VACATION SCHOOLS
GUIDANCE NOTES

This programme is designed to fund or co-fund research-orientated residential training workshops geared towards early career (PhD and/or recent postdoctoral) researchers. The Vacation Schools are intended to enable researchers to gain new understanding of emerging fields of scholarly analysis in dialogue with a team of more senior researchers – including both Warwick staff and external academics and experts.

Scheme Objectives:
The scheme provides support for a research focused residential training programme for early career researchers based at Warwick, with an emphasis on i) inter/cross-disciplinary engagement ii) peer-to-peer support iii) interaction with experts in the field.

Taking the above 3 requirements into consideration, the length and format of the activity can be tailored to the requirements of the training objectives e.g.

- Small group workshops for Warwick candidates only
- National/international attendance in addition to Warwick researchers
- Academic conference with specific programme of early career engagement

Funded projects should focus on specific research questions, methodologies and/or themes linked to emerging and or current activities at Warwick. In addition, the Vacation School may be designed to complement department/University postgraduate recruitment strategies; draw attention to research potential of facilities/expertise; promote new collaborations with stakeholders; address economic or societal impact agendas; or disseminate among a cohort of early career researchers the findings of a major programme of research.

Vacation Schools are expected to last between 3-5 days.

Eligibility:
Applications must be led by a permanent member of academic (including probationary) staff. It is expected that proposals will normally involve participation of more than a single Warwick academic staff member and will make appropriate use of distinguished researchers and other experts from outside the University.

This scheme is intended to be sufficiently flexible to respond to the distinctive needs and resources of a wide range of research fields. The proposal should focus on doctoral (not Masters-level) students and/or recent recipients of their PhD (normally within 3 years of receipt of their doctorate).

Funding:
The maximum IAS contribution for a residential Vacation School is £10,000 (based at Warwick) and £12,000 if based in Venice/Brussels. Applicants are expected to have identified other sources of funding or be charging attendance fees in order to deliver a comprehensive programme of activity. The award can be used to cover travel and accommodation for experts as well as bursaries for attendees, postgraduate assistance, room hire, catering, publicity, trips and resources associated with the delivery of the Vacation School.
Review Criteria:
Applications to the scheme will be assessed against the following criteria-
- Significance and relevance to Warwick’s research profile
- Ability to enhance the research training of Warwick-based early career scholars
- Extent to which Vacation School extends beyond training normally available
- Contribution to the interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary training of researchers
- Ability to enhance Warwick’s international reputation as a base for PhD/postdoctoral training
- Scope to promote career development of early career researchers through networking and other activities

Deadline:
There is one call per year as detailed in the table below and applications should be submitted by midday (12pm) on the day of the deadline.

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 7</th>
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<td>2017/18</td>
<td>Monday, 13th November 2017</td>
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The funding decision is expected to be made 5 weeks after the application deadline.

Duration of Award:
Each event will normally be expected to take place over a 3-5 day period.

Applications should specify whether the event is scheduled to take place in the current academic year or subsequent academic year.

Awards can only be held in a single financial year (between 1 August – 31 July), check offer letter for confirmation of valid award period.

All expenditure must be recorded in the University accounts (SAP) by 31 July in the same academic year in which the award is valid. It is the responsibility of the award holder to ensure that expenditure has been appropriately recorded. The award holder’s department will be responsible for any over expenditure and/or late claims.

Further Information:
The Application Guidance document provides further information on how to complete the form. Applications should be submitted by email to IASProgCoordinator@warwick.ac.uk or a hard copy sent via the internal mail to the Institute of Advanced Study, Millburn House.