

# PhD Opportunity

Examining Adaptations in Case Study Development to Enhance Participant Centred Learning in Management Education

**Supervisory team**

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**Research Group:** [Worcester-Business-School-Research](#)

**The PhD Opportunity**

The University places a significant value on collaboration in learning and Worcester Business School, like other schools across the University, has built its strong reputation as a learning community invested in management education, on the delivery of opportunities for learning through collaboration and participation, working and co-creating with students.

For more than 100 years, the case study method lies at the very heart of participant centred learning and has been adapted widely for use in management education across all scholarly levels, and within business schools and management centres across all continents.

This research proposal focusses on examining contemporary adaptations to the case method as a pedagogical tool for participant centred learning in a post-covid context, which extends its use to embrace learning in online and hybrid/hyflex contexts as well as in face-to-face delivery.

The research proposes to evaluate the impact of these adaptations to teaching and learning in management education and including professional education. One specific area of examination for this research would be how future digital case studies could be designed, especially when employed in highly interactive and immersive learning environments such as Virtual Reality (VR).

## Application Process

To begin the application process please go to <https://www.worc.ac.uk/courses/business-mphilphd> and click on 'How to Apply' in the top menu. This PhD could be carried out on a part time or full time basis so please select the relevant application link. On the application form, please make it clear that you are applying for one of our advertised projects so we can direct it straight to the relevant people.

## The Interview

All successful applicants will be offered an interview with the proposed Supervisory Team. You will be contacted by a member of the Research School Team to find a suitable date. Interviews can be conducted in person or over Microsoft Teams.

## Funding your PhD

For more information about Doctoral Loans please visit:

<https://www.worc.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/doctoral-loans.aspx>

During your PhD you can access the Research Student Support Scheme to support dissemination costs associated with your research, up to £500 a year.

## Research at the University of Worcester

Research is central to the University's mission to make a difference in everything that we do. We are committed to delivering excellent research which extends the boundaries of human knowledge but which also improves people's lives by enabling better health outcomes, improving food security, developing environmentally sustainable solutions for crop production and socially sustainable solutions to our ageing population, enhancing public knowledge and understanding of the past and present.

The University hence focuses its research around five high-level challenges facing society, locally, nationally and globally:

- [Human Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Sustainable Futures](#)
- [Digital Innovation](#)
- [Culture, Identity and Social Exclusion](#)
- [Professional Education](#)

The success of our research is reflected in our continuous improvement in external research assessment processes. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, REF 2021, the University saw a near 50% increase in the scale of its research and 12% increase in quality, building on its performance in REF 2014 when it was the UK's most improved university in terms of Research Power, a combination of scale and quality.

## Research Degrees at Worcester

Our research students are central to our overall mission for research. They are working at the cutting edge of their disciplines and driving forward the quality of our research whilst enriching our research culture. We are looking to increase our research student numbers as a strategic imperative.

Our commitment to our students is reflected in the results of the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey 2023 in which we ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> for overall research student satisfaction nationally. Key to our success in this area is the Research School, a focal point for all our research students.

It provides:

- day-to-day support for our students, both administrative and practical, through our dedicated team
- a Research Student Study Space with both PCs and laptop docking station
- a comprehensive Researcher Development Programme for students and their supervisors
- a programme of student-led conferences and seminars

### Participant Centred Learning in Management Education Research Group

Participant Centred Learning in Management Education Research Group vision is to promote participant centred learning in management education through impactful collaborative research focussing on how we understand and deliver impactful teaching and learning in management education and how new signature pedagogies are emerging to re-imagine learner development in new management contexts.

The main area of focus for this group examines complex pedagogical questions involving learning, approaches to management education and the learner experience.

### Widening Participation

As part of its mission statement the University is committed to widening participation for its higher degrees. Although most candidates will have an undergraduate and/or a Masters degree, the University is happy to accept applications from candidates with relevant professional qualifications and work related experience.

**For further information** or an informal discussion on this project, please contact Dr Scott Andrews (Director of Studies) via email at [s.andrews@worc.ac.uk](mailto:s.andrews@worc.ac.uk)

