



**School of Psychology Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) Research Scholarships  
Competition 2026 Application Form**

**Application deadline: 20 February 2026**

*Once completed, including supervisor statement, please upload your form to your Kent PhD course application in [Psychology](#).*

*For more information about eligibility and the full application procedure, please see the advertisement.*

**Your full name**

**Your proposed primary supervisor. *This is only needed for the Schools of Politics and International Relations and Psychology.***

**Your proposed secondary supervisor(s). *This is only needed for the Schools of Politics and International Relations and Psychology.***

**The title of your project (max 150 characters including spaces)**

**Research proposal abstract (max 4,000 characters including spaces)**

*This should be a complete but concise description of your research proposal, written in such a way that a non-specialist reader will quickly be able to ascertain the purpose of your research project.*

*Please note that panellists who will be assessing your application may not be experts in your disciplinary area*

## **Research Proposal (max 3,000 words)**

*Consider covering the following points in this section::*

1. *the research context within which those problems or questions are located;*
2. *the particular contribution that you hope to make to the existing knowledge and understanding in this area, explaining why your research is important, and noting its relevance to, and potential impact for, non-academic beneficiaries, as appropriate;*
3. *the methods and critical approaches that you plan to use, and the sources for these, if appropriate;*
4. *if relevant, how the proposed research relates to what you have studied already (where there is overlap between your Master's dissertation and your doctoral research, you should demonstrate how the project will go further, and state the added value of continuing to research in this area);*
5. *how the research project will develop over the period of the award (e.g. key stages, timetable); and,*
6. *how this research relates to your eventual career aims.*

*You should make references to theory and research throughout. If you want, you can save space using [Vancouver style](#) (School of Politics and International Relations applicants should use Chicago author-date style). Provide full references in a separate section, at the end of this form.*

## **Research Background**

## **Applicant Statement (max 500 WORDS)**

*In this section, please give your reasons for applying. In doing so, please address the following:*

- *Why you think you deserve a studentship;*
- *Why you wish to study with Kent specifically, and how you plan to take advantage of the opportunities Kent offers its students; and,*
- *Your preparedness for the demands of postgraduate life by discussing your passion for your topic, as well as your existing academic, professional, and life knowledge and experience.*
  - *What are your career goals: in particular, tell us about your long-term career ambitions, and how the studentship relates to these.*
  - *Your preparation for further study: discuss how your undergraduate and/or Master's degree, as well as any life or professional experience you have, has prepared you for your proposed research project.*
  - *Your skillset:*
    - *Highlight your relevant skills and knowledge that will enable you to make an impact, and explain what that impact will be.*
    - *Summarise your abilities in core areas related to your research project, including IT, organisation, communication, time management and critical thinking.*
    - *Make reference to any grades you've achieved, awards you've won, placements you've undertaken, or conferences you've attended which have either helped prepare you for your research project, or which make you an great candidate for a studentship.*

**Supervisor Statement of Support (max 2,000 characters including spaces)** – Your supervisor's statement should focus on the quality of your research proposal. It should comment on the prospects for the research to make a significant (published) contribution to the field of research. Where appropriate, it should also comment on its prospects to benefit other academic disciplines and non-academic beneficiaries. The statement should include comment on how your supervisor's expertise, interests, and experience can help you conduct the research and realize its potential contribution. Note that one of your supervisors can also be one of your two referees, in which case they will need to write both the supervisor statement and a reference. Your supervisor should include details of their supervisory record, such as any PhD students completed, destinations for their students, major publications or successes of their PhD students. **Please give your supervisor plenty of notice that they need to write this statement and agree a date in advance of the deadline for them to give it to you to upload to your application.**

[Please type or copy your supervisor's statement of support here]

**Supervisory team statement/research environment (max 1,500 characters including spaces) -- This is only required for the Schools of Politics and International Relations, and Psychology.**

*Please ensure that the contribution of both supervisors to your project is outlined here by the primary or secondary supervisor. Where appropriate please comment on current collaborations between the two supervisors, any existing research projects or papers, or aligned/complementary research interests and how the research team will enhance the proposed project and supervision.*

[Please type or copy your supervisory team statement/research environment here]

**Ability and Motivation to Teach (max 1,500 characters including spaces)**

*Please include any relevant experience, such as teaching, training, mentoring or coaching that you have delivered, as well as academic and non-academic presentations.*

[Please type or copy your statement about teaching here]