

A St Andrews PhD





Dr Clare Peddie ProDean Taught Postgraduates

pgtprodean@st-andrews.ac.uk

alteration and altera

A St Andrews PhD – event funded by QAA Scotland - Enhancement Themes

- Topics that all Scottish universities focus on at the same time, to make the quality of teaching and learning experience even better.
- Until 2017 the theme is Student Transitions
- Directed by Vice-Principals from the Scottish higher education sector (SHEEC) and coordinated by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education Scotland (QAAS).
- A little bit of money......



alteration alteration of a sum metamorphosis still alteration of the still leap of t

So welcome to an afternoon of thinking about your future

- Supporting your transition
 - Give information on further study opportunities
 - Opportunity to meet with PhD students
 - Reflect on how your current studies develop you to prepare for research



alteration and alteration alteration and alteration alteration alteration and alteration alteration and alteration alteration alteration alteration and alteration alteration

Now	Is a PhD for me? And the transition from PGT-PGR PGT Pro-Dean	
1325	Where to look for funding: a demonstration of Fund Karen Laing	
1340	Comfort break	
1350	What we're looking for in an application Prof Jason Konig	
1415	The application experience and the PhD interview Dr Ben Carter	
1435	The PhD experience 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd year PGR representatives	
1455	What are DTCs?/ An introduction to SGSAH Jude Henderson, SGSAH	
1540	School discussions in Bell Pettigrew and refreshment break: A chance	
to question current PhDs		
1600	Where do PhDs go? Dr Ben Carter, Careers	
1600	A PhD alumni's experience	

1610

1645

Q&A panel discussion

Wine reception



Thinking about a PhD?

- I want to be an academic
- Because my dissertation supervisor says I would be a brilliant PhD student!
- Because it is expected of me (family, friends, peers)
- Because I am really interested in the topic and want to spend the next 3+ years researching and writing about it
- Because it will enhance my employability
- Because I can't think what else to do and besides it is fun/comfy/friendly here at St Andrews and I don't want to leave

Is a PhD for me?

- Are you motivated enough to undertake a PhD?
- Are you patient enough to do a PhD?
- Genius is hard work / intelligence can you work hard for 3-4 years on one question?
- Are your dependents (if you have them) fully supportive?
- Do your research goals marry well with those of your potential supervisor?
- Is your potential supervisor a good fit for you (track record and research excellence)?
- Is the PhD intellectually challenging enough?
- Will doing a PhD enhance the type of career you want to pursue?
- Do you have the necessary funds to pay for your studies?
- Do you have the necessary qualifications?

Some random advice

- Consider taking a break
- Opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills
- Your area of research for your Masters need not dictate your PhD
- Do your research
- Ask about training and opportunity to teach?

Transition

- Some Schools permit/encourage a smooth transition from Masters to PhD or MPhil
- Local School variation
- One arm of the Transition work at St Andrews is to develop clear and transparent information for students and staff on the process – work in progress

Student Transition at St Andrews

- Principles of transition
 - No double counting of time or work
 - Progression dependent on performance
- PGDip 120 credits taught modules 2 semesters
- MLitt 120 credits taught modules + 60 credit dissertation – 2 semesters plus summer
- MPhil 120 credit taught modules plus long dissertation – 2 semesters plus one year
- PhD 3 or 4 years
- Building blocks

Contact a supervisor – discuss a project



Apply to the University for admission

Make it known to the School that you want to be considered for funding



Search for funding opportunities

Find out how other students are funded; ask supervisor; search online (University, Research Council and Charities)

A SAMPLE E-MAIL FOR A POTENTIAL SUPERVISOR

Dear Professor Smith salutation is title and last name... and the title should be the one they use (Professor or Dr - NEVER Mrs!)

I read your recent publication in the journal [xxxx] about [xxxx] and I was particularly interested in [the methodology you have developed]. give a specific reference and show you have read it by picking out a key point

I am a final year undergraduate working on a similar topic with [name of current supervisor] at the University of [name]. I will complete my degree next summer and I am expected to graduate in the top 5% of my class (I won the class prize last year). Keep details short but talk yourself up with a specific highlight

Although my supervisor suggested I stay for a PhD, she cannot provide funding. Indicates that your supervisor thinks highly of you. Also shows that you need funding, but without asking directly whether Prof Smith has money.

In addition, I would really like to work with you! Move back from money to Prof Smith's ego. Exclamation marks are generally to be avoided, but here it has the effect of lightening the compliment and conveying enthusiasm.

Do you plan to take on students next year? Asking a direct question makes a reply far more likely. This one also allows for the person not to feel bad about sending a negative response ('sorry, I have too many students')

I have attached a copy of a poster I presented at the student Christmas conference.

It is good to show something, but try to avoid an attachment. E.g., paste into the body of an e-mail or make yourself a word-press page with pictures of you and, e.g., a poster or other written work.

I would be grateful for your advice on how to proceed.

Sincerely, Andy use your preferred name

Andy Student give your full name University of the West...

full contact details, including web address, Skype if you use it, Linkedin if you use it etc.)

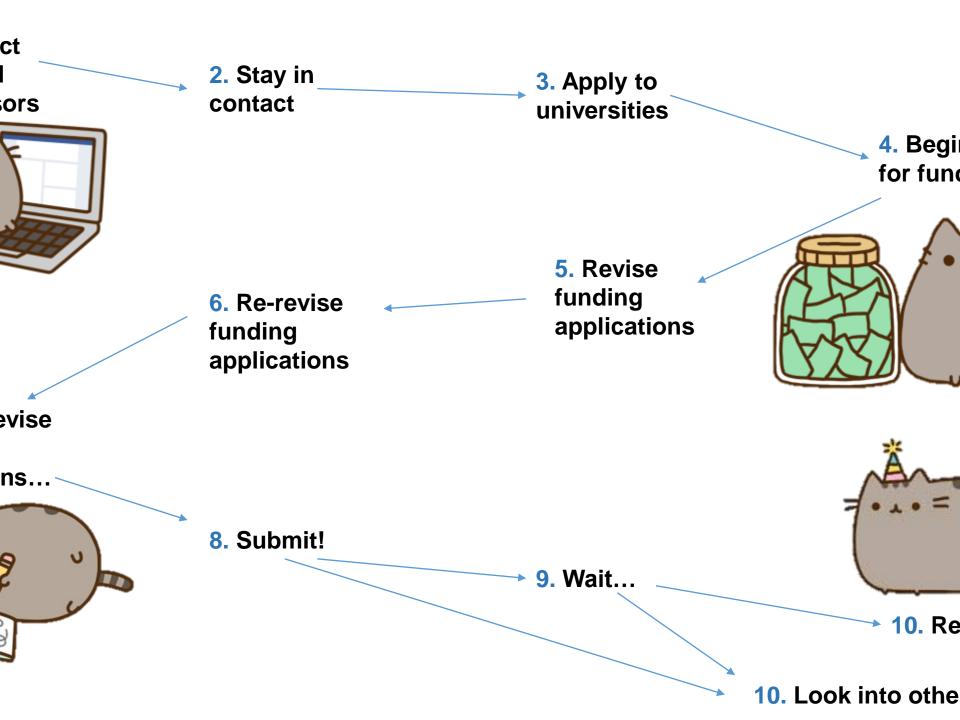
- Looking back
- PhD was the opportunity to spend 3 years totally dedicated and focused on something I was completely passionate about
- Hugely rewarding and the springboard to my career
- Never again in life will you have this luxury
- Life gets in the way and more complicated!

I will be around for questions later

- To take you through one of your first steps
- Finding Funding.....Karen Laing

The First-Year Perspective

Fiona Dakin School of Modern Languages



Once you're in...





A St Andrews PhD Applications and Interviews



Dr. Ben Carter Careers Adviser, Research







WARNING!



15 January 2016: PhD applications deadline for Divinity & International Relations

01 Dec 2015, London!

TARGETpostgrad Study & Funding Fair - Scotland

Events from TARGETjobs and TARGETpostgrad Thursday, 19 November 2015 from 11:00 to 15:00 (GMT) Glasgow, United Kingdom









WARNING!

Resources to be aware of:



Students

Researchers

Alumni Acader

Academics Employers

Videos

About us





Videos

CVs & applications

Interviews & Assessment

Centres

Networking

Postgraduate Study

 Admissions Presentations from US Graduate School

Improve your employability

Careers Sectors

Immigration

Employer Q&A Sessions

Graduate School Sessions

Online Workshops

Diversity & Equality



Admissions Presentations from US Graduate Schools









Other PG study videos here (signup required).

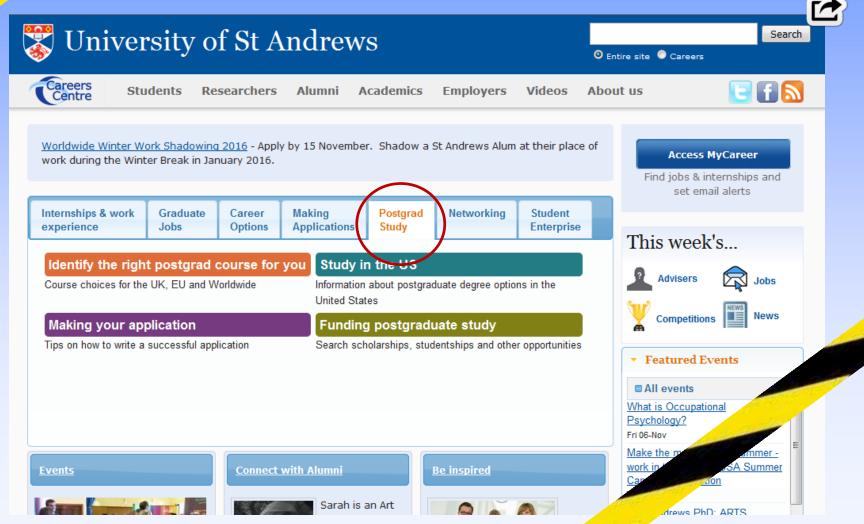
Search for "Postgrad"





WARNING!

Resources to be aware of:



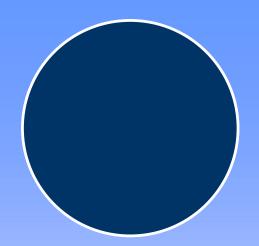




Why a PhD?

A St Andrews PhD application

Interviews, and how to avoid them





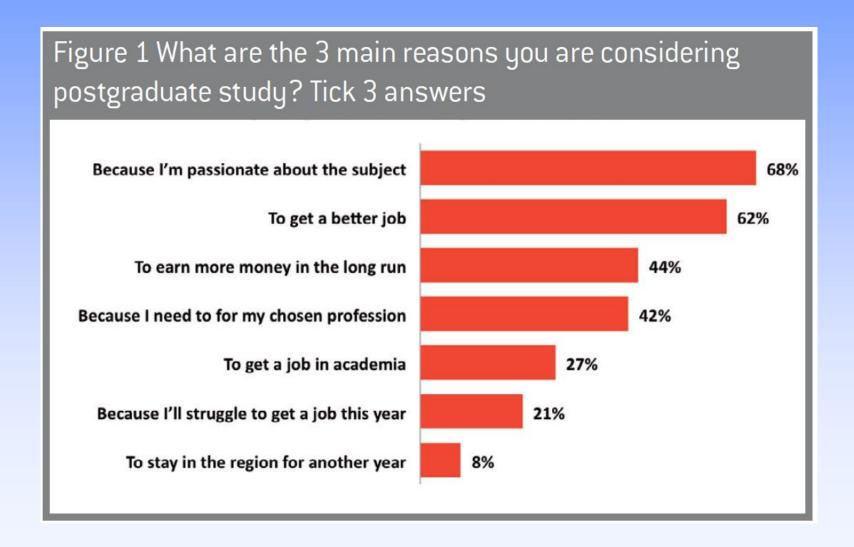


Why take on a PhD?





Reasons for applying







Application nrocess FAO

"Is my St Andrews Master's an advantage?"





Why yes, yes it is indeed.

- Access to supervisors, and their brains
- "Lots of conversations over the year might lead to an application."
- Recent Graduate Discount



Study options

Why St Andrews

Fees and funding

Accommodation

Your future

University > Study at St Andrews > Postgraduate > Fees and funding > Scholarships > Recent graduat

Recent Graduate Discount

In an initiative designed to recognise the loyalty of our students, the University of St Andrews offers a 10% discount in postgraduate tuition fees to students who are eligible to graduate or who have graduated from St Andrews within the last three academic years and are starting a postgraduate programme with the University of St Andrews.

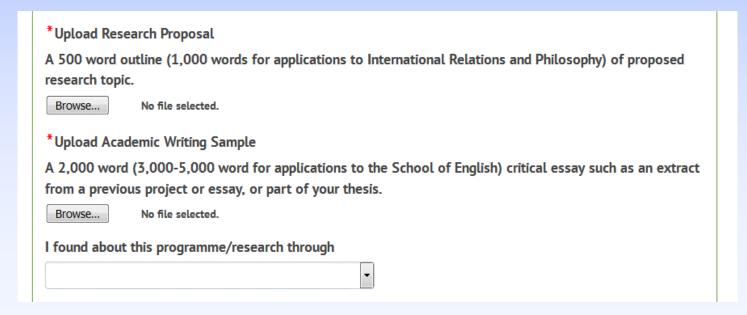
Students who have attended the University within the last three academic years via an Exchange or Study Abroad programme are also eligible for the 10% discount. Students will only be eligible for the discount upon unconditional offer of a place on a postgraduate degree programme.

"Is the PhD application the same as my Master's?"



No. In fact, NO!

- Supervisor rapport is more important:
 - "Expected; Strongly encouraged; Required"
- Research Proposal







That'll be a No.

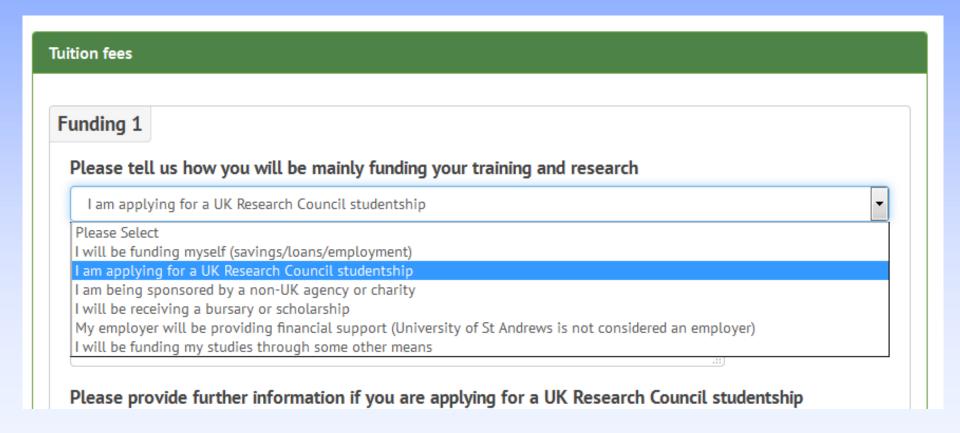
More funding options, but none of them

guaranteed!

tion fees
unding 1
Please tell us how you will be mainly funding your training and research
I am applying for a UK Research Council studentship
Please Select
I will be funding myself (savings/loans/employment) I am applying for a UK Research Council studentship
I am being sponsored by a non-UK agency or charity
I will be receiving a bursary or scholarship
My employer will be providing financial support (University of St Andrews is not considered an employer)
I will be funding my studies through some other means
Please provide further information if you are applying for a UK Research Council studentship Please Select
Please provide details of your funding arrangements More details regarding the option selected above
Profe deans regarding the option selected above











Bursaries and Scholarships		
I will be applying for a scholarship through the University of St Andrews • Yes • No		
Please enter details of the scholarship such as the award scheme or code		
.at		
I will be applying for a bursary or scholarship not administered through the University of St Andrews		
© Yes ● No		







Enter search keywords

Search

Search

Search

School of Classics

e-Vision

iSaint

Library

MMS

Moodle

Pure

Saintmail SAULCAT

Office 365

News

Events

Prospective students

Postgraduate study

Taught programmes:

The MLitt

Research programmes:

The PhD and MPhil

Apply for a place

Fees and Funding

Opportunities

St Leonard's College

Visiting postgraduates

Undergraduate study

Current students

Alumni

Staff

School of Classics > Prospective students > Postgraduate study > Fees and Funding Opportunities > AHRC awards

Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities AHRC-funded PhD Studentship Competition 2016

The Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities is Scotland's consortium for AHRC postgraduate funding.

Students who want to apply for SGSAH funding for the PhD must first have an application for PhD study accepted by one of the Scottish universities, and must then be selected as one of the applicants that university wishes to support. Applicants will normally hold a Masters qualification at the commencement of their doctoral study.

The deadline for SGSAH submission is in February. Anyone who wants to be considered for selection will need to have applied to the School of Classics by **8 January 2016**, so that we have time to look through the applications carefully and work with the applicants we have chosen to support. Ideally we would be keen to hear from prospective applicants before then, by

Postgraduate Visting Day: Wednesday 11th November 2015

- Visit the University and the School.
- Find out about our M Litt programme 2-4pm
- More information

St Andrews is one of the top 50 universities in the world for research and teaching in the Arts and Humanities and among the top 20 for International Outlook, according to the Times Higher World University Rankings 2014/15

St Andrews ranked 2nd equal for research excellence among UK Classics departments in **REF 2014**.









University > Study at St Andrews > Postgraduate > Fees and funding > Scholarships > Research

Scholarships for research postgraduate programmes

St Andrews is committed to attracting the very best students, regardless of financial circumstances. Bursaries and scholarships are designed to provide assistance to help students support themselves during their time at university and also aim to reward academic excellence.

The following is an overview of research postgraduate scholarships currently on offer. Please select where you normally live from the list below.



Contact

Postgraduate Scholarships - Fees and Funding Team

Email: pgscholarships@st-andrews.ac.uk

Phone: \$\infty\$ +44 (0)1334 46 2254

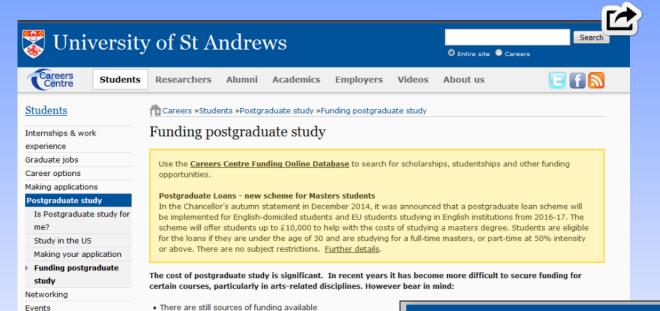
Research council funding





Options-

← FUNDING



You'll need to be persistent in your search.

Funding is allocated for a variety of reasons, not necessarily to t

· Scholarships can be awarded based on type of programme, nati

Funding comes in the form of scholarships, grants, and bursaries,

repay. Read the fine print before you accept an award so that you

Some courses have a small number of scholarships or bursaries att

website, get in touch with the admission tutor for the course and a you can apply for. Check with academic staff in your department to

the area of postgraduate study that you're interested in.

• PostgraduateFunding.com - a comprehensive

Searchable funding databases

Careers Centre FundingOnline

Destinations

Work Shadowing

Funding and Scholarship

Find out what funding opportunities are available to you, search and apply:

- Tuition fee and maintenance scholarships
- Accommodation awards
- Internships

More funds will be made available over the coming weeks, please check-in regularly for updates.

Need more information? Ask a Question. Accessed through iSaint

"Should I change my Personal Statement / CV?"





Yes. Yes! OH YES!

- You have more to offer now (or will have soon)
- More is expected of you
- You have a new project to work towards





Personal Statements



- Why this field? [Avoid "From a young age
- Why us? [Be specific!]
- € Why you?
- What will it mean for your career?
- How will you fund yourself?
- Reference relevant sources

Quick Guide



County study at any love (Diploma, teacher training, Master's, PhD) will require a personal item in a staining your rea ons for applying. Here are some ideas to help you, taken from the property of the prop

Many universities give clear guidance about what they want you to cover in the personal statement. In this case, make sure you follow the instructions carefully. Others are less directive. If this is the case, we suagest you structure your statement around the following six elements:

1. Get the basics right

postgraduate

for

ents

statem

You are selling yourself on paper in your personal statement, so you need to stand out.

- Be concise: somewhere between one and two pages of text is generally enough. Some
 institutions may give you a word limit
- Many statements open with some variation on "From a very young age, I have had a burning interest in...". Try something more memorable – launch into your most inspiring experience with the subject, or your finest hour as a researcher
- You don't need to stick to a rigid timeline of events the order below is for guidance
- Don't be afraid to include journal references, bibliography or links to your own work online, provided they are relevant to the application
- Ask academic staff for their opinion of what makes a good personal statement they probably see a lot of them

2. Why you want to study the particular course you've chosen

Convey your enthusiasm and motivation by covering some of the points below:

- How you first became interested in this field: eg at secondary school or during a particular module in your undergraduate degree
- How you have learned about it: eg through lectures, tutorials, projects, work experience, personal research, dissertation, conversations with academic staff
- What you particularly enjoy about the subject
- How work experience or an internship has inspired you to learn more about the subject

3. Why you want to study at the institution you've selected

Things you could write about in this paragraph include:

- The reputation of the particular course
- The academics there who are well-known in the field you're interested in mention if you've read any of their work, and cite your sources
- Specific academic staff there that you want to do research with
- Academic staff teaching on the course that you're keen to study with
- How the institution offers the right course content and structure for you: eg modules, projects dissertations, placements, fieldwork
- How the institution would provide a contrast to where you did your undergraduate degree: eg larger, more specialised
- Networks of contacts which the institution can provide
- Facilities and resources that the institution offers eg research equipment, libraries
- General benefits of the location

University of St Andrews Careers Centre 6 St Mary's Place, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9UY [t] 01334 462688 [e] <u>careers@st.andrews.ac.uk</u>



Should focus on your academic suitability, with any other relevant experience, awards etc mentioned.

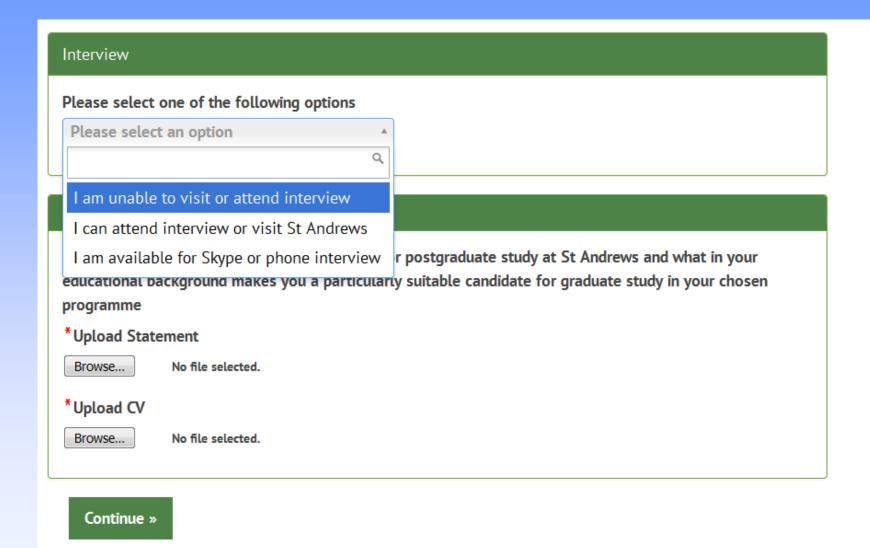




Academic Interviews









"What will they ask me?"

- Why this?
- € Why us?
- € Why you?
- Oh, and a bunch of technical questions
- Can you direct your own research?
- Have you done the reading?
- What will you do next?
- "Do you have any questions for us?"



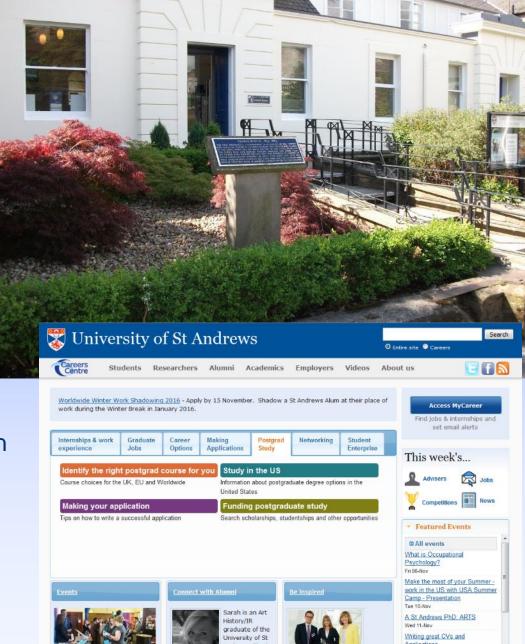








- 6 St Mary's Place, KY16 9UY
- Opposite the Student Association
- 6 24 on the Campus Map
- www.st-andrews.ac.uk/careers





A St Andrews PhD Where do PhDs go?



Dr. Ben Carter Careers Adviser, Research







WARNING!

Resources to be aware of:

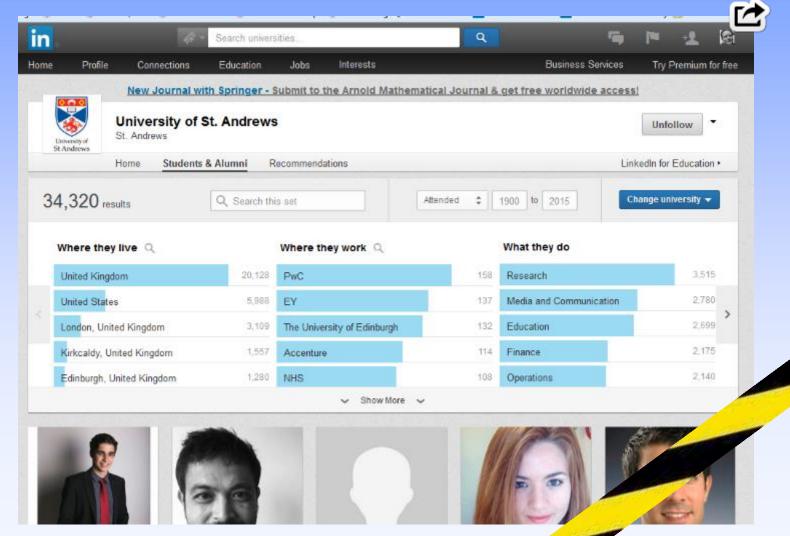
Survey @2013-14	DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS FROM HIGHER EDUCATION ®		
©2012-13 ©2011-12 School All Department All Qualification Level Postgraduate Rest	9.4% 5.8%	Full-time work Part-time work Primarily in work and also studying Primarily studying Full-time study Part-time study Due to start work Unemployed Other (e.g. taking ti	Based on data from 117 respondents
Course All Gender	Of those in employment - Full-time work, Primarily wo	Of those in futher study	
All Nationality	Employment locations	72.0% in UK	10.8% OtherEU 17.2% Non-
♥Other EU ▼Rest of the World (incl. China & USA)	Types of roles	97% Professional Role	3% Non Role
	Average salary for professio (Full-time work / primarily in work	onal roles (UK employment locations): £30000 (£10000 - £6500 and also studying)	20) B sta provided by 35 respondents





WARNING!

Resources to be aware of:

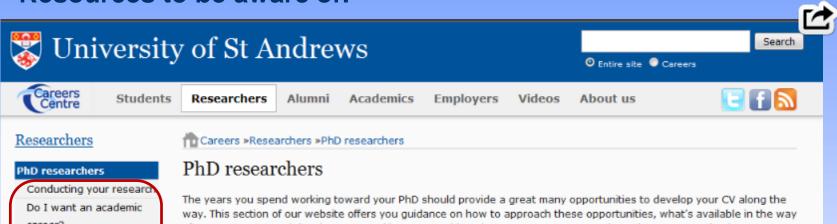






WARNING!

Resources to be aware of:



career? Alternatives to academia Meta-academic careers

Support and career development

Contract research staff

of career support and development, and how to consider what comes next once you've written up your thesis.

It can help to think of your PhD studies as your first graduate job. Keep good office hours, present yourself professionally and keep in mind what you might do once you graduate. If you allow your PhD to be just an extension of your student days, you're setting yourself up to fail. Our Students pages will provide you with a wealth of careers advice, but some of the key areas specific to your PhD can be found in this section.

St Leonard's College

As a research postgraduate, you are part of the university's St Leonard's College, the central institution for all students enrolled on postgraduate study courses. The St Leonard's website contains additional links and information on the staff and administration behind the college.



Quick links

- . Career Planning for PhDs; ebook from the good people at Jobs.ac.uk
- . An Academic Career talks through the peaks and pitfalls of working in academia
- Surviving a PhD Top 10 Tips; Dr Alex Hope's very sensible thoughts on the st
- The Thesis Whisnerer: an insightful veteran's blog on the rollercoaster of P.

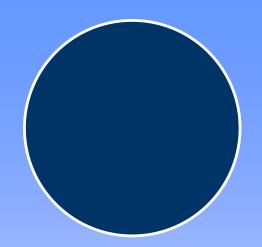




Where next?

What about academia?

Metaacademic careers







What do PhD graduates Gob

Consultant





Theatre Director

Publishing editor

Business development executive

Tutor

Theologian

ARTIST

Author

Freelance writer

lecturer

Postdoctoral researcher

Graphic Design assistant

Community engagement









Career Paths of AHRC funded PhD Students

Final Report

Early career progression of doctoral graduates

Comparative analysis of two

■ Progression

■ Comparison with mast

Researcher career stories

Over 150 career stories from researchers.

Careers stories are personal narratives focused on the experiences and decisions that the story tellers found significant. They offer inspiration and insight into the lives and career decisions of the story tellers. Search Researcher career stories

Search





Career stories on film

Hear researchers talking about their career history and choices



Entrepreneurial researchers

See how researchers have used skills gained during doctoral training to develop careers as entrepreneurs



Mature researchers

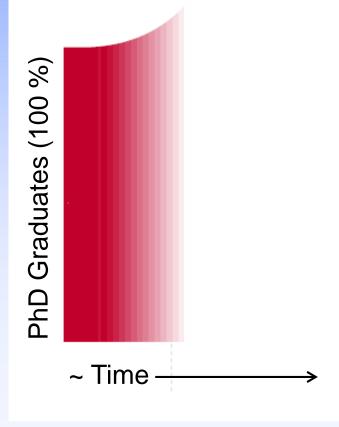
A large proportion of researchers complete doctoral studies after gaining significant work experience

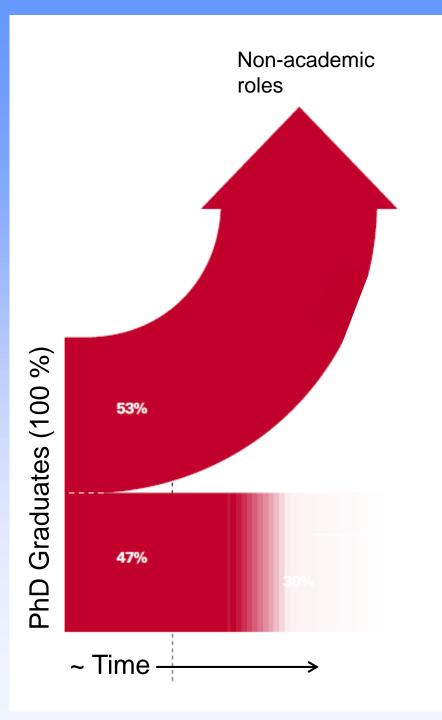


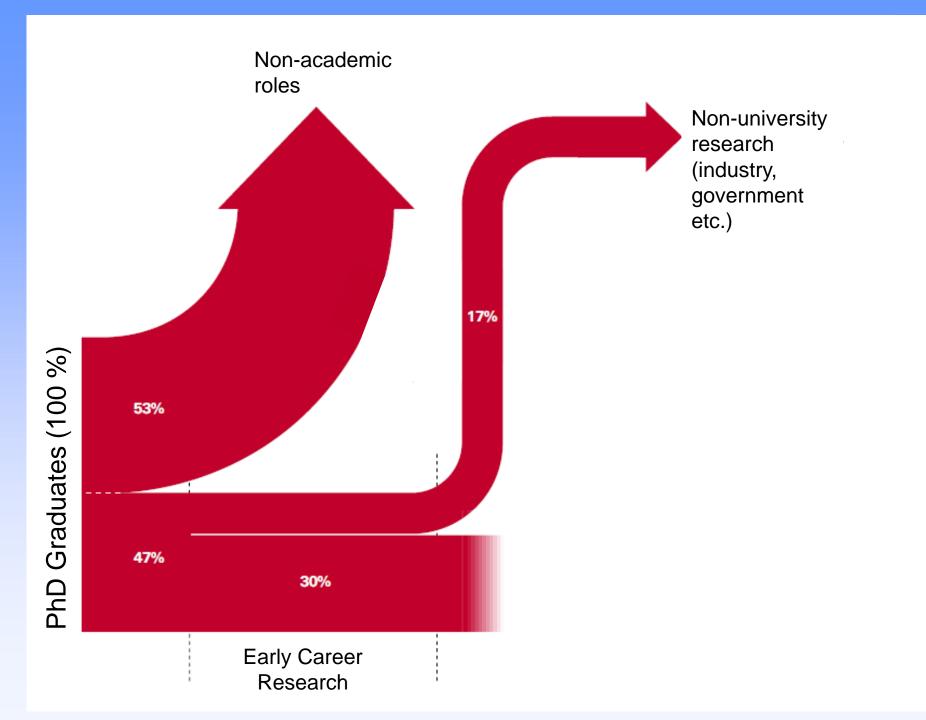


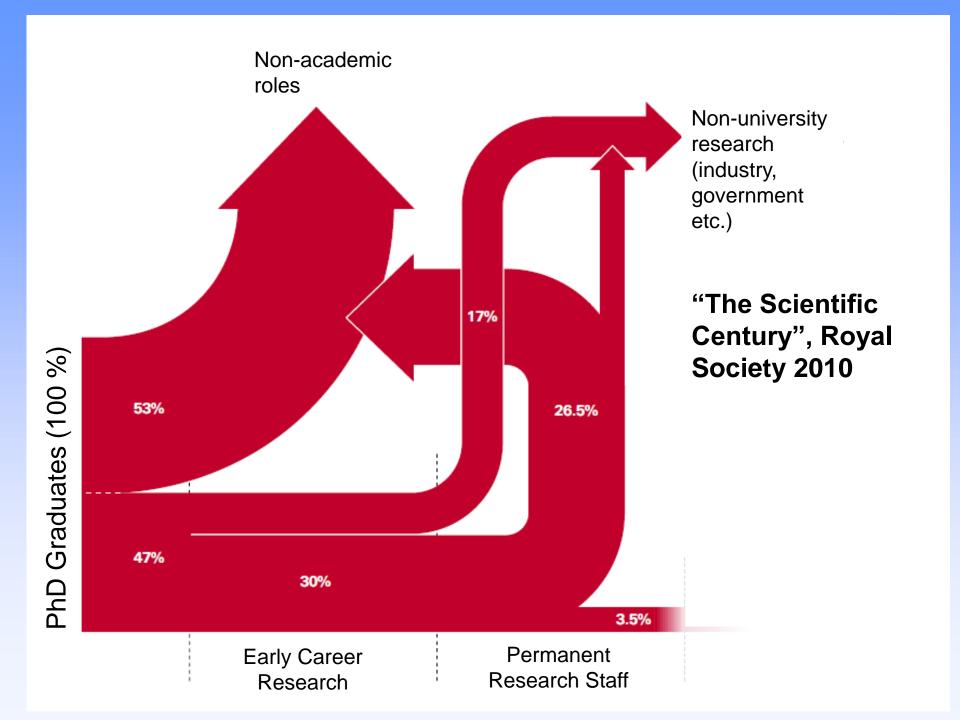


What about academia?













Meta-academic roles

Leveraging your academic experience





Meta-Academic Careers

- 6 "Academic-related" career options:
 - Academic publishing
 - Funding bodies
 [www.topcareer.jobs]





Learned Societies









Meta-Academic Careers

- "Academic-related" career options:
 - Academic support
 - [jobs.ac.uk, Professional/Managerial/Support]
 - Knowledge Exchange
 - **○[AURIL]**
 - [ktp.innovateuk.org]
 - Intellectual Property











Meta-Academic Careers

- "Academic-related" career options:
 - Consultancy
 - [consultancyregister.com]



- Teaching
 - [TeachFirst]
 - ©[researchersinschools.org]



Think Tanks

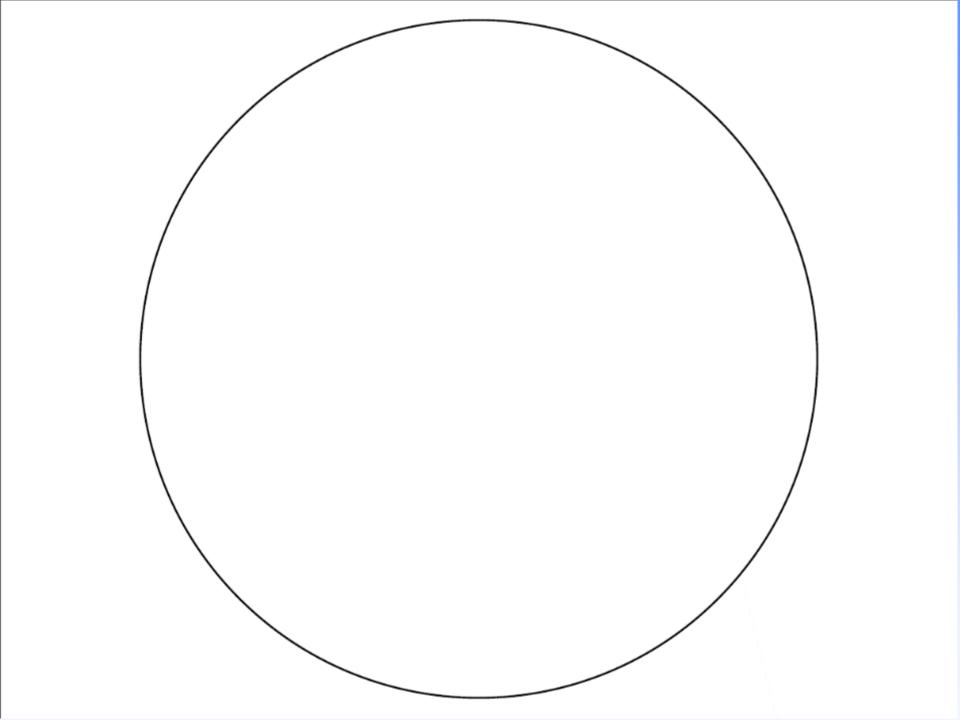


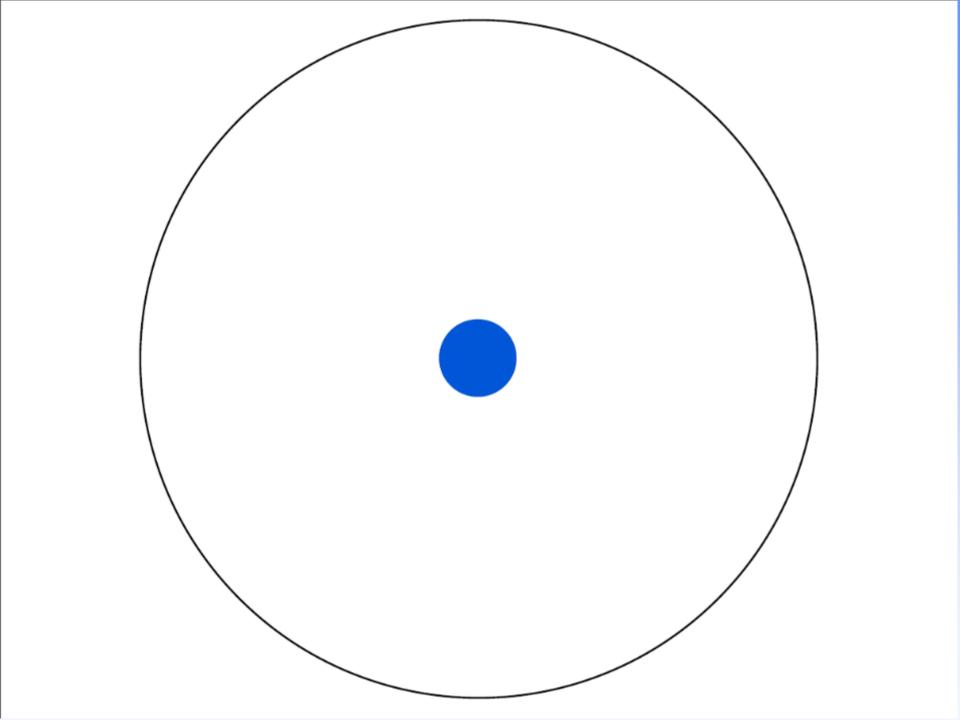


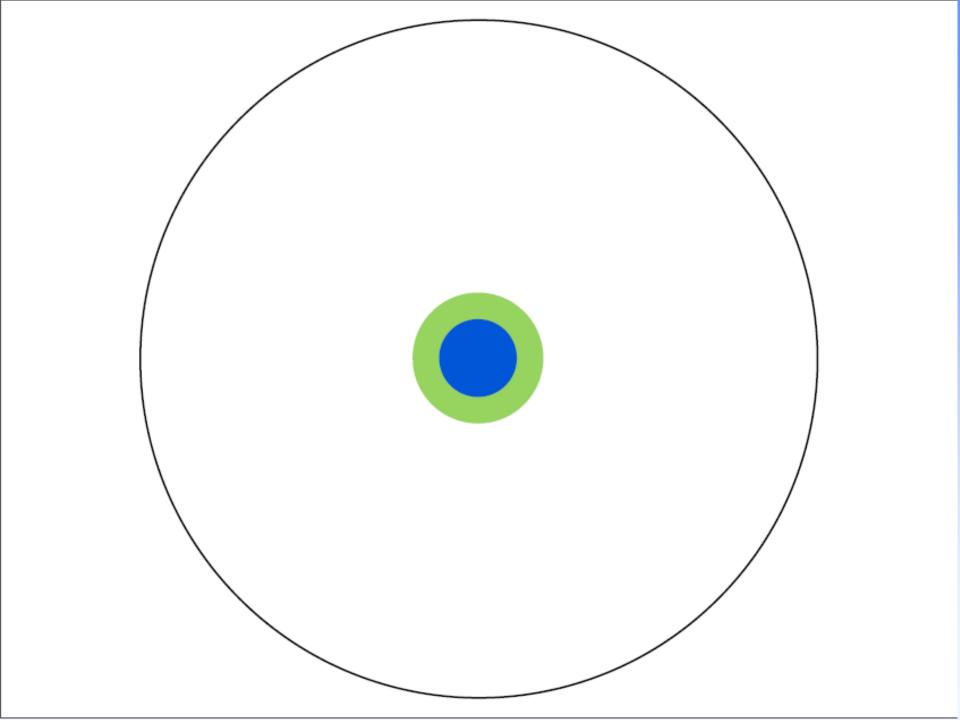


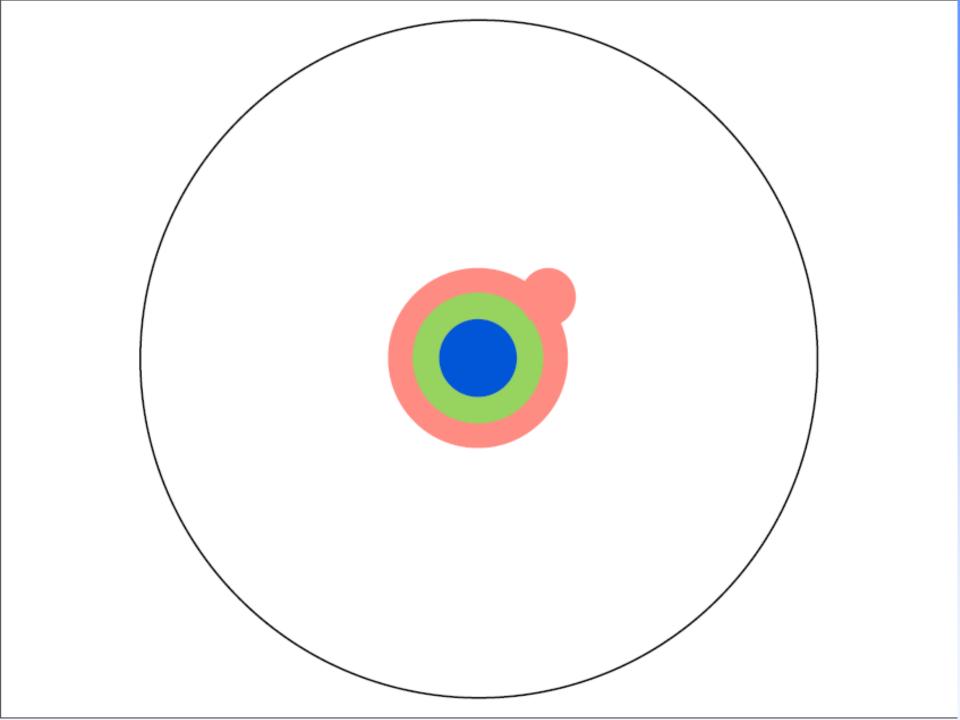
The illustrated guide to a Ph.D.

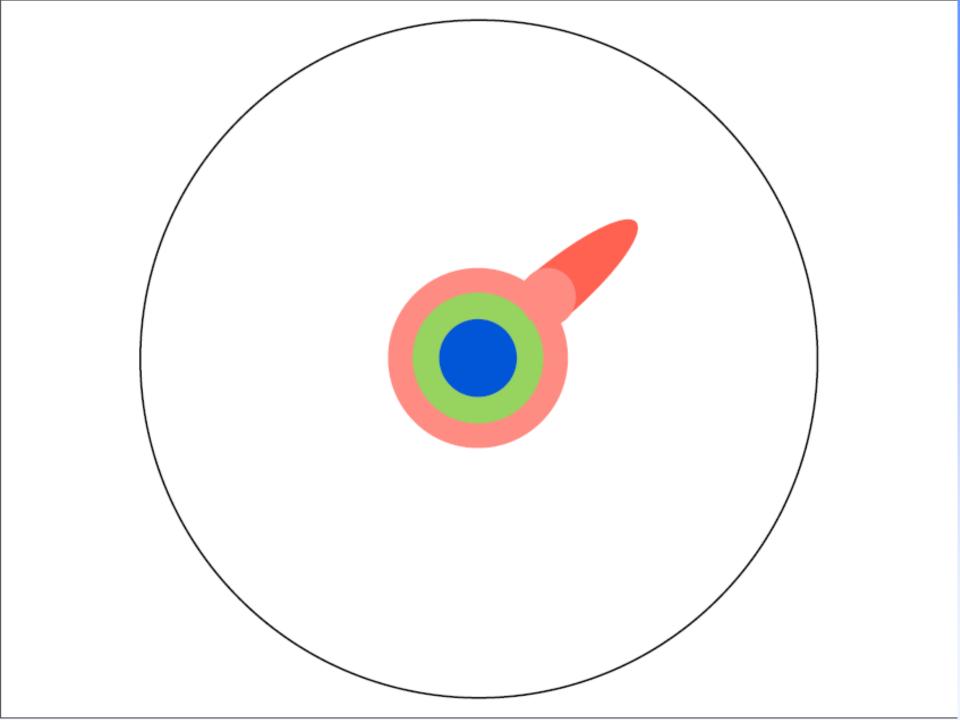
Matt Might matt.might.net

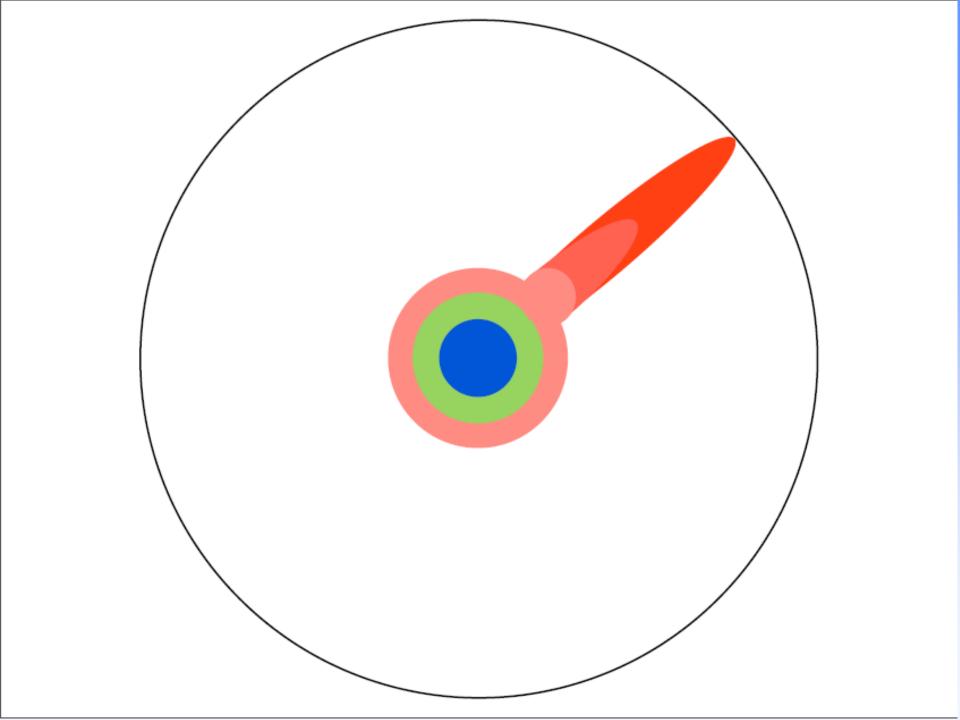


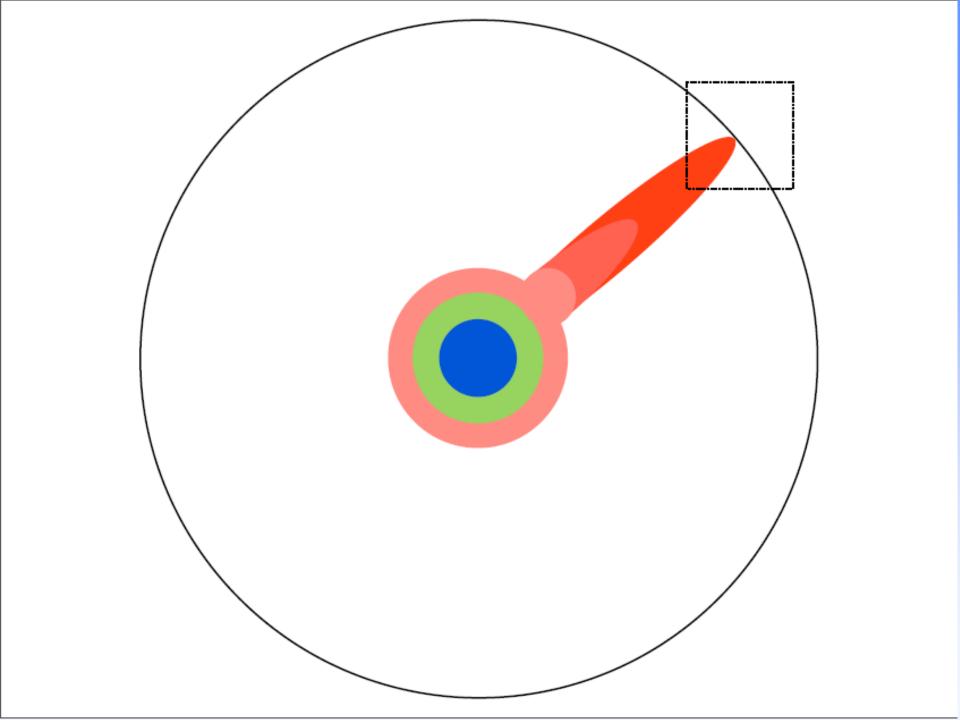


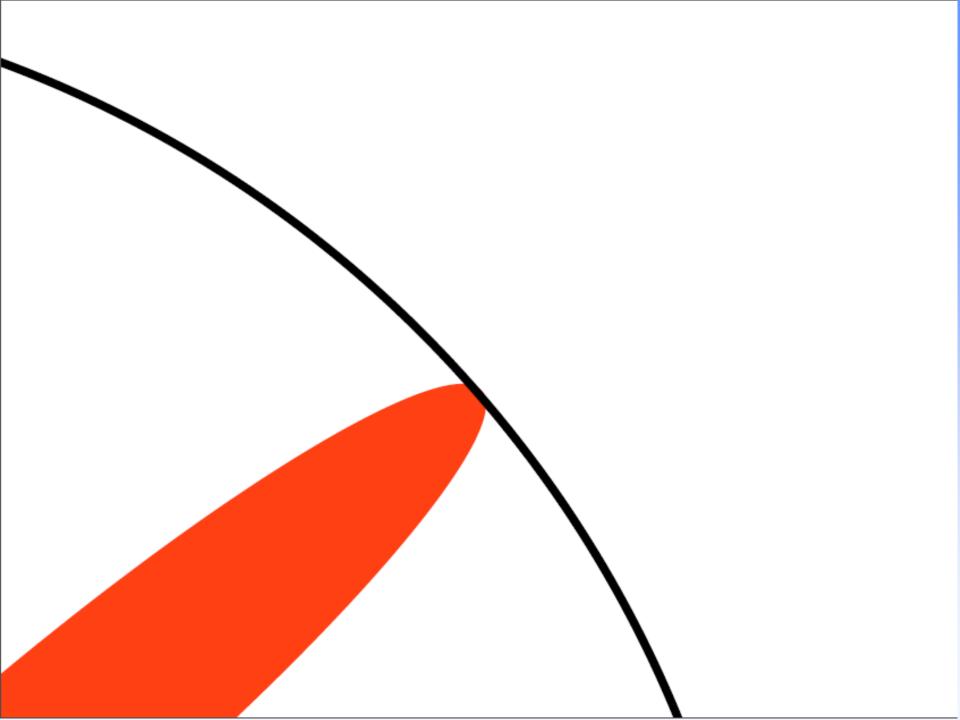


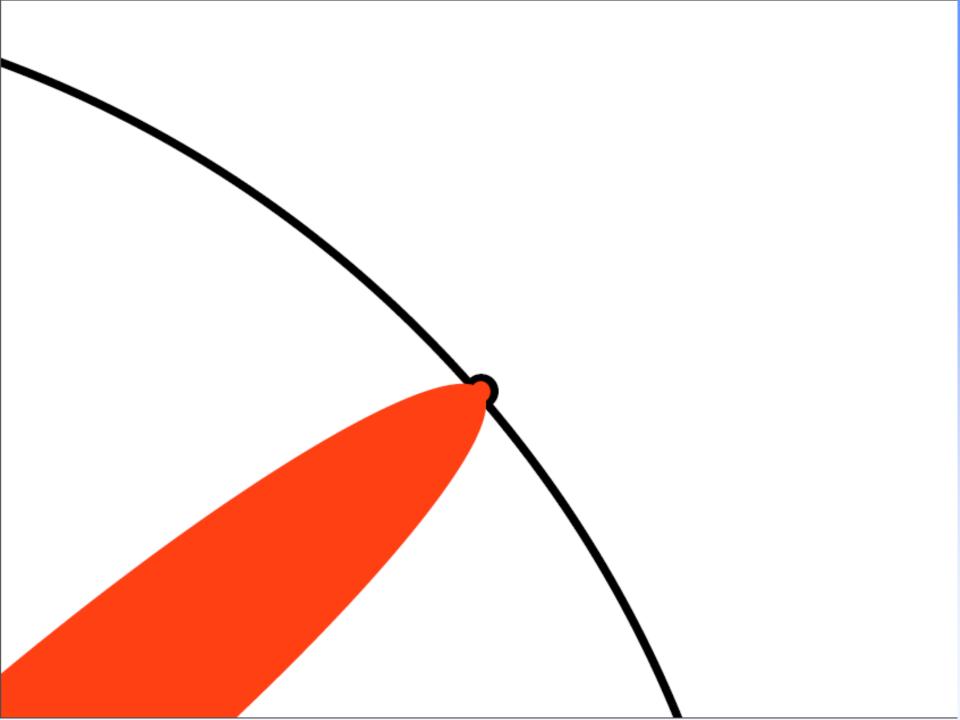


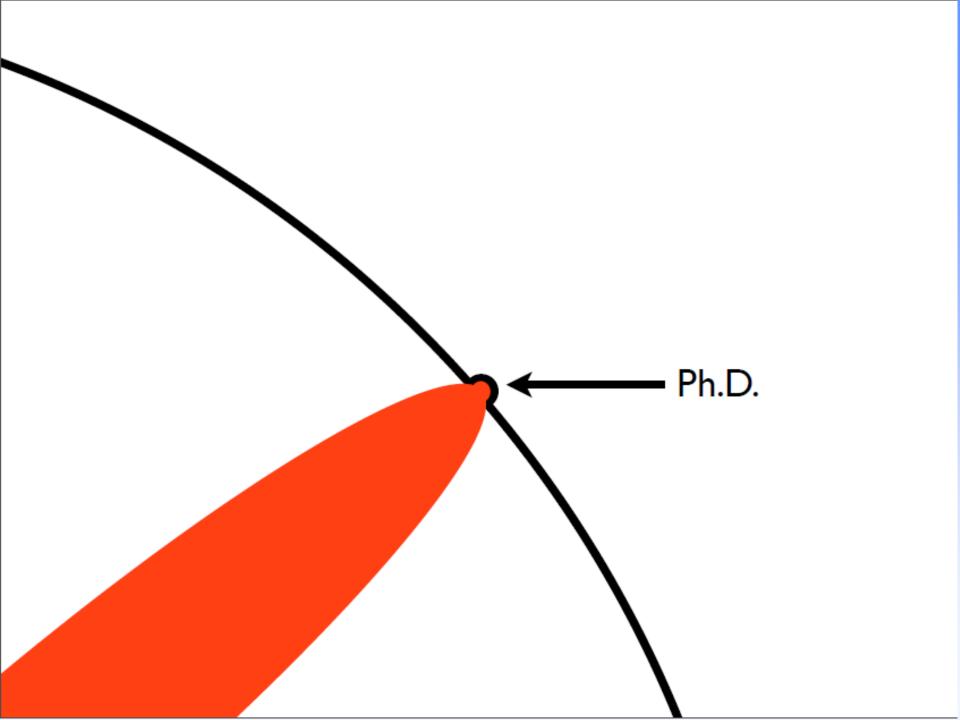


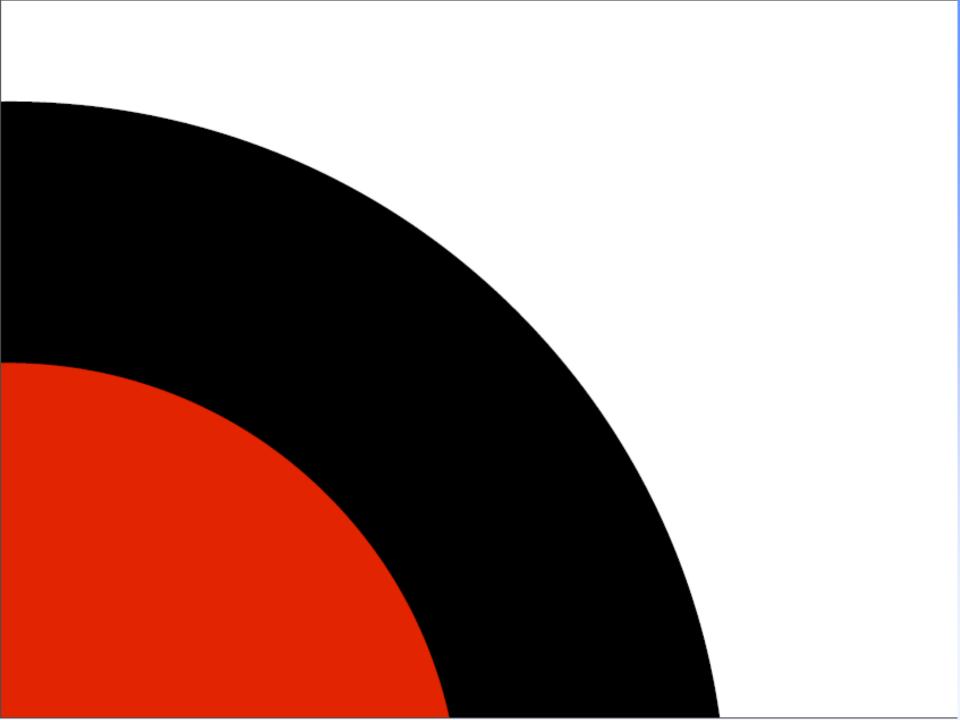


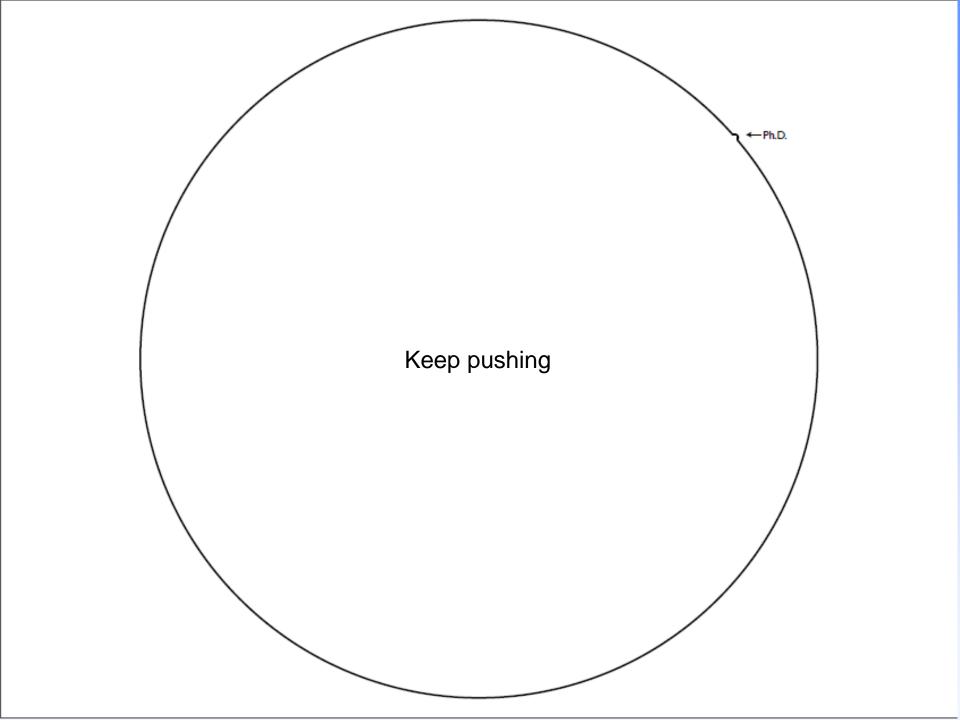
















- 6 St Mary's Place, KY16 9UY
- Opposite the Student Association
- 6 24 on the Campus Map
- www.st-andrews.ac.uk/careers

