cellebrite and Amped Authenticate. In our £30m Science Centre, you could be analysing biological, chemical or digital evidence, where you can learn about fire accelerants, blood spatter, drugs, entomology and fibres.

## Accreditations

The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Digital Forensic Investigation	MSc
Forensic Science	MSc





# GAMES

Join the UK's number 1 university for games (TIGA Games Industry Awards 2024) and develop your career in the multi-billion-pound industry.

Our postgraduate courses will build your specialist skills, and cover the spectrum of games development – from concept to design, art, programming and production.

We'll help you to create a standout portfolio to impress employers. You'll also have a prime opportunity to grow your network and build on our connections with top international games studios.

Whether crafting epic characters, designing quests or using cutting-edge technology, you can shape your professional ambitions. You'll be part of the largest games department in the UK, with world-leading research and multiple awards for our innovative work.

## Facilities

Bring your gaming and design ideas to life in our top-spec labs. You can create and test VR and AR solutions, explore the latest software engines, and use Wacom Intuos Pro mediums, Cintiq tablets, and professional editing suites. We also have a Motion Capture Studio with a 24-camera set-up.

## Accreditations

We have partnerships with industry body TIGA and a wide range of influential developers. Our strong industry links include Sony Entertainment, Epic Games, visual effects specialists The Mill and leading architecture practice Foster + Partners.



CREATED IN  
FORTNITE

## StaffsVerse

StaffsVerse is the UK's first university campus to feature as an island in the Fortnite video game. Built by our student developers, it enables you to explore our campuses from anywhere in the world. StaffsVerse shows the kind of real-world skills that students gain during their time with us.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Computer Games Design	MSc
Concept Art	MA
Games Art	MA
Games Computing	MSc
Professional Games Development	MSc



Launch  
Fortnite  
and Search  
StaffsVerse

Find out more by visiting our course pages





## HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

We offer the essential postgraduate degree for nurses, midwives, paramedics and pharmacists who want to become advanced practitioners.

On our Advanced Clinical Practice MSc, accredited by NHS England, you'll study part-time through blended learning. Your supervisor will have expertise in your clinical speciality.

It's part of a suite of health and social care programmes, designed to support you at every career stage. Our academic team includes nationally acclaimed health experts and world-class researchers.

You can also study our Human Factors for Patient Safety course, exploring how ergonomics can transform day-to-day working practices. If you are involved in teaching in healthcare, you may be interested in our Medical Education and Simulation-Based Education courses.

### Facilities

At our Centre for Health Innovation, you can put your clinical skills into action using our sector-leading simulation facilities. You could be

performing procedures and treating patients in our emergency department, wards, operating theatre or training ambulance. We also have a huge immersive training space, which projects VR backdrops from floor to ceiling.

### Accreditations

The Centre for Advancing Practice, NHS England Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors.

### Our courses

Course title	Award
Advanced Clinical Practice	MSc
Human Factors for Patient Safety	MSc / PgCert
Medical Education	MSc / PgCert
Simulation-Based Education	MSc

Find out more by visiting our course pages



## HISTORY, SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Delve into major issues affecting the world today with our international studies-related degrees – all delivered through online learning.

You can discover more about the changing global order and how Russia and China are challenging Western dominance. We also look at the role of policy and decision-making bodies like NATO.

Specialise in security and intelligence and you could be delving into issues such as famine, human rights violations and space security. Or learn about law enforcement responses to organised crime – from terrorism to illegal arms trading.

With our distance learning courses, you can study at a time and place that suits you. You'll be part of a lively online student community.

### Our courses

Course title	Award
International History	MA
International Relations	MA
International Security	MA
Transnational Organised Crime	MA

Find out more by visiting our course pages





# LAW

Explore solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems through our exciting International Law postgraduate degree.

The course – open to non-law graduates – uses an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on law, social justice, economics and international relations. You'll learn about human rights, migration and refugees, cross-border regulation and the work of organisations like the International Criminal Court.

Our leading academics include independent UN experts and human rights lawyers, who can tell the real stories behind the headlines. The course is ideal if you want to work in legal advisory roles or for social justice and humanitarian organisations.

In 2026, we are also set to launch two new Legal Practice courses for aspiring lawyers.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Facilities



Our £2.2m simulation facilities include digitally-enabled courtrooms, where students can practise their skills, present legal arguments and take part in mooting. It's just one of the ways you can get involved in real-world learning. We also have strong links with local and national law practices.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
International Law	LLM
Law with Legal Practice*	MA
Legal Practice (SQE Preparation)*	LLM

\*From 2026, subject to validation.



# MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Explore how genomics is revolutionising treatment for disease and leading to personalised medicine for patients.

This is just one of the exciting advances you'll cover as part of our MSc Molecular Biology course. It's ideal for professionals working in health, science or related fields who want to learn more about this specialist area and its impact on biomedicine.

As well as fitting your studies around employment, you can tailor your research project to your own workplace and interests. You will be expected to attend two residential weeks, where you will put your knowledge of molecular techniques into action in our laboratories.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Facilities



You'll be using our biosciences labs on the residential. You can explore techniques such as DNA and RNA extraction, and measure the effects of different procedures. We also have an Analytical Methods Laboratory for chemical analysis, along with an electron microscope and a specialist cell culture environment.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Molecular Biology	MSc





# MUSIC AND SOUND

**Make your mark in the highly competitive music industry with our Masters degree for creative practitioners.**

Whether you want a career as a producer, sound designer or musician, you can personalise the Modern Music Practices course to your interests and skillset. You'll be guided by academics with extensive research expertise and industry experience.

Core elements include learning studio techniques, mixing and mastering, electronics, acoustics, composition, performance and creative software design. You will also explore entrepreneurial skills, so you could go on to create your own company or micro-enterprise.

For your final project, you'll build a portfolio and carry out an in-depth study.

## Facilities

You'll have access to five fully equipped recording studios, all with surround sound and consoles from SSL, Avid Audient and API. There is a 60-seater Mac music technology centre as well. To record, edit and produce audio, you'll use DAW (a digital audio workstation). We also have a Foley pit to help create sound effects.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Modern Music Practices	MSc

Find out more by visiting our course pages



# NURSING

**Help to improve patients' lives by training to be a nurse with our award-winning team.**

You can specialise in supporting adults, patients with mental health conditions or children and young people. Our Nursing Practice courses are open to graduates with a degree in any discipline and experience in a healthcare setting. As they are recognised by the Nursing and Midwifery Council, you'll be able to register as an adult, children's or mental health nurse upon graduation.

It will include completing 2,300 hours of practice-based learning, drawing on our strong network of placement providers. There are opportunities for elective placements abroad too.

You'll be taught by research-active experts with extensive clinical experience. Our team delivering the children's programme was named Nurse Education Provider of the Year (Pre-registration) at the Student Nursing Times Awards 2024.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Facilities

We have sector-leading simulation facilities at both our Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent campuses. These include hospital wards, where you can practise your skills before performing on real patients on placement. At our Centre for Health Innovation, we also have a large immersive training space, with VR backdrops projected from floor to ceiling.

## Accreditations

Regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Nursing Practice (Adult)	MSc
Nursing Practice (Child)	MSc
Nursing Practice (Mental Health)	MSc





# PHILOSOPHY

Time, freedom and what it means to be human. Philosophy has never shied away from tackling the big questions in life.

Through our Continental Philosophy MA, you'll be introduced to key figures such as Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche and Foucault. You'll also explore the European tradition, which inspired a series of philosophical movements spanning centuries.

We also offer an MA in the Philosophy of Nature, Information and Technology, where you'll debate and research some of the topical issues facing society today.

Both courses are delivered through online learning, which means you can study at a time and place that suits you. You'll be part of a lively international online student community.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Continental Philosophy	MA
Philosophy of Nature, Information and Technology	MA

Find out more by visiting our course pages



# POLICING AND INVESTIGATION

Whether dealing with a cyber-attack on national infrastructure or investigating murders or organised crime, you'll need to make critical decisions.

Our Institute of Policing courses will equip you with the skills that matter. You'll be taught by staff with extensive experience, including former senior officers with international research profiles.

If you're a police officer, aspiring private investigator or work in another law enforcement role, our MSc in Investigation Practice could be for you. We also offer a Leadership of Policing course, covering emerging challenges in crimefighting and policing practice.

Or study Disaster Management and play a vital role in helping organisations prepare and respond to a wide range of emergencies – from terrorism to earthquakes.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Disaster Management	MSc
Investigation Practice	MSc
Leadership of Policing	MSc

Find out more by visiting our course pages





# PSYCHOLOGY

Join our thriving postgraduate community dedicated to training the psychologists of the future and making an impact through research.

Our MSc in Health Psychology was the first of its kind to be accredited by the British Psychological Society. Two decades on, we're still winning BPS praise for our "exemplary" practice. We also offer well-regarded accredited courses specialising in CBT and counselling.

Our approach is rooted in applied psychology, which means you'll learn the theory side and how it relates to the real world. Several courses include placements and opportunities to present your research at events.

You will be supported by research-active academics and award-winning technicians.

## Facilities

Our specialist laboratories include VR and simulation equipment. You can use eye tracking technology, measure stress responses with pain-inducing stimuli, and record other physiological

measurements. We also have cognitive cubicles for psychology-based tests and observation and counselling suites.

## Accreditations

British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP).

British Psychological Society (BPS).

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Cognitive Behavioural Therapy	PgDip
Health Psychology	MSc
Psychology	MSc
Psychotherapeutic Counselling	MSc / PgDip

Find out more by visiting our course pages



# SOCIAL JUSTICE

Make a positive impact on people's lives by exploring social inequalities and how to change society for the better.

On our Sociology and Social Justice MA, you will debate the most important sociological problems in the world today. You'll set these issues within a broader historical, social, cultural, economic and political context. We cover sociological theories and topics such as de-globalisation, poverty and crime.

You'll have the opportunity to conduct a research project in your workplace or volunteer with an organisation, business or government department. The course could lead to a variety of careers, including work in social welfare, teaching, the voluntary sector and with non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Sociology and Social Justice	MA





# SOCIAL WORK

**Make a difference to the lives of vulnerable children or adults by training to become a social worker.**

Our MA in Social Work is regulated by Social Work England, which means you'll achieve the professionally recognised qualification you need to succeed. It includes 200 days of practice-based learning to help prepare you for your career.

You'll gain experience in a range of social welfare settings on these placements and will draw on our strong links with partner agencies. On campus, you'll develop your confidence and skills using our immersive spaces, which offer a bridge between the classroom and real-world practice.

## Facilities

Our £2.2m simulation facilities include family living spaces and give you the chance to develop your skills in a safe environment. You could be practising client interactions and interviews by playing the role of service user or social worker. Our hidden cameras mean you can record the sessions for feedback.

## Accreditations

Regulated by Social Work England.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Social Work	MA

Find out more by visiting our course pages



# SPORT AND EXERCISE

**Whether your passion lies in helping athletes perform under pressure or with sport coaching, we'll help you develop your career. You'll be learning from internationally renowned experts, who ensure teaching is informed by the latest research.**

On our MSc in Sport and Exercise Psychology, you'll explore the links between physical activity and mental health, along with group dynamics and leadership. Accredited by the British Psychological Society, the course counts as the first stage of training to become a sport psychologist.

Our Sport Coaching MSc will appeal to active and aspiring coaches, including PE teachers, who may be working at grassroots level, with talented young players or Olympic hopefuls.

Find out more by visiting our course pages

## Flexible study

Both courses are delivered through online learning, so you can fit studying round work commitments. Alongside video lectures, interactive tasks and discussions with other students, there are regular networking opportunities. We also have links with professional sports teams and offer potential for research collaborations.

## Accreditations

British Psychological Society.

## Our courses

Course title	Award
Sport and Exercise Psychology	MSc
Sport Coaching	MSc



# Postgraduate research

Join our community of hundreds of researchers. You could be investigating solutions to real-world problems locally, nationally or globally.

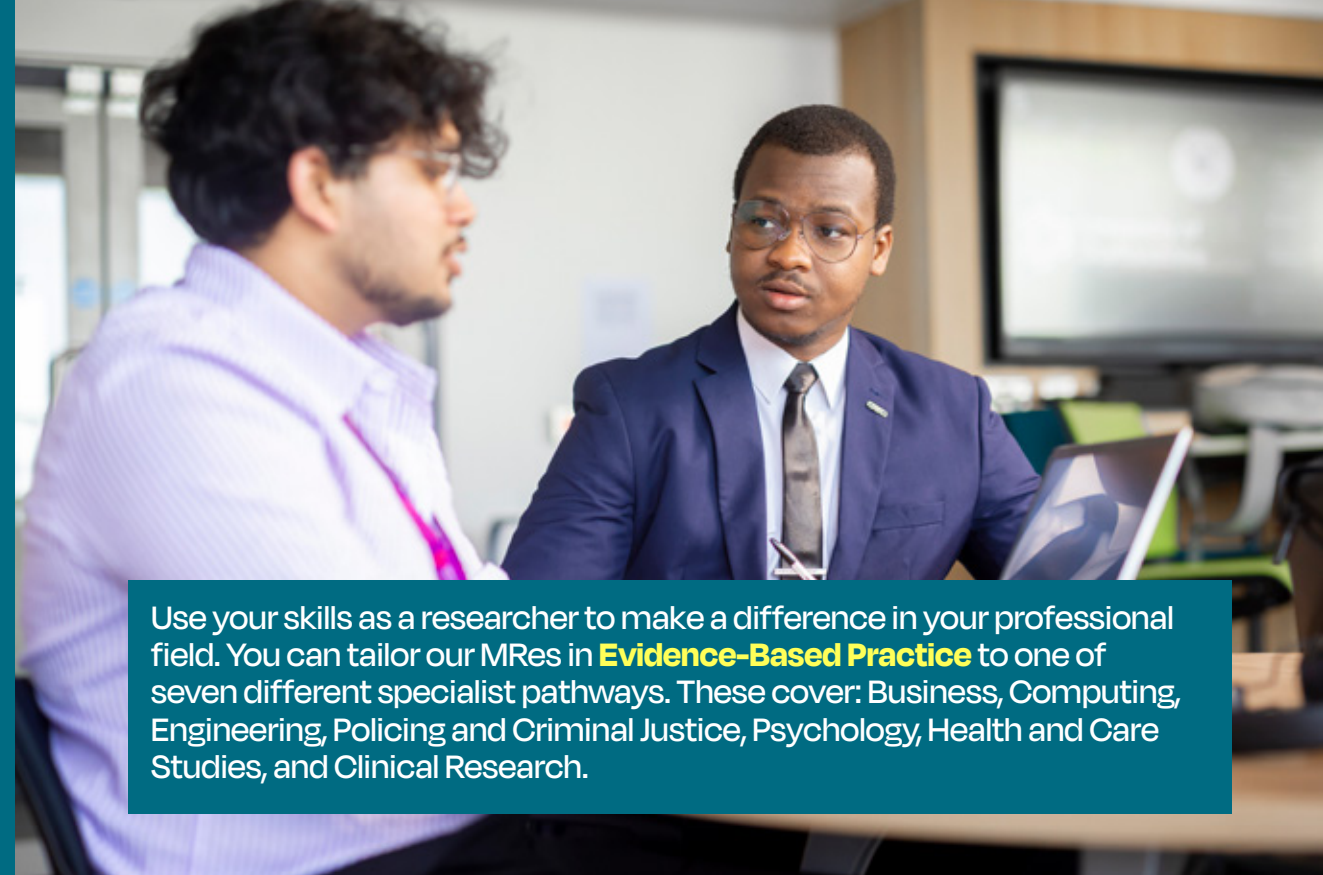
We offer a range of options, both on-campus and through distance learning. Whether designing a PhD around a specialist topic or studying a professional doctorate, you'll be supervised by leading experts in your discipline.

IN THE 2021 RESEARCH  
EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK,

**87%** OF OUR  
RESEARCH  
IMPACT WAS  
CLASSSED AS

**"OUTSTANDING" OR  
"VERY CONSIDERABLE"**

Explore our research themes and find out **how to apply**



Use your skills as a researcher to make a difference in your professional field. You can tailor our MRes in **Evidence-Based Practice** to one of seven different specialist pathways. These cover: Business, Computing, Engineering, Policing and Criminal Justice, Psychology, Health and Care Studies, and Clinical Research.

## BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE AND MANAGEMENT

Work on research projects in management, marketing, tourism and economics. Our academics are producing world-leading research with real impact on the ground. We also have links with national and international businesses.

**Degrees:** A range of PhD opportunities and a **Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)**.

**Facilities:** Our £43m Catalyst building is your base for business operations, networking opportunities and digital facilities. Inside our Innovation Enterprise Zone, you could be working with businesses on innovation projects.

**More information here**



# CRIME, JUSTICE AND SOCIETY

Explore real challenges facing forensic science, criminology, prisons and offender management, policing, law, international studies and counter-terrorism. Our Institute of Policing is internationally renowned and works with police forces and organisations globally.

**Degrees:** A range of PhD opportunities.

**Facilities:** Use our £2.2m simulation facilities to investigate crime scenes, learn policing techniques and present legal arguments in court. In our specialist science labs, you can analyse biological, chemical or digital evidence – from fire accelerants and blood spatter to fibres and drugs.

[More information here](#)

# CULTURE, HERITAGE AND SOCIETY

Carry out research that helps to enrich communities and improve lives. Our areas of expertise include regeneration of cities, social justice, philosophy, film and media production, augmented and virtual realities, drama and music.

**Degrees:** A range of PhD opportunities.

**Facilities:** Explore art and design techniques in our workshops for metals, wood, plastics, ceramics and resin. Create high-quality sequences in our Motion Capture Studio, act in our Performance Centre, pursue projects in our Virtual Production Studio or use our broadcast and editing facilities.

[More information here](#)

# ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Pursue your passion for innovation. Work alongside leading researchers in fields such as sustainable engineering and renewable energy, air quality, robotics, computing and artificial intelligence.

**Degrees:** A range of PhD opportunities.

**Facilities:** Our £1.3m Smart Zone is where you can 3D print and manufacture prototypes, and use robotics, sensors and laser cutting. You can also use our specialist laboratories to investigate everything from renewable energy technologies to networking and cyber security.

[More information here](#)

# HEALTH, WELLBEING AND EDUCATION

Help transform healthcare, tackle inequalities and improve life chances. Develop your research alongside experts in nursery, midwifery, allied health professions, social work, education, psychology, biomedical science, and sport and exercise.

**Degrees:** A range of PhD opportunities and professional doctorates in **Health Psychology**, **Clinical Psychology** and **Healthcare Science**.

**Facilities:** Put your clinical skills into action with our immersive facilities. You could be treating patients in our simulated emergency department, wards or operating theatre. We also have specialist laboratories for your research into areas such as psychology, biomedical science and biomechanics, along with a sports therapy clinic.

[More information here](#)





# Important information



At University of Staffordshire, we produce our guides well ahead of the academic years to which they relate. Although mistakes can happen, and changes may become necessary, we try to ensure the content is as accurate as possible.

If exceptional circumstances beyond our control mean we cannot provide particular educational services, or we have to change the way we provide them, all reasonable steps will be taken to minimise the impact on the student learning experience. However, the University will have no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any prospective student or student as a result.

Very occasionally, we need to make changes to our courses, including their content and the way in which they are delivered. In some instances, courses can be discontinued or combined with other courses.

Reasons for withdrawing courses can include the unexpected absence or departure of a key member of staff, insufficient student numbers to ensure an appropriate quality of education, and courses not receiving the necessary accreditation or approval. Changes to course information may be required owing to operational or academic reasons.

As a prospective student of University of Staffordshire, it's your responsibility to ensure you have fully reviewed up-to-date course information before you apply, and that your chosen course fully meets your requirements.

You should also check the course still meets your requirements before accepting an

offer to study with us. The most up-to-date course information can be found on our website ([www.staffs.ac.uk](http://www.staffs.ac.uk)), or by calling us on 01782 294000.

If we discontinue a course or programme and you're not happy with the alternative offered, or if a programme is changed and you're not happy with the changes, you'll be given the opportunity to withdraw from the programme.

If you're offered a place at University of Staffordshire, your offer will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Offer. Those Terms and Conditions will be attached to your offer letter, and it is important you read them to understand your responsibilities as well as ours. If you become a student at University of Staffordshire, you will enter a contract with us and be bound by our rules and regulations. These, too, may vary from time to time, with any change or variation being made clear to you ahead of the change taking effect.

## Subject to validation

We're always striving to deliver the most current and relevant degrees, both by creating new courses and regularly reviewing our current offering. Each time we make changes, the course goes through a rigorous approval process to ensure it is the perfect fit for our students, employers and other relevant stakeholders.

A number of our courses are marked as 'subject to validation', which means some of the details of the course haven't been finalised yet. As soon as the new course is validated, up-to-date information will be provided on the online course pages at [www.staffs.ac.uk](http://www.staffs.ac.uk)

If you have been offered a place and there is a significant change to the course, or for any reason the course doesn't run – we will contact you immediately, explain why and fully support you in finding the best suitable alternative.



# TOP 5 FOR FIRST GEN STUDENTS

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The Mail University Guide 2025

# TOP 10 FOR CAREER PROSPECTS

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Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2023

# TOP 20 FOR FACILITIES

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Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2023

# TOP 5 FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

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The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2025

# BEST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

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For Games - TIGA Games Industry Awards 2024

# TOP 20 IN THE ENGLISH SOCIAL MOBILITY INDEX

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LSBU and Higher Education Policy Institute 2024

For more detailed information on courses or studying at University of Staffordshire visit:  
**[www.staffs.ac.uk/postgraduate](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/postgraduate)**

Find us on: **[www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia)**

