THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Introduction to
Postgraduate Study

January 2026

EDINBURGH
extraordinary futures await

Welcome to today's student...

- Carolina

- MSc Data, Inequality & Society

- Colombia

Introducing Scotland

A distinctive culture and country of contrasts

- Steeped in history but modern and progressive

- Scenic countryside - lively cities

- Population of 5.4 million

- Well-connected to major UK cities, Europe and the rest of the world

- Hospitable and welcoming

World-class city

Large enough to offer something for everyone, small enough to feel like home

- Scotland's capital, an irresistible blend of history, beauty and modern city life

- Friendly and diverse multicultural community

- World famous cultural hub, Festival City

- Abundance of parks and green spaces

- Compact and walkable

Living and studying in Scotland / Edinburgh

What's it like to live and study here?
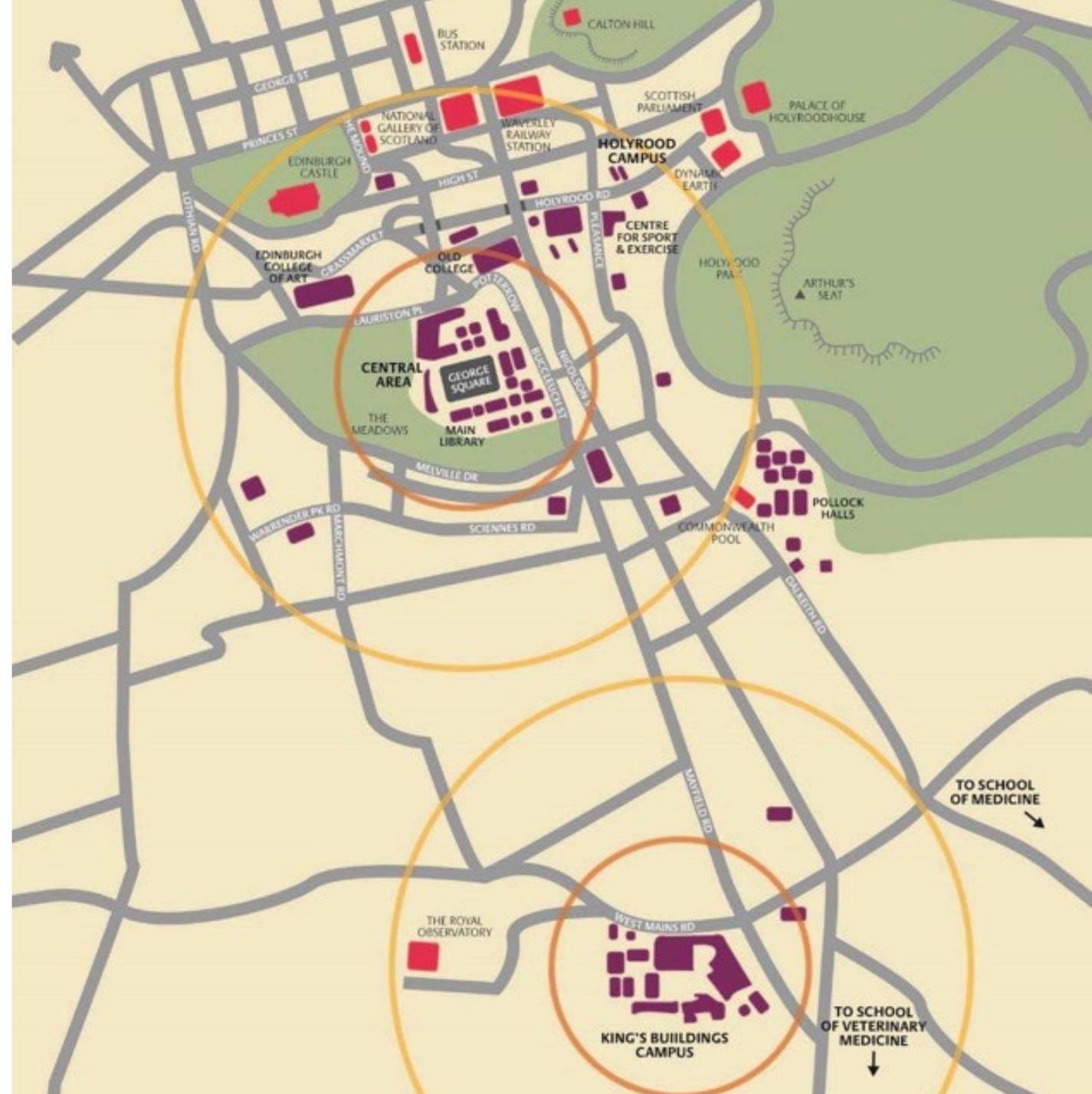
The University in the city

- ■ = University buildings
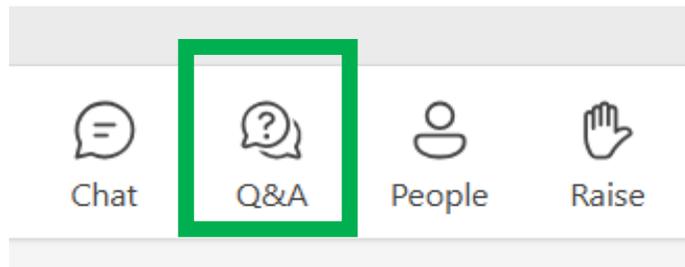- ■ = City landmarks
- ■ = Park spaces
- — 5-minute walk
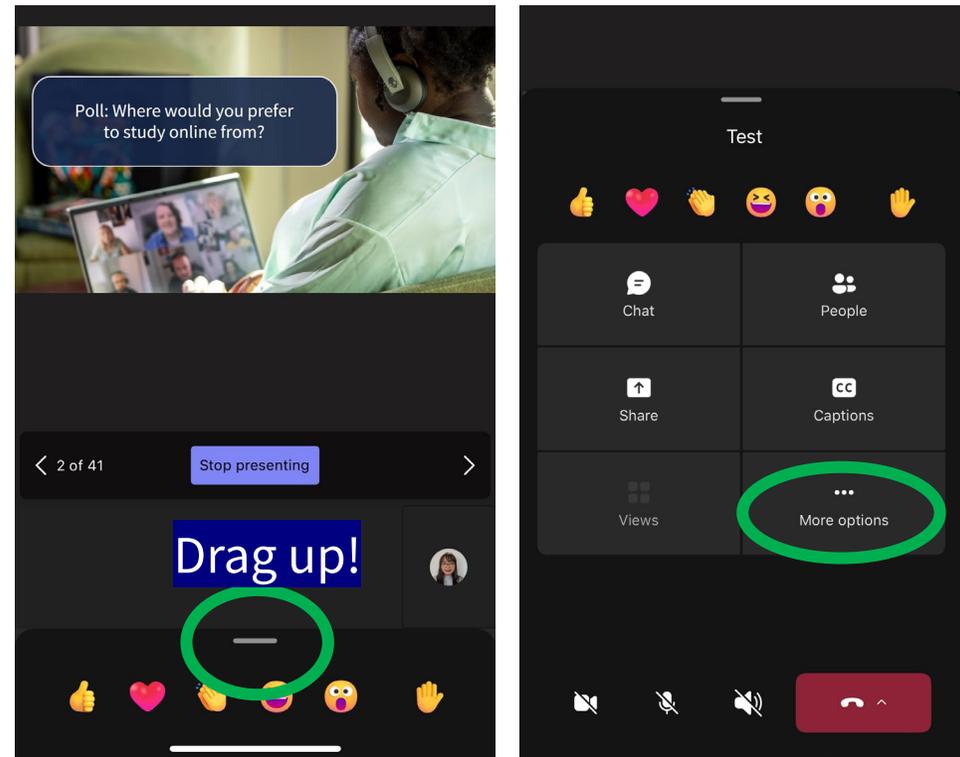- — 15-minute walk

Asking questions – quick reminder

Type your question in the **Q&A**, and we'll do our best to answer as many as we can.

Desktop

- If we don't manage to answer, please email futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

Mobile

World-leading university

- Experience the very best in teaching, research and innovation in the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Science and Engineering

- We equip you with the skills, insights and perspectives to enhance your employability and build a successful future

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Modern and progressive

At the forefront of intellectual and technological advances, making the world a better place

- Innovative degree programmes that respond to global challenges

- Committed to sustainability – we're going **carbon neutral** and **zero waste by 2040**

- £1.5bn investment in our teaching and learning, sports and research facilities

- The transformative interdisciplinary Edinburgh Futures Institute has now opened its doors at its stunning new home

Academic structure
Colleges, Schools and programmes

3 large Colleges reflect our main areas of teaching and research

- Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
- Medicine & Veterinary Medicine
- Science & Engineering

21 Schools group our subject experts, support staff, students and facilities

Academic Programmes

- 300+ Postgraduate taught programmes
- 135 Research areas covering wide range of academic disciplines

College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences (CAHSS)

12 Schools
- Business
- Divinity
- Economics
- Edinburgh College of Art
- Education
- Health in Social Science
- History, Classics and Archaeology
- Law
- Literatures, Languages and Cultures
- Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences
- Social and Political Science

College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine (CMVM)

2 Schools
- Edinburgh Medical School:
  - Biomedical Sciences
  - Clinical Sciences
  - Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences
- Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

College of Science & Engineering (CSE)

7 Schools
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Geosciences
- Informatics
- Mathematics
- Physics & Astronomy

Edinburgh Futures Institute

Finding information about the University / programme

What tips would you give for finding the information you need?

Why pursue a postgraduate degree?

Why study a postgraduate degree?

What were your motivations for pursuing postgraduate study?

Postgraduate degrees

Taught degrees, 12 months full time**most programmes

MA, MSc, MBA, MEd, MMus, MTheol, LLM

Curriculum driven experience, culminating in a period of independent work submitted as a dissertation

Postgraduate degrees

Research degrees

MSc by Research – 1 year

More individual, research-driven approach to chosen subject, preparation and training for advanced PhD research

MPhil – 2 years

Advanced research qualification, assessed by thesis

PhD – 3 years

Highly specialised independent research training culminating in submission of thesis

Edinburgh taught masters

Highly intensive, typically 12 months of full-time study

- Two 10-week semesters culminating in a dissertation over the summer
- Mix of core and optional courses, often including opportunity for interdisciplinary study
- Independent project or dissertation to build on your interests (typically May – August)
- PG Certificate/Diplomas - a vocational programme to build your skillset
- Preparation for further research
- Stimulating and supportive postgraduate community
- Links with industry and professional networking opportunities

Edinburgh research degrees

Intensive period of independent research

- Develop the methodological and technical skills and subject knowledge to contribute to your discipline.

- MScR programmes provide a stepping-stone to research career or PhD study

- Manage your own or an established project with one or more supervisors who are leaders in their fields

- Embrace your academic autonomy whilst belonging to a supportive and collegiate community

- Access to cutting-edge facilities and transferable skills training
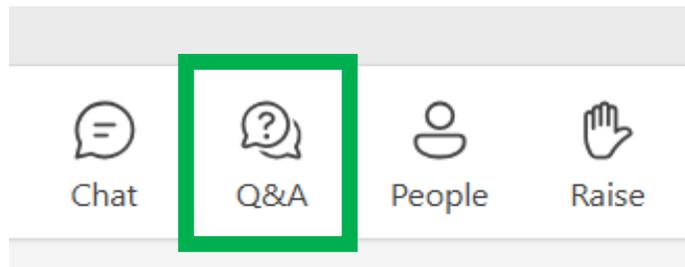
Careers and employability

Employers from all sectors regard Edinburgh as an excellent training ground for high-flyers

- One of the top universities targeted for recruitment

- Employers value our graduates for their intellectual ability and high-level attributes developed while studying here

- Graduate Visa

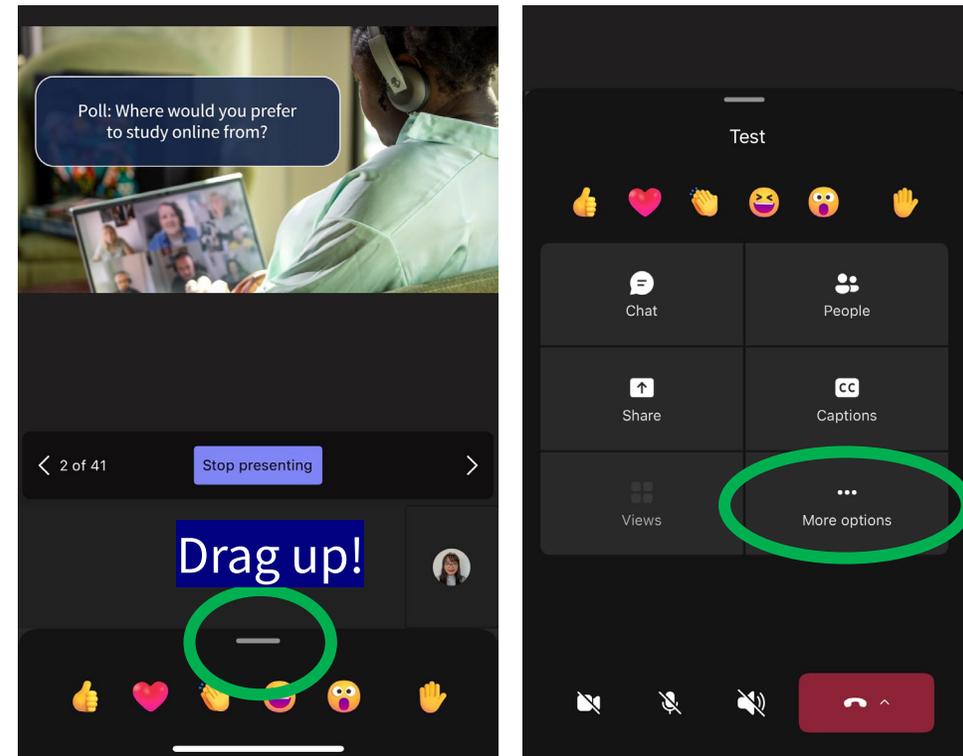# Asking questions – quick reminder

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Applying to Edinburgh

Wide range of qualifications recognised for entry

- Accepted qualifications for entry listed for every programme in [Degree Finder](#)

- Entry is competitive, but varies between programmes

- Courses in high demand likely require higher entry grades

- Check for non-academic entry requirements such as work experience, interviews, portfolio

- Asylum & Refugee status

Applying to the University

What are your top tips for applying and being successful in your application?

How to apply

Check our degree finder for full programme and contact details

Check subject-specific entry requirements and identify funding for which you're eligible

Prepare your personal statement and request an academic reference

PhD applicants only: Identify a supervisor and prepare your research proposal

Submit application before the deadline!

Costs and funding

Varies by programme and fee status

- Check website or up-to-date information on course fees and any additional programme costs

- Recommended budget of £1,500 per month for living costs

- Check with national funding bodies, UK student apply to local funding body for loan/grants

- Merit-based scholarships available for a limited number of programmes

- Check your options using Scholarship search tool https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/search-scholarships

Affording and paying for postgraduate study

What are your top tips for funding and budgeting?

Student experience

World-class facilities and award winning support services

- Dedicated academic and student experience support from your School

- Peer to peer learning networks

- Extensive range of services to support your physical and mental wellbeing

- Over 350 societies covering a vast range of interests

- IT, Library & eLearning help available 24/7

- One of the UK's leading sports universities, world class sports facilities

Accommodation / Housing

University accommodation

- https://www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Private accommodation

- https://edin.ac/2WB6o88

Neighbourhoods

- https://edin.ac/42ycZ0k

Student support

What has been your experience of student services, support and facilities?

Did you get the info you were looking for?

- Programme-specific info: https://postgraduate.degrees.ed.ac.uk/

- Chat to our Students: https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg

- Any other questions (including, Fees & Admissions) email:

  futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

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EDINBURGH extraordinary futures await

Read our students' blogs at
blogs.ed.ac.uk/studentstories

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Thank you

Contact: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

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