Doctoral Studies - PhD in Business
Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick

The Kemmy Business School (KBS) hosts a vibrant research community of PhD scholars and faculty who are leaders in their fields. We research across a wide range of business disciplines and also have a significant engagement in interdisciplinary work. Our PhD scholars are located in a bright, new, custom-designed facility offering a comfortable and productive work environment. We offer both full time and part time options for our PhD, and take applications all year round. Full time PhD programmes typically run for four years, while the part time programme can be scheduled over a longer period. Scholarships are offered annually, and other financial support may also be available.

Job Opportunities

A PhD programme at KBS equips scholars with a range of valuable transferable skills. Our PhD graduates are highly employable in a wide variety of careers in sectors including consultancy, public policy, academia, professional services and a range of industrial sectors.

A Scholars Experience

“There are so many good points about doing your PhD in the KBS, above all the faculty. My supervisors are extremely approachable and always available. I have always found there to be a very relaxed and informal environment which promotes discussion of ideas, where there is no longer the strict one-directional student teacher divide where you are told what to do and how to do it, but more one where you are both researchers exchanging ideas.

The other PhD students are great too. We provide great support for each other and I’m sure I have made long lasting friendships. There are obviously many other great things about doing a PhD in the KBS. The facilities are fantastic such as the trading floor, the arena, the campus as a whole and the surrounding area. These all go without saying. I don’t think that it’s a physical thing that makes the KBS stand out despite the great facilities, but it’s the environment, students and staff. Teaching is also a main element of my own PhD experience. Doing a PhD here certainly gives you the opportunity to learn and challenge yourself. I would definitely recommend doing your PhD in the KBS”.

- Dr Frances Shaw, graduated 2015
PhD scholars work in supportive, peer-based groups and with faculty in focused clusters or themes. Most have teams of two or more supervising faculty, creating a stimulating and intellectually rich environment in which to work. Our PhD programme is a key element of the School’s research culture, and we encourage all our Scholars to take an active role in the life of the School, and to gain appropriate academic skills and experience during their studies. Full details of current research in or clusters, themes and departments, as well as a more information on what we research are available on our website: www.ul.ie/business/research

Programme Structure

KBS offers both a structured and a traditional PhD. The traditional model centres on the research thesis with no requirement to attend taught modules. The structured PhD adds a layer of taught modules in relevant disciplinary and specialist areas. The structured PhD is most suited to full-time study, while the traditional model suits either part-time or full-time scholars.

In both cases, PhD Scholars have access to a range of personal development courses, research seminars featuring international speakers, peer colloquia and other workshops which offer the opportunity to develop presentation skills. Supports are also in place for students following both the structured and traditional models to develop specific skills in academic writing or qualitative and quantitative research methods and to attend conferences to present their work. The mix of such supports is individually designed for each student in collaboration with their supervisors.

Want to know more?

If you are interested in pursuing a PhD at KBS, or would like to know more, email KBSResearch@ul.ie or get in touch with Rebecca or Deirdre. More information on the application process is available on www.ul.ie/business/research

Contact details

Web: www.ul.ie/business/research
Assistant Dean, Research
Dr Deirdre O’Loughlin
Email: Deirdre.OLoughlin@ul.ie
Telephone: 353-61-213375

Email: KBSResearch@ul.ie
Senior Research Administrator
Rebecca Gachet
Email: Rebecca.Gachet@ul.ie
Telephone: 353-61-202256

KEMMY BUSINESS SCHOOL
University of Limerick