Plymouth – a beautiful city

Plymouth is located in the beautiful South West of England – an ideal location for leisure and learning, with plenty of quiet spaces and recreational opportunities.

GETTING HERE

Perched between the two counties of Devon and Cornwall, Plymouth is graced with a setting among the finest in Europe. From secluded sandy coves and wide-open seas to tranquil rivers and wild rugged moors, the area offers more scope for sport and leisure than almost anywhere else in Britain.

Plymouth enjoys a combination of modern city living and rural charm. It is about three to four-and-a-quarter hours by train to London, with ferry links to France and Spain.

Plymouth is serviced by all major transport services with its own railway station and new coach station close to the city centre and University campus. A typical coach trip from London Victoria takes about five and a half hours.

Plymouth is easily accessible by road following the M5 motorway and continuing on the A38 Expressway at Exeter.

Find your way

Beautiful Cornish beaches, gently rolling Devonshire hills and miles of lush English countryside along with exciting cities that mix fascinating history with vibrant culture.

Plymouth is the city that shaped the lives of Sir Francis Drake, Charles Darwin and many more who set sail from her harbour with a burning spirit of discovery. Today, Plymouth’s maritime heritage has blended with contemporary culture to create a city with a strong international tradition offering the best in entertainment, arts and shopping.

The city’s modern pedestrian centre – right next door to the campus – has all the usual high street shops as well as bars, cafés, clubs and restaurants. In contrast, the Barbican area is one of the oldest parts of Plymouth, with narrow Elizabethan streets housing small quirky shops, art galleries, bars and the Plymouth Gin Distillery, home to Plymouth Gin since 1793, and England’s oldest working gin distillery. Opposite the Barbican, Plymouth’s most popular tourist attraction, stands the National Marine Aquarium, which boasts Europe’s deepest tank.

Plymouth has everything you would expect from the largest city in the South West – major high street stores, theatres, a multiplex cinema, art cinemas, and a wealth of small clubs and venues. The largest theatre is the Theatre Royal Plymouth, which attracts many West End successes including Mary Poppins, Mamma Mia! and Phantom of the Opera.

Plymouth University is an inner city university, but is also a short walk from the sea. There is ample student accommodation close to campus, as well as shopping centres and entertainment venues, so you can access everything you need on foot.
Plymouth University

The University is renowned for high quality, internationally-leading education, research and innovation.

With a mission to Advance Knowledge and Transform Lives, Plymouth is a top 50 research university* with clusters of world-class research across a wide range of disciplines including marine science and engineering, medicine, robotics and psychology. A twice winner of the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher Education, the University continues to grow in stature and reputation.

* Research Fortnight Research Power League Table 2014

Welcome to the School of Humanities and Performing Arts. We are a vibrant and friendly school in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, whose subject areas include English, Creative Writing, History, Art History, Music, Dance and Performing Arts. You can study programmes at undergraduate (BA), postgraduate (MA) and PhD level with us and we pride ourselves on our excellent teaching and world-class research in all of these subjects.

Plymouth is an international maritime city that enjoys close links with Europe, the USA and the wider world. We are proud that Plymouth hosted the Pilgrim Fathers before the Mayflower set sail to America in 1620, as well as Charles Darwin and the Beagle on their way to the Galapagos in 1831. Captain Robert Falcon Scott, the explorer of the Antarctic, was also born in the city. Located on the beautiful coast of south Devon, with Dartmoor to the north, Plymouth is a wonderful location to live and study.

I hope you will choose Plymouth and I look forward to meeting you.

Dr Annika Bautz
Head of School
There is a long history of Dance, Theatre and Performance at Plymouth University, going back more than 30 years. We were one of the first places to offer a BA (Hons) Theatre degree in the UK. Since then, the subject has developed a suite of postgraduate degrees. These offer training to those practitioners and scholars who are interested in exploring contemporary, innovative and experimental approaches to acting, dance, theatre and performance.

Our students are part of a vibrant interdisciplinary arts and research community which has its hub in The House, the University’s new, fully accessible performing arts building. Designed for teaching and learning, The House is a fully accessible performance space with enhanced specialist resources.

In Plymouth, you benefit from mentors and teaching from highly skilled practitioners and scholars. You are encouraged to make use of the close links we have fostered with leading theatre and dance companies, and professional artists. Our offer includes:

- **MA/MFA Performance Training**: This is a programme that explores the larger implications of training in/for performance and you will be able to specialise in a specific training of your choice.
- **Solve real-world problems and seize the opportunity to pursue your own specialist pathway.**

- ResM Theatre and Performance
- ResM Dance
- MPhil/PhD Performing Arts

### Staff accepting PhD students

**Professor Roberta Mock**  
Gender and sexuality in performance; live art; stand-up comedy  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/roberta-mock](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/roberta-mock)

**Ruth Way**  
Somatic movement practices; Digital dance; Performance training  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/ruth-way](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/ruth-way)

**Dr John Matthews**  
Acting training, Philosophy of embodiment  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/john-matthews](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/john-matthews)

**Dr Lee Miller**  
Collaborative making strategies, Live/Performance art, Emotion/Affect  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/lee-miller](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/lee-miller)

**Dr Victor Ladron de Guevara**  
Uses and understandings of the body, Intercultural Performance practices, Training  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/victor-ladron-de-guevara](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/victor-ladron-de-guevara)

**Dr Phil Smith**  
Walking as performance, Counter tourism, Site–specific performance  
[www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/phil-smith](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/phil-smith)
Theatre and Performance

Reviews of Dr John Matthew's work

A key contribution of the work, perhaps, is its unwillingness to take the value of training for granted, but instead to take training’s claims for value seriously, and to look closely at the terms upon which such value is constructed.

Professor Joe Kelkerer, Roehampton University London

Anatomy of Performance Training proposes original innovative insights on the link between theory and practice in performance training and contributes a new experiential perspectives to a growing body of writing about practice [...] Anatomy of Performance Training invites the practitioner and reader on a physical journey into the philosophical and theoretical world of practice.

Niamh Dowling, Head of School of Performance at Rose Bruford

In this brilliantly conceived and imaginatively structured book [Training for Performance], Matthews opens up the field of training for performance in new and unexpected ways. His erudite yet accessible style is sure to appeal to students and general readers keen to discover why training (and resistance to training) has become so important to the practice of theatre-making.

Adrian Kear, Professor of Theatre and Performance, Aberystwyth University

"Training for Performance is the first work of its kind: not in the sense that it addresses training for performance, but in that it raises a critical questionning of the imperatives and the rhetoric, which govern academic and practical concerns for training alike. What makes this book so important is not only that it offers an interesting and contrasting set of accounts of training, but that in examining the differing economies and cultural politics within which they operate, it begins to shape a field of enquiry – askiology – rather than simply respond to it."

Dr Martin Welton, Lecturer in Performance, Queen Mary University of London

"Shamelessly eclectic and enduringly thought provoking, John Matthew’s latest intervention into performance training criticism is a highly engaging study. Using an innovative structure of ‘hand, foot, mouth, heart, ear’ – Matthews treats us to a delicately layered discussion of the ‘nascent ideology of training’, navigating confidently between evocative vignettes of training experiences to an applied critique of western philosophical thought.

Jonathan Pitches, Professor of Theatre and Performance, University of Leeds

"John Matthews opens up the field of training for performance in new and unexpected ways. His erudite yet accessible style is sure to appeal to students and general readers keen to discover why training (and resistance to training) has become so important to the practice of theatre-making."

Adrian Kear, Professor of Theatre and Performance, Aberystwyth University

A key contribution of the work, perhaps, is its unwillingness to take the value of training for granted, but instead to take training’s claims for value seriously, and to look closely at the terms upon which such value is constructed. Since completing my MA, I have worked on performance projects with several companies and practitioners including Kaleder, The Bike Shed Theatre, Alice Tatton-Brown, Blind Ditch, and Bizarre Rituals. I have been producing my own work as a solo artist and, since 2014, with my performance company AMINAL. I have travelled to Alice Springs, Australia, to work with Melbourne-based dance company 2ND TOE coordinating a dance project with all of the publicly funded primary schools in the town. I measure the benefits of this programme based on the moments I don’t realise that I know something and complete a task without thinking of which there have been many. For me this is the strongest evidence that my formal education has been successful."

Johnny Rowden

Student Profile
The House

Our innovative performing arts centre

This stunning theatre provides our students and visiting companies with a state-of-the-art venue to support creative and professional excellence.

A fully accessible performance space, a world-class space

The House is a performing arts centre located in the city’s central quarter, opposite the Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery. Opened in October 2014, The House is a 200-seat flexible studio theatre, built to the very highest technical and sustainable specification. Its facilities are world-class and it is fast attracting some of the best national and international artists.

Built primarily as a training facility, furthering our commitment to investing in world-class research and creating outstanding student opportunities, this stunning building enhances our growing reputation for artistic innovation and excellence.

The House has a diverse programme of contemporary performance which is open to the public and is available to hire for private events.
Music

Musical research at Plymouth University is developed within the internationally renowned Interdisciplinary Centre for Computer Music Research (ICCMR) under the leadership of Professor Eduardo Miranda. ICCMR is devoted to developing musical research at the crossroads of art and science. Our research expertise ranges from musicology and composition to biomedical applications of music and development of new music technologies.

ICCMR is truly interdisciplinary: we actively publish our research outcomes in learned journals and conferences in the fields of music, digital arts, computing, engineering, psychology, neurosciences and medicine. The impact of our research has been recognised as world-leading by the last Research Excellence Framework, REF 2014, which is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. ICCMR is based at The House, our purpose-built performance arts centre. ICCMR co-organises with Peninsula Arts the acclaimed Peninsula Arts Contemporary Music Festival, an annual festival that showcases the University’s research, composers and performers.

The groundbreaking research developed with our music postgraduate students has been reported in *Nature*, BBC World Service, BBC Radio 3, *The Gramophone*, *New Scientist*, CNN, Scientific American, TV Globo (Brazil), France Music (France) and Polskie Radio (Poland), to cite but a few.

**Staff accepting PhD students**

**Professor Eduardo Miranda**
Composition
Computer music
Artificial Intelligence
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/eduardo-miranda

**Dr David Bessell**
Electronic music
Sound synthesis
Music production
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/david-bessell

**Dr Alexis Kirke**
Computer music
Mathematics
Music and health
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/alexis-kirke

**Dr Katherine Williams**
Jazz studies
Popular music
Improvisation
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/katherine-williams

**Dr Bethany Lowe**
Music theory
The human voice, overtone singing
Consciousness and music
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/bethany-lowe

**ResM Computer Music**
The future of the music industry lies with computer technology—and what we can do with that technology. It affects how we create, perform and distribute music. Whether you’re a practising musician, a sound engineer or a professional looking to combine your background and passion for music, the Res.M Computer Music will help you explore key concepts at the heart of music, science and technology.

Immersed in a thriving research centre, our future-facing course will give you a wealth of new career opportunities.
Professor Eduardo R Miranda

A classically trained composer and artificial intelligence scientist with an early involvement in electroacoustic and avant-garde pop music, Eduardo Miranda’s distinctive music is informed by his unique background. His research interests include composition (including algorithmic and computer-aided), artificial intelligence, new musical interfaces, and music neurotechnology, in particular the relationship between music and the brain.

He is emerging as an influential composer for his work at the crossroads of music and science. His music, which includes pieces for symphonic orchestras, chamber groups and solo instruments, with and without live electronics, has been played by renowned ensembles such as the Bergersen String Quartet, Leo String Quartet (from the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra), Sond’Ar-te Electric Ensemble, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra and Ten Tors Orchestra, to cite but a few. In addition to concert music, he has composed for theatre and contemporary dance.

The inside story of his acclaimed choral symphony, Sound to Sea, is revealed in the book Thinking Music, published by University of Plymouth Press (ISBN 978-1-84102-3-601). The publication includes the full score and a CD with the recording of the premiere by Ten Tors Orchestra. “This book, by a pioneer of contemporary experimental music, is a story of how an striking composition was born: an unusually generous prelude to a rich aural experience.” (Philip Ball, author of The Music Instinct.)

RESEARCH GROUP

Computing technology is ubiquitous in all aspects of music, and understanding the relationship between the people who make music happen and computing technologies is pivotal for the future of the music industry. From avant-garde contemporary music to entertainment media for mass consumption, smart sound design and synthetic music pervades a wide range of creative practices. The impact of Plymouth University’s Interdisciplinary Centre for Computer Music Research’s groundbreaking work has been reported far and wide. The ICCMR is affiliated to the School of Humanities and Performing Arts and to the Cognition Institute. It offers a number of unprecedented opportunities for collaborative and interdisciplinary research with theatre, dance, psychology and neuroscience.

cmr.soc.plymouth.ac.uk
www.plymouth.ac.uk/iccmr

Student Profile
Federico Visi

Federico Visi is a composer, producer and sound designer. After obtaining his masters degree in communication, multimedia and design, he studied music for image in Milan and composition at the music academy Accademia Pianistica in Imola, Italy. He is currently working towards his PhD at Plymouth University’s Interdisciplinary Centre for Computer Music Research (ICCMR). His research focuses on body movement in performances with traditional musical instruments. He has composed music for films and installations, performed live in solo sets, with bands and in contemporary theatre and dance performances, and presented his research at several international conferences.

As part of his PhD, he has worked and is currently working on collaborative interdisciplinary projects with researchers in Europe (Ghent University, University of Bologna), North America (NYU, UCLA) and South America (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul).
The MA English Literature offers the chance to study a range of literary periods and genres of text in relation to cultural contexts and theory. You will begin with a research methods module, introducing you to key archival skills and exploring different approaches to studying literature, as well as challenging you to write in academic genres outside the traditional essay. Options rotate annually, but in any given year, you can expect a diversity of modules, studying topics from war writing, to environmental literature, and from ghost stories to women in the 18th century novel. All modules are taught by full-time staff with research specialisms in the area. The MA culminates in a dissertation with one-to-one supervision in any area of English literary studies of your choosing.

ResM English
The ResM English gives you the opportunity to work on an extended dissertation on a topic of your own choosing, working with experts in a range of literary fields from 1600 to the present day. It provides a basis for progressing to MPhil/PhD study and an academic career. You are able to draw upon staff expertise through research methods modules and individual tutorials. You will also join a vibrant and growing research community, which includes research seminars, conferences and the Peninsula Arts series of exhibitions/talks from visiting writers.

MA Creative writing
Refine your craft with guidance from the award-winning writers who teach on this workshop-based MA, as well as from visiting writers. Make the most of an opportunity to produce a substantial written project in a nurturing, creative environment. The writing skills you’ll develop will help ensure that, upon graduating, your work is ready for submission to publishers and agents.

Staff accepting PhD students

Dr Annika Bautz
History of the book, romanticism, Victorianism.
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/annika-bautz

Dr Mandy Bloomfield
Contemporary writing, including world literature; poetry and poetics; literature and environment
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/mandy-bloomfield

Professor Anthony Caleshu
American literature; contemporary literature; the writing of poetry, fiction, and drama
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/anthony-caleshu

Dr Rachel Christofides
Gender studies; modernism; late 19th century studies
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/rachel-christofides

Dr Miriam Darlington
Creative writing; creative non-fiction; nature writing
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/miriam-darlington

Dr Kathryn Gray
Transatlantic studies, early American, native American
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/kathryn-napier-gray

Dr Peter Hinds
Early modern literature and political history, the histories of the book and reading in the 17th and 18th centuries
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/peter-hinds

Dr Bonnie Latimer
18th century novels, Restoration drama, gender, satire
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/bonnie-latimer

Professor Dafydd Moore
18th century studies; Scottish literature and national identity; regional identity in the South West, 1750–1820
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/dafydd-moore

Dr David Sergeant
Genre; ecocriticism; utopia
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/david-sergeant

Dr Angela Smith
Gender, war, modernism
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/angela-smith

Dr Min Wild
18th century literary studies and philosophy; rhetoric; critical theory and philosophy
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/min-wild
We also offer full- or part-time PhD and ResM degrees where the ResM may lead to PhD study. English and Creative Writing staff have published widely, and the subject had outstanding results in the last Research Excellence Framework, REF 2014, with 90% of our research ranked as of national and world-leading significance. You draw on the expertise of staff in areas from Restoration literature to utopias of the mind, from early European encounters with native Americans in the New World to women in the First World War, among others.

At present we are supervising creative writing projects inspired by and working with Nepalese women’s poetry, and dealing with the relationship between woods, memory and place. Critical projects include phenomenology in Virginia Woolf’s writing, trauma in Holocaust studies, and William Blake’s construction of a spiritual self.

Research clusters are centred around the following broad topics: poetry and poetics; environmental literatures; transatlantic studies; science and literature.
There are two research degree pathways available for History at Plymouth. The postgraduate taught masters degree, MA History, can be taken full time or part time. The postgraduate degree by research route can be taken full time or part time, in the form of a research masters degree (ResM) or a PhD. At Plymouth, if you are progressing well with your ResM and meet conditions such as the average module mark and staff approval, you have the opportunity to transfer across to doing a PhD.

The expertise of the staff in ResM and doctoral supervision in History is wide ranging. Recent PhDs have included research on: networks and communication in Elizabethan Devon; the relationships between print, patronage and religion in England and Scotland 1580 –1604; Anglo-American household medicine, 1550 –1800; MI9’s escape and evasion mapping programme 1939 – 45; Infantry Divisions in North West Europe 1944 – 45; Anglo-German sporting relations between the Olympic Games of 1952 and 1972.

Current doctoral supervision includes research on Victorian mechanics’ institutes; juvenile labour in England in the Edwardian and interwar era; British consular activity in 19th century Philippines; and nuclear engineering in the Royal Navy, 1946–70. Current ResM research topics include the English settlement of St Christopher in 1623; and the Plymouth Blitz.

STAFF

The History staff involved in research supervision and teaching include (with their key areas of research supervision)

Dr Sandra Barkhof, Lecturer in History
First World War prisoners of war
19th century German imperialism
German colonies of the Pacific
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/sandra-barkhof

Dr Harry Bennett, Associate Professor (Reader) in History
20th century military and maritime history
British military and society
Diplomacy and international relations
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/harry-bennett

Professor James Daybell, Professor of Early Modern British History
Early modern British social and cultural history
Women and gender
Renaissance literature
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/james-daybell

Dr Claire Fitzpatrick, Lecturer in History
Histories of the Irish Free State
The Irish Revolution
Northern Ireland and Labour and popular politics
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/claire-fitzpatrick

Dr James Gregory, Lecturer in British History since 1800
Modern British social and cultural history
Radical politics and reform movements
Eccentricity and British culture
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/james-gregory

Dr Daniel Grey, Lecturer in World History since 1800
British and Indian social, cultural, legal and medical histories
Gender and race
Crime and violence
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/daniel-grey

Dr Jonathan Mackintosh, Lecturer in World History
Histories of identities and ideas in modern transnational encounter
Gender and sexualities
Social, cultural and oral history
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/jonathan-mackintosh

Professor Daniel Maudlin
Buildings and landscapes of the early modern British Atlantic world
Heritage
Vernacular architecture
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/daniel-maudlin

Dr Elaine Murphy, Lecturer in Maritime/Naval History
Maritime and naval history
Early modern Ireland and Britain
The British Civil Wars and Oliver Cromwell
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/elaine-murphy

Dr Simon Topping, Senior Lecturer
American civil rights struggle
The United States in the modern era
The United States and Northern Ireland during the Second World War
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/simon-topping

Dr Jameson Tucker, Lecturer in Early Modern European History 1500 –1700
Early modern Europe
Early modern European religion and belief
Early modern society at the margins
www.plymouth.ac.uk/staff/jameson-tucker
Dr Elaine Murphy is a lecturer in Maritime/Naval History. She came to Plymouth University in 2013 and supervises a range of early modern and naval history research projects.

Dr Murphy completed her PhD at Trinity College Dublin (2008) and was subsequently a postdoctoral research fellow there on the Irish Research Council postdoctoral fellowship to undertake research into the Cromwellian navy in Ireland (2010 – 11). From 2011 – 13 she was a Research Associate in the University of East Anglia. She is co-organiser a number of maritime history events such as the Napoleon and Plymouth, 1815 – 2015 symposium held in September 2015. She is also a council member of the Navy Records Society. Dr Murphy currently supervises work on a range of early modern and naval topics including women in Tudor England, maritime exploration in the Caribbean in the reign of Charles I, and the development of nuclear powered submarines in the Royal Navy. She welcomes projects on all aspects of early modern history, in particular projects that explore maritime topics and the British Civil Wars.

Dr Murphy is a member of the Maritime History Research Group at Plymouth University and in recent years has co-organised a number of maritime history events such as the Napoleon and Plymouth, 1815–2015 symposium held in September 2015. She is also a council member of the Navy Records Society. Dr Murphy currently supervises work on a range of early modern and naval topics including women in Tudor England, maritime exploration in the Caribbean in the reign of Charles I, and the development of nuclear powered submarines in the Royal Navy. She welcomes projects on all aspects of early modern history, in particular projects that explore maritime topics and the British Civil Wars.

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Explore 21st century art history on our ResM Art History programme and learn about this ever-expanding discipline, marked by interdisciplinary crossovers, varied and competing methodologies, and a huge range of objects of study that can break through the boundaries of the traditional notion of ‘art’.

Study issues as diverse as authorship, subjectivity, reception studies, and cultural and gender identity. You will be primed to undertake an art-historical investigation before completing a research project on a specific topic of your choice. We offer a ResM postgraduate degree in Art History and our PhD programme welcomes applications related to the research interests of our staff. The ResM programme develops your application of the critical theories and approaches relevant to art history and provides you with experience in research methods and skills in arts and humanities. You can study full time (12–18 months) or part time (24–36 months). The programme also delivers a through route from undergraduate level to MPhil/PhD via masters degree. It is an ideal route if you have a strongly conceived research project and do not wish to undertake a taught MA but don’t have the skills base for an MPhil/PhD yet. It comprises three core modules: Masters thesis in the humanities, Research in the arts and humanities, and Research methods in art history.

Entry requirements are a first or upper second honours degree in art history or a related subject or an equivalent degree; or substantial experience in an appropriate field. A sample of critical writing may also be required and if your first language is not English, then evidence of English proficiency is required.
Dr Jody Patterson

Dr Jody Patterson is Programme Leader for Art History. She came to Plymouth in 2012 and supervises a range of postgraduate research projects in 20th century art and culture. She completed her PhD at University College London (2008) and was awarded a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution’s American Art Museum (2009). She was then awarded a Terra Foundation Teaching Fellowship at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris (2011–11). Prior to taking up her post in Plymouth she also taught at University College London and the Slade School of Fine Art.

Dr Patterson is an active member of the international Art History community. She is a modernist and her research interests lie in the field of public art and the relations between art and politics. She is a specialist in American art of the interwar period and her research has appeared in numerous books, exhibition catalogues, and journals such as *Art History* and *Oxford Art Journal*. She has recently completed a monographic study on abstract mural painting in New York during the 1930s. She is currently undertaking a new project for Tate Modern on Anglo-American art.

Dr Patterson currently supervises postgraduate work on a range of British, German, Soviet and American topics, including mural painting, artistic responses to war, state-funded public art, and the role of art within a democratic culture. She welcomes projects on all aspects of international modernism, the politics of art, and public art.

Student Profile

Ben Wiedel-Kaufmann

“My PhD research focuses upon some of the 300 or so murals that appeared across the exterior walls of London’s streets between 1975 and 1986. Drawing inspiration from mural movements in Mexico and the United States, the London examples belong to a series of remarkable flowerings of the mural form across the 20th century. Depicting subjects ranging from the 14th century Peasants’ Revolt, through to dystopic scenes of nuclear apocalypse, in an equally far-reaching mix of styles and representational strategies, the murals have a great deal to add to our art historical understanding of the time. Funded largely by the state across a period in which it moved from a declining social-democratic consensus towards far-reaching neo-liberal reform, the murals were often addressed to contemporary political events, and frequently marked by their opposition to the governments that funded them. Focusing upon those murals most closely connected to the politics of the Left across this period, my study explores the tensions between the perspectives of patrons, artists, and audiences, whilst drawing attention to the social, cultural, political and aesthetic dimensions of the mural form.

I am delighted to be conducting this research in the Art History department at Plymouth under the supervision of Dr Jody Patterson. Dr Patterson’s attentive supervision and world-leading research have been essential to the evolution of my study. Similarly, the breadth of departmental research interests and underlying commitment to the methodologies of the social history of art make it a rich, supportive and inspiring research community.”
How to apply – Postgraduate research programmes

BEFORE YOU APPLY
1. Make sure you have all your supporting documents. Documents required usually include:
   • evidence of qualifications (certificates or transcripts) to show that you meet, or expect to meet the entry requirements
   • evidence of English language ability (if English is not your first language)
   • two references (usually academic)
   • a research proposal
   • visual evidence for art and design applicants – check the department website for instructions and guidance, as requirements vary
   • CV or resume
   • proof of sponsorship, if applicable.
2. Check the appropriate school website for any additional documents you need to provide.
3. Check the start date or funding deadline for research applications and apply as early as possible. Our programmes are popular and applications can take several weeks to process.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
For entry to postgraduate research level, you will usually require:
• a masters degree issued by a uk university, or a degree of a non-UK institution deemed to be of equal standing to a UK masters degree, or
• a first class or upper second-class honours bachelor degree awarded by a UK university or a degree of a non-UK institution deemed to be of equal standing, or
• a professional qualification recognised as equivalent to a degree, or
• other qualifications and experience that have demonstrated that you can meet the challenges and demands of the programme, plus
• two satisfactory written reports from academic referees; verbal references may not be accepted. You may also be asked to provide an example of written work.

ADMISSIONS POLICY
More information and advice for applicants can be referenced in our admission policy for research degrees. You are advised to read the policy before making an application to the University. The policy can be downloaded from our website at: www.plymouth.ac.uk/graduateschool

WHEN TO APPLY
Applications can be made throughout the year. There are three entry dates for MPhil/PhD programmes – 1 October, 1 January and 1 April. ResM programmes have only one intake in September.

How to apply – Postgraduate taught programmes

WHERE TO FIND AN APPLICATION FORM
Please visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/postgraduate and click ‘Apply’ to apply online or download the application form (available in both PDF and Word formats).

RESPONSE TO YOUR APPLICATION
If your first language is not English then evidence of English proficiency is required. The level of proficiency that is required can vary with the type of programme for which you are applying. The minimum level of English for acceptable English proficiency for entry is an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or equivalent. However, where the programme is linguistically demanding, a higher score may be required. Previous qualifications/studies in English may also be proof of your English proficiency. For further advice on the appropriateness of overseas qualifications and proficiency in the use of English, please contact Mandy Macdonald, your Doctoral Training Centre Administrator, for support and assistance.

Two English courses are offered every year for postgraduate research students. Entry to these courses is dependent on a confirmed place at Plymouth University as a research student on an MPhil/PhD degree programme. The courses last for 27 weeks.

For further information visit: www.plymouth.ac.uk/englishlanguagecentre

BEFORE YOU APPLY
1. Make sure you have all your supporting documents. Documents required usually include:
   • evidence of qualifications (certificates or transcripts) to show that you meet, or expect to meet the entry requirements
   • evidence of English language ability (if English is not your first language)
   • two references (usually academic)
   • a research proposal
   • visual evidence for art and design applicants – check the department website for instructions and guidance, as requirements vary
   • CV or resume
   • proof of sponsorship, if applicable.
2. Check the appropriate school website for any additional documents you need to provide.
3. Check the start date or funding deadline for research applications and apply as early as possible. Our programmes are popular and applications can take several weeks to process.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
For entry to postgraduate research level, you will usually require:
• a masters degree issued by a uk university, or a degree of a non-UK institution deemed to be of equal standing to a UK masters degree, or
• a first class or upper second-class honours bachelor degree awarded by a UK university or a degree of a non-UK institution deemed to be of equal standing, or
• a professional qualification recognised as equivalent to a degree, or
• other qualifications and experience that have demonstrated that you can meet the challenges and demands of the programme, plus
• two satisfactory written reports from academic referees; verbal references may not be accepted. You may also be asked to provide an example of written work.

ADMISSIONS POLICY
More information and advice for applicants can be referenced in our admission policy for research degrees. You are advised to read the policy before making an application to the University. The policy can be downloaded from our website at: www.plymouth.ac.uk/graduateschool

WHEN TO APPLY
Applications can be made throughout the year. There are three entry dates for MPhil/PhD programmes – 1 October, 1 January and 1 April. ResM programmes have only one intake in September.
This publication went to print in March 2017 which may be more than two years before the start of your course. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication. However, as our programmes and services are regularly reviewed and updated, some details may change. We would advise you check our website at www.plymouth.ac.uk for the latest information.