Global PhDs at St Andrews

Information for PhD candidates

Interested in pursuing a collaborative PhD with two internationally renowned institutions?

St Andrews offers Global PhD programmes with selected partners in specific subject areas through the Global Office and St Leonard’s College.

Through our Global PhD programmes you can:

- Benefit from the expertise of two co-supervisors with detailed focus in your area of research.
- Learn from two different teaching and research approaches.
- Profit from the research activities and resources of two internationally recognised institutions.
- Gain insights from established research co-operation.
- Develop key skills in two different academic environments.
- Gain eligibility for available Global PhD funding schemes.*

Existing priority partners for PhD research are:

- University of Bonn
- University of Ghent
- Macquarie University
- University of Oslo
- Sapienza, University of Rome
- University of Stirling

See our website for details of eligible subject areas: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study-abroad/collaborations/pg/research/cotutelle-degrees

* Schemes are annual and are limited to determined numbers of awards. Schemes are not guaranteed to run in any particular academic year and will be subject to separate application processes.
How to apply:

• Discuss the project with a supervisor at each institution and seek their agreement to pursue a joint degree.
• At St Andrews, an internal proposal must be submitted by the St Andrews supervisor. Partner institution regulations may also apply.
• Apply to each institution, meeting their entry requirements.

Features:

• Duration will normally be a maximum of three years with a continuation year. With some partners, this may be a standard of four years from the outset.
• You will be registered at both institutions throughout.
• Fees are payable for the periods spent at St Andrews.
• Minimum duration at each partner is twelve months within the first three years.
• Length of thesis will normally be a maximum of 80,000 words.
• The completed thesis should be submitted to both institutions as per normal requirements.
• Examination requirements will be negotiated between the institutions. A viva voce element will normally form part of the exam.
• The award will normally be a single, joint PhD certificate, but may consist of two certificates, each of which will reference the collaboration.
• You can normally graduate only once, at whichever partner you prefer, but if you choose to graduate at the partner, you may also attend a graduation ceremony at St Andrews.

Student testimonials:

“I decided to undertake a co-tutelle to profit from the interactions with the academic environment of both the University of St Andrews and the University of Bonn. This agreement gave me the unique opportunity to be part of a larger research group that goes beyond the limitation of a single country.”
Stefano, PhD in Philosophy

“I have undertaken a co-tutelle between La Sapienza and St Andrews. I chose a joint PhD programme because it is an opportunity to vary and broaden my research perspectives. The co-operation between the two universities is benefitting my work by giving it a more comprehensive angle.”
Elena, PhD in Classics

“I know I am receiving the best possible education in both aspects of my project, whilst also building a network of colleagues across both universities.”
Aubrie, PhD in Biology

“I decided to undertake a co-tutelle because it provided the opportunity to work under the supervision of two experts in my research area, as well as gaining access to two institutions working on similar projects. This meant expanding my learning opportunities, research network and generally enriching the experience.”
Adrian, PhD in Psychology

“The School of History (at St Andrews) gives me a great historical education with new research perspectives. It fits perfectly with my future department in Bonn and complements the theoretical base of my work. Without the co-tutelle, I would never have encountered these broad perspectives of my subject. Another advantage as a doctoral student is the opportunity to gain teaching experience in two different countries and languages which will be very advantageous to my CV.”
Marcel, PhD in History

See our website for more details on the specifics of programmes and how to apply:
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study-abroad/collaborations/pg/research/cotutelle-degrees

Please contact the Global Office at: globalphds@st-andrews.ac.uk with any queries.