

Applying to Master of Research | Guidelines for Applicants

How to Apply

We enrol Master of Research students in January each year. Your application will be forwarded to assessors for review based on academic merit and research quality when you have submitted to GSA Registry registry@gsa.ac.uk the following:

- Completed Postgraduate Application Form
- Completed MRes Research Proposal form
- Copies of entry qualification certificates (Transcript/mark sheet)
- Two Academic References (word count 500 maximum per reference)
- Electronic submission of Portfolio in support of the application (in ppt. or jpg. Format), if appropriate

Qualifications/Relevant Professional Experience

- Evidence of previous or current studies leading towards a degree that will qualify you to study at Masters level
- OR Evidence of Significant Relevant Professional Experience (RPE) in such cases the RPE may be considered equivalent to a first degree at the discretion of the programme leader following GSA guidelines

Relevant Professional Experience

- Please use the free text box under the Education and Qualifications section on page 2 of the Postgraduate Application Form to provide evidence of significant professional experience, which is relevant to your Research Proposal (300 words maximum)
- If you are completing this section of the application, you should make it clear how your previous professional experience has prepared you, in particular, for independent research

International Applicants

International applicants will normally be expected to provide evidence of attainment equivalent to Academic IELTS 6.5 (minimum 6.5 in each component). If the language of instruction at the applicants last university is English, international applicants will not need to provide this qualification.

In addition to your application you will also need to submit a copy of your passport (if applicable).

MRes Research Proposal

Applicants are required to submit a completed Research Proposal form, which should clearly state the research context. In writing this you should consider what particular aspect of your practice or research you wish to focus on and what is the relationship between the practice and the research.

Please ensure you complete all sections of the MRes Research Proposal form:

- Project title and summary
- Research question(s) and objectives
- Research rationale and impact
- Institutional Fit
- Surrounding Literature
- Research Approaches and Methods
- Ethical Implications
- Research Outcomes
- Specialist Facilities and Equipment
- Supervisors
- Funding
- Bibliography

Portfolio Guide

Applicants may submit a portfolio of design/creative practice in support of your application. Your portfolio should:

- Be submitted electronically in ppt. or jpg. Format
- Comprise of a maximum of 12 images
- Provide evidence of the relationship between creative practice and research

If the portfolio is accessible via a URL, please ensure the link is live. Please see <http://application.gsa.ac.uk> for guidance on uploading your portfolio.

Assessment Criteria

On application your research proposal will be assessed on academic merit and your ability to clearly and concisely articulate your research inquiry and context. We will also assess your ability to:

- Undertake an independent research project at Masters level
- Understand research approaches and methods
- Demonstrate critical and creative approaches
- Communicate your research to diverse audiences

This is usually done by interview. The interview offers you an opportunity to share your research proposal and thoughts on how you may wish to develop it during the course of study. If you are unable to attend in person, an interview by telephone, Zoom, or Skype interview will be arranged.

Further Information

If you would like to discuss the MRes programme and your research interests please contact Professor Lynn-Sayers McHattie l.mchattie@gsa.ac.uk. Following this, we encourage you to send Lynn a draft of your MRes Research Proposal form. This will be reviewed by a member of GSA research faculty with relevant expertise in your research area, and you will then be invited to attend a one-to-one meeting to support the writing and submission of your Research Proposal and MRes. application.