



ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Global PhD leading to Doctor of Philosophy

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

These Regulations were formally approved by Senate in June 2025 for implementation for students entering the award from October 2025 onwards; they are binding on staff and students across Liverpool Hope University.

These Regulations constitute a supplement to the Liverpool Hope Postgraduate Research Regulations and relate to the Global PhD, leading to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Its content is relevant to staff and students the definitive set of general precepts according to which the University requires research degrees to operate. The Code of Practice supplements the formal regulations by providing detailed guidance on a variety of issues including a commentary on how the regulations are to be interpreted as appropriate.

1 Routes covered by the Regulations

This supplement applies to all Global PhDs that lead to the Doctor of Philosophy at FHEQ Level 8 across all Faculties of the University. Global PhDs are offered jointly by Liverpool Hope and an agreed partner institution.

2 Cohorts covered by the Regulations

- 2.1 These Regulations will apply to students who register for the Global PhD from October 2025.
- 2.2 The Regulations for the Global PhD are the same as those which govern Liverpool Hope Doctor of Philosophy awards except where the following requirements modify or supplement them.

3 Eligibility for Initial Registration

- 3.1 For admission to a Global PhD successful applicants will apply to, and meet the requirements of, both Liverpool Hope University and the Global partner institution. It is important to note that the processes and requirements of the two institutions may differ but both must be met in order for the application to be successful. The students will register at both universities for the duration of the programme. The fee structure will reflect the shared supervision.
- 3.2 Immigration requirements of the UK and the partner country, including the associated costs, must be met.
- 3.3 The applicant must submit a research proposal in consultation with their proposed supervisors at both institutions. The proposal should demonstrate the complementary strengths of both institutions and outcome how co-supervision will be managed. The applicant must gain approval for the research area and project title from the PVC Research at Liverpool Hope and from their counterpart at the Partner University.

- 3.4 The Code of Practice provides further guidance governing the admissions process, including timelines for processing applications and the criteria for judging whether a student is suitable for admission to this PhD programme.

4 Duration of the Programmes

4.1 Durations

- 4.1.1 The Global PhD may be studied on a full-time basis only (due to visa requirements) over an expected duration of four years. The maximum completion period for any research degree programme is the expected duration plus one academic year. Candidates are required to spend the first two academic years at the Partner University and the final two years of their studies at Liverpool Hope. This minimises travel costs and enables periods of consolidated study. Flexible arrangements can be made for study blocks as appropriate to the project.
- 4.1.2 Extensions to the maximum duration can be granted only by the Chair of Senate following a recommendation from the Continuation and Award Board for Postgraduate Research students.
- 4.1.3 Students are expected to register with both institutions at the start of their studies and again at the start of each academic year unless local requirements in the partner dictate otherwise.

5. The Appointment of Supervisors and Examiners

5.1 Supervisors

- 5.1.1 Supervisors will be appointed at both Liverpool Hope and the partner institutions ensuring well rounded academic support.
- 5.1.2 Regular supervisory meetings will be conducted via video conferencing platforms to maintain continuous support and communication.
- 5.1.3 Students are expected to complete the Liverpool Hope Postgraduate Research Skills programme, with consideration given to any equivalent programmes at the partner.

5.2 Internal Examiners and External Examiners

- 7.2.1 Examiners will be appointed by Liverpool Hope in accordance with its Regulations and Code of Practice. Examiners will also be appointed by the partner in accordance with their regulations and conventions.

6. Review of Progress

- 6.1 Events such as Annual Monitoring (AMR) and Confirmation of Registration (CRE) must be undertaken collaboratively by Hope and the partner institution. The lead institution in the partnership will take responsibility for the arrangements for these important progress review points.
- 6.2 Before a student may move forward from study with the partner to Liverpool Hope they must demonstrate satisfactory progress.

7. Assessment of the Thesis, and Eligibility for Awards

7.1 Summary of Procedures

- 7.1.1 Liverpool Hope University will liaise with the partner institution to agree thesis submission requirements in advance. An identical copy of the thesis must be submitted to both Liverpool Hope and the partner institution.
- 7.1.2 Assessment will normally be in English.

- 7.1.3 Candidates will be required to undertake an examination that meets the agreed requirements of each partner.
- 7.1.4 The examination of the thesis will include internal and external examiners appointed by both institutions so that an outcome can be agreed jointly. Where the institutional requirements are such that one viva is not possible a second examination will be arranged as required by institutional policy. A final outcome will be reached following the examinations following a meeting of the Chairs of the individual examination panels.
- 7.1.5 Arrangements for thesis preparation, assessment of the thesis and eligibility for award will be released to the student well in advance.

8. Graduation

- 8.1 Graduates may choose to attend graduation ceremonies at either Liverpool Hope or the partner institution, or both.
- 8.2 The final award will be a joint degree certificate bearing the insignia of both Liverpool Hope and the partner to emphasis the collaborative nature of the PhD.