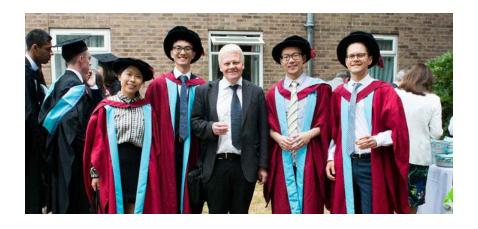
# **Further Studies**



PhD in CompSci Interdisciplinary PhD



Photo Source: <a href="https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/cedex/masters-phd/index.aspx">https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/cedex/masters-phd/index.aspx</a>

#### What is a PhD?

- The highest academic degree in the field
- Involves original research and writing a thesis
- In the UK: 3 or 3.5 years + write-up year if required
- Prepares you for
  - Research
  - Academia
  - Advanced industry roles



# Why Pursue a PhD?

- Passion for research and discovery
- Career in academia or R&D
- Desire to contribute to cutting-edge technology
- Opens doors to leadership roles in tech industry



### How to Get Into a PhD Program

- Strong academic background
  - In the UK: MSc (2.1 or higher)
- Search online resources for funding
  - FindAPhD; Jobs.ac.uk; PhDPortal; University Websites; Newsgroups
- Often required for application
  - Find a professor happy to support your application
  - Draft a research proposal (on a given topic)



# What to Expect During the PhD

- First Year
  - Deep dive into a topic
  - Develop research aim and project plan
- Second Year
  - Doing the main bulk of the research + writing conference papers
- Third Year
  - Completing the research + writing journal papers
  - Writing and defending your thesis



# Tips for Success in PhD Studies

- Pursue a topic that aligns with your passion and long-term goals
  - This will sustain your motivation through challenges
- Cultivate a collaborative relationship with your supervisor
  - Treat them as a mentor, not just an authority figure, and seek regular feedback
- Develop strong critical thinking and analytical skills
  - Question assumptions, engage with diverse perspectives, and refine your reasoning
- Take initiative in your research and meetings
  - Come prepared with ideas, progress updates, and questions to drive productive discussions
- Master time management and organisation
  - Use tools (e.g. calendar or project plan) to balance research, writing, and personal well-being



# Tips for Success in PhD Studies

- Build a supportive academic network
  - Collaborate with peers, attend conferences, and join research groups to exchange ideas
- Prioritise writing early and often
  - Draft sections of your thesis or papers regularly, even if imperfect, to avoid last-minute stress
- Embrace failure as part of the learning process
  - Setbacks are inevitable; analyse them constructively to improve your work
- Maintain a healthy work-life balance
  - Schedule downtime, exercise, and hobbies to prevent burnout and sustain creativity
- Develop transferable skills
  - Train in teaching, public speaking, data analysis, or project management to broaden career options post-PhD

