

Terms of Reference

Collaborative International PhD Training

Summer 2025

The Parties

- The University of Leeds
- Universitas Indonesia
- British Council

Programme Delivery

The parties will deliver collaborative international PhD research training at the Universitas Indonesia Depok campus as a pilot project from 28 July to 1 August 2025. The objective is to provide expert training in academic research and language skills to Indonesian participants (maximum 20 in the first year) who intend to apply for a PhD programme in the United Kingdom in 2026 or 2027. Pre-application training will be co-delivered by the parties with support from the British Council Jakarta, the Indonesian Ministry of Higher Education, and the Indonesian Endowment Fund for Education Agency (LPDP).

The University of Leeds will appoint four experts from the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Language Centre to deliver the training. The Universitas Indonesia has appointed four of their experts from the Department of International Relations. The British Council will deliver IELTS trials and an information session to help participants prepare for their IELTS (academic) test.

The PhD training will help participants identify gaps in research, formulate compelling research questions, establish appropriate study designs and methodologies, improve their academic writing skills, and prepare to make original contributions to knowledge (the main criteria for a successful PhD). Participants are encouraged to select research topics that align with the Indonesian government's national priorities and that are matched by research centres and institutes at the University of Leeds, including but not limited to:

| Indonesia's National Priorities | University of Leeds Expertise |
|---|--|
| Self-sufficiency in food, food security, and nutrition. | Global Food and Environment Institute https://www.leeds.ac.uk/global-food-environment-institute |
| Water management, maritime strategy, and blue economy. | Water@Leeds https://water.leeds.ac.uk/ |
| Advancement in education, science, technology, and digitalisation. | Centre for Immersive Technologies https://www.leeds.ac.uk/centre-immersive-technologies |
| Digital and emerging technological challenges to democracies in the Global South. | Leeds Institute for Data Analytics https://lida.leeds.ac.uk/ |

| Indonesia's National Priorities | University of Leeds Expertise |
|---|--|
| Strengthen gender equality and protect the rights of women, children, and persons with disabilities. | Centre for Disability Studies https://disability-studies.leeds.ac.uk/ |
| Environmental preservation and sustainability. | Priestley Centre for Climate Futures https://climate.leeds.ac.uk/ |
| Energy transitions and fuel subsidies. | Centre for Global Security Challenges https://css.leeds.ac.uk/ UK Centre for Greening Finance and Investment https://www.cgfi.ac.uk/ |
| Indonesia in the changing world order. | Centre for Global Development https://cgd.leeds.ac.uk/ |
| Downstream and resource-based industrialisation to create employment, reduce poverty, and realise economic justice. | Centre for Infrastructure Materials https://eps.leeds.ac.uk/civil-engineering-research-innovation/doc/centre-infrastructure-materials |
| Preserve cultural arts and enhance the creative economy. | Cultural Institute https://www.leeds.ac.uk/cultural-institute |

Application Process

Call for Proposal

This international PhD training is an excellent opportunity for prospective PhD students to receive an intensive week of theoretical and practical training led by experts from the University of Leeds, the Universitas Indonesia, and the British Council. There is no registration fee.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit a PhD research project title; an abstract (max 300 words) outlining the PhD topic; a short CV; and a one-page cover letter introducing yourself, your research and why you wish to participate in the PhD training. Applicants must be in the pre-application stage or pre-acceptance stage for a PhD in the UK. We encourage applications from individuals who are currently employed by Indonesian universities and/or research institutes and centres.

Applications must be submitted by **30 April 2025** using this link
<https://forms.office.com/e/AGb61iDYQR>

Provisional Training Schedule

| Date | Events and Content | Staffing |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Sunday 27 July | Participants arrive in Depok, check-in | Universitas Indonesia welcome committee |
| Monday 28 July | Welcome speeches, including: Dr Fauzan Adziman, Director General of Research and Development at the Ministry of Higher Education Introductory remarks from Leeds, UI and British Council All participants give opening presentations | All parties |
| Tuesday 29 July | Academic training and workshops for small groups on 'how to write a proposal', focus on core analytical skills | University of Leeds Universitas Indonesia |
| Wednesday 30 July | Language workshops for small groups focusing on English for academic purposes, and core language skills | University of Leeds Universitas Indonesia |
| Thursday 31 July | IELTS information session ¹ | British Council |
| Friday 1 August | Individual mock interviews for all participants, covering the key criteria for admission to a PhD programme Closing ceremony, certificates issued | University of Leeds Universitas Indonesia All parties |

¹ British Council is running an IELTS trial on 3 July via their delivery partners in Jakarta, Depok, Tangerang, Bandung, Jogjakarta, Semarang, Solo, Surabaya, Medan, Padang, Makassar, Manado, Bogor, and Denpasar. After completing the IELTS trial, participants will receive email from the British Council informing them of their results and suggested practice. With this information, the British Council can deliver an IELTS information session to give participants a better understanding of the IELTS test and some practical tips.

Academic Advisors from the University of Leeds



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