

Bangor University's School of Arts, Culture and Language, invites applications for a PhD research scholarship in the field of Bilingualism. This scholarship is funded by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol and Bangor University. The research project is entitled *Confidence in teaching and learning pronunciation: developing pronunciation training for Welsh for Adults*

Overview:

Welsh learners are crucial for increasing the number of Welsh speakers, and to increase the use of the Welsh language in communities. But adults learning Welsh may face issues with credibility when speaking Welsh, especially with pronunciation. Understanding the needs of tutors and learners teaching and learning to pronounce is important to build learners' confidence and facilitate their use of Welsh in the community. The main aim of the project is to investigate the impact of phonetics and pronunciation training for tutors and adults in Wales learning Welsh as a second language.

In particular, this project will investigate what kind of training tutors need to build confidence in teaching about pronunciation, as well as what kind of phonetic training would be able to improve learners' production. The project will consider the impact of different learners' backgrounds (i.e. what the impact of the first language, or dialect of the first language) on learning specific sounds and prosody of Welsh. The project will combine qualitative and quantitative methods to discover solutions to the project objectives.

We offer supervision from internationally recognised academics able to support and guide you through your research on bilingualism in the Department of Linguistics, English Language and Bilingualism.

Applications are invited from exceptional candidates with a first class or strong upper second class honours degree, or appropriate Master's degree. The University values diversity and equality at all levels and encourages applications from all sections of the community, irrespective of age, disability, sex, gender identity, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. In line with our commitment to supporting and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion, and to increase recruitment of currently underrepresented groups, applications from Black British, Asian British, minority ethnicity British and mixed race British candidates are particularly encouraged and welcomed.

We welcome applications for both full and part-time study for a period of three years full time doctoral study (or the part time equivalent) depending on the needs of the applicant.

Applications welcomed by 12:00 GMT on Friday 18 August 2023

Further information

WHAT THE STUDENTSHIP WILL COVER

The Scholarship is financially equivalent to the postgraduate scholarships of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). The scholarship provides finance to pay for the student's tuition fees (£4,712 for 2023/24) and maintenance grant (18,622 for 2023/24). The successful student will also be expected to undertake some Welsh medium teaching work in the School of Arts, Culture and Language as a condition of the Scholarship. For full details regarding this scholarship please follow:

<https://colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/students/postgraduate-studies/research-scholarships/>

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications / strengths

Essential

- An upper second / first class degree in Linguistics or another field relevant to the research project
- The ability to speak and write Welsh fluently
- A genuine interest in matters concerning the pronunciation and acquisition of a second language.
- The diligence required to complete a PhD through research within the time period of the scholarship.
- The ability to fulfil Welsh medium teaching duties in the School Arts, Language and Culture

Ideally

- Having completed or about to complete a master's degree in Linguistics or relevant field
- An interest in issues relating to teaching Welsh for Adults
- Background or knowledge in the field of bilingualism, or the ability to learn about the field quickly
- Background or knowledge of phonetics / phonology, or the ability to learn about research methods quickly
- Knowledge of the Praat programme for speech analysis
- Experience of data gathering from human participants
- Previous teaching experience

Where can I find more information?

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol creates training and study opportunities in Welsh by working with further education colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers and employers.

The College aims to build a Welsh and bilingual training and education system open to all and to develop bilingual workforces.

The Research Scholarships scheme sponsors students to study towards a doctorate. The scheme aims to promote and develop scholarship, research and publication through the medium of Welsh and to foster world-class researchers.

For further details of the College's work, please visit its website: <https://colegcymraeg.ac.uk/myfyrwyr/astudio-ol-raddedig/ysgoloriaethau-ymchwil/> ”

For details about the School of Arts, Language and Culture, please follow this link <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/arts-culture-language/dlelb/research>

For further details about the project, please contact Dr Sarah Cooper <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/staff/arts-culture-language/sarah-cooper-016287/en> (s.cooper@bangor.ac.uk / 01248 388883).

ASSESSMENT

The closing deadline for applications is 12:00 GMT on Tuesday 28th June 2023

Short-listed applicants will be invited to interview. Interviews are expected to take place in July 2023.

After interview, a final short-list of applicants will be put forward to a Panel which final decisions with regard to studentship awards will be made. In most cases successful applicants can expect to hear by the beginning of August 2023.

HOW TO APPLY

A **completed** application form for admission to doctoral study in Bangor University: submitted to

https://www.bangor.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/research/apply_research.php.en by the above deadline. Incomplete Applications or applications received after this specified time will not be accepted.

The application **must** contain the following documents:

1. **Covering letter:** Please address to your proposed supervisor. The covering letter must set out your reasons and motivation for applying to study at Bangor University, and studying Bilingualism; your understanding, and expectations of doctoral study; and your academic interests generally, and particularly of those relating to your proposed research. The covering letter should be no more than two pages.
2. **Academic / Professional Qualifications:** Where appropriate, this should also include proof of English Language Competency (see institutional entry requirements).
3. **References:** All applications require two academic references to be submitted in support. Candidates must approach referees themselves and include references with their

application.

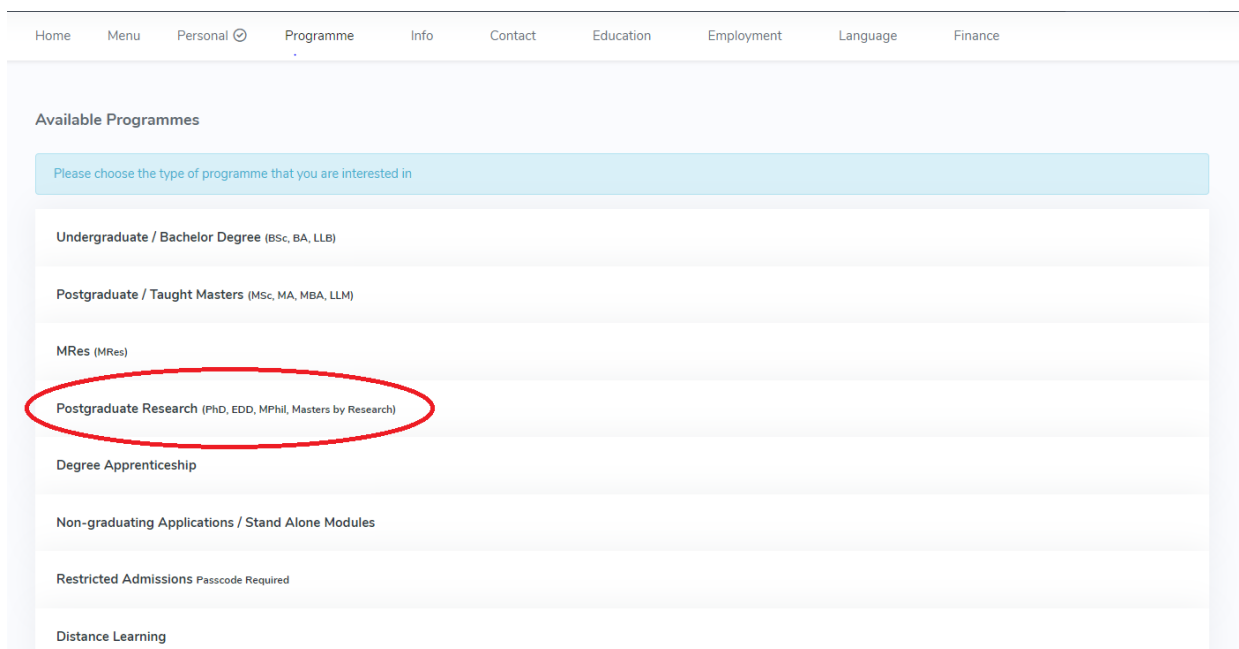
4. **Curriculum Vitae:** It should be no longer than two pages.

5. **Research Proposal:** The proposal should be up to a *maximum* of 1000 words, not including bibliographic references. We suggest that you use the following five headings in your research proposal:

- Title, aims and purpose of the research;
- Brief overview of the academic literature relevant to your field;
- Proposed design/methods;
- Academic contributions of your research.
- Bibliographic References

HOW TO APPLY: GUIDANCE NOTES

In the online application system, Under the **Programmes tab**, please select '**Postgraduate Research (PhD, EDD, MPhil, Masters by Research)**'



Home Menu Personal ⓘ Programme Info Contact Education Employment Language Finance

Available Programmes

Please choose the type of programme that you are interested in

- Undergraduate / Bachelor Degree (BSc, BA, LLB)
- Postgraduate / Taught Masters (MSc, MA, MBA, LLM)
- MRes (MRes)
- Postgraduate Research (PhD, EDD, MPhil, Masters by Research)**
- Degree Apprenticeship
- Non-graduating Applications / Stand Alone Modules
- Restricted Admissions Passcode Required
- Distance Learning

Then select '**Bangor University advertised studentship**'

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Postgraduate / Taught Masters (MSc, MA, MBA, LLM)

MRes (MRes)

Postgraduate Research (PhD, EDD, MPhil, Masters by Research)

Your own research project

Bangor University advertised studentship

Degree Apprenticeship

Non-graduating Applications / Stand Alone Modules

Restricted Admissions Passcode Required

Distance Learning

Then select Ysgoloriaeth Ymchwil Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol: *Hyder wrth (a)ddysgu ynganu: datblygu hyfforddiant ynganu ym maes Cymraeg i Oedolion* making sure to add [Sarah Cooper] to the 'Academic Contact' box. Click Add.

For general advice about how to apply and eligibility please contact:
cahb.pg@bangor.ac.uk