

Pre-PhD Preparation Programme

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PhD

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The course consists of a series of workshops together with one-to-one sessions. Our tutors have many years of experience in helping students at this level of study and understand exactly what is required for a successful application. Comprehensive study materials accompany the workshops helping you to work effectively between workshop sessions in developing your own proposal.

By the end of the course, students will:

- 1) Have developed their understanding of different aspects of research methods;
- 2) Have developed a range of skills to successfully apply for PhD study at universities in different countries;
- 3) Have completed an appropriate and viable research proposal;
- 4) Be able to defend the proposal at an interview.

IFG will supply each student with a reference to accompany their application to the chosen university. The reference will comment on the proposal, the teaching and learning of the student during the PhD preparation course and the ability of the student to articulate his or her proposal.

Length of course: 12 weeks

Entry Requirements: Academic qualifications which meet university requirements for PhD study, typically these will include a Master's degree and an English language level equivalent to 6.0 or 6.5 IELTS

Intake dates: January, April, July, September

Additional English language support is available either before or during the course.

Workshop topics include:

- 1) Initial research into universities and suitable research topics
- 2) Literature review searches
- 3) Quantitative and qualitative research methods
- 4) Preparing a qualitative interview check list
- 5) Preparing a quantitative research survey instrument
- 6) Developing research questions and objectives
- 7) Developing a conceptual framework
- 8) Contribution to knowledge and Originality
- 9) Tentative methodology and justification of research design
- 10) Defending your proposal at an interview
- 11) Preparing a PhD application