



PG Essentials: Becoming an academic

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Careers Consultant (Postgraduates)

Becoming an academic

- Why become an academic?
- Academic roles
- Academic pathways
 - SET path to a permanent academic role
 - Humanities path to a permanent academic role
 - How to progress into academia - advice
- What are your chances of making it?
- What can you do now?
- Further support

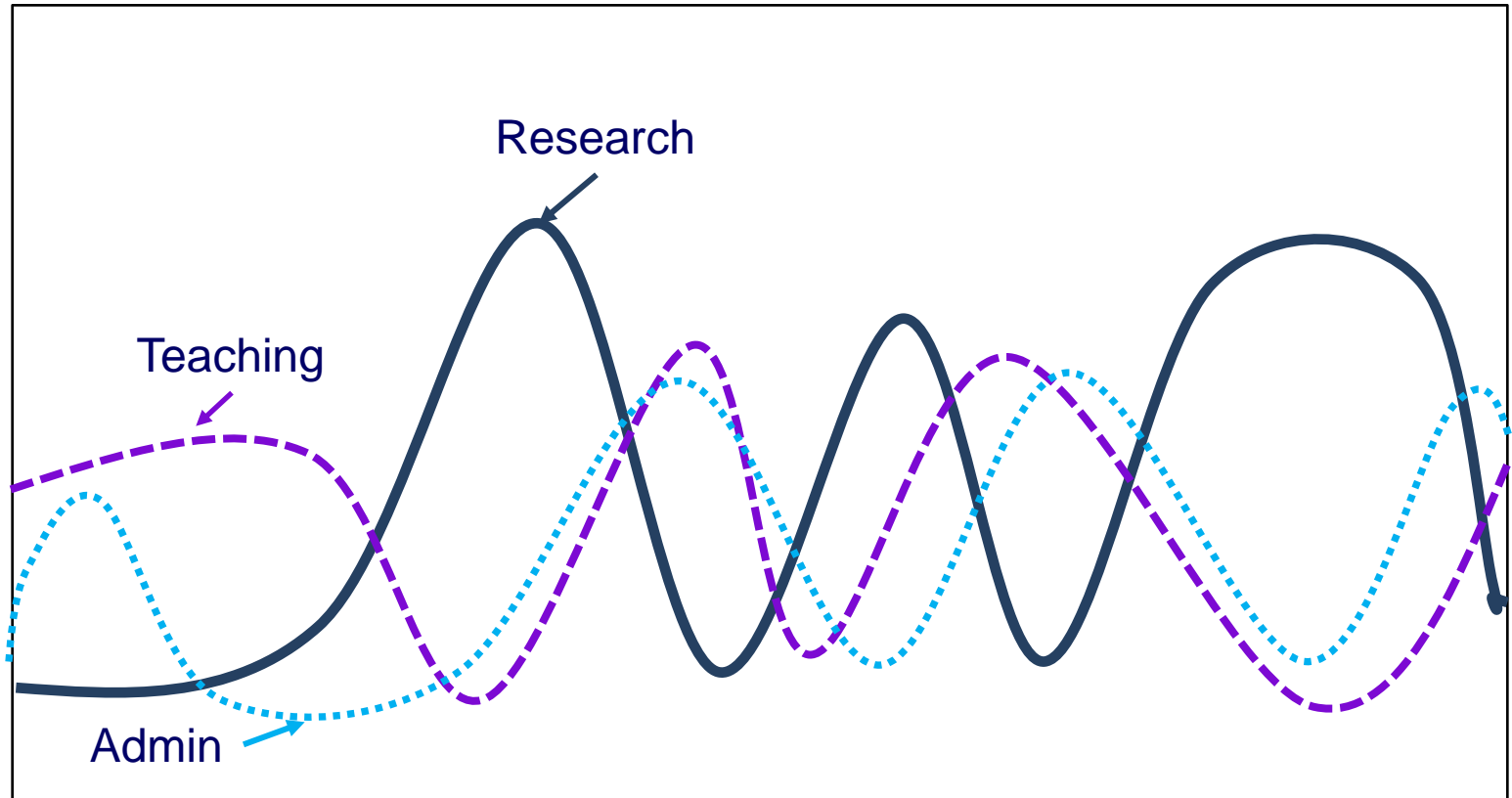
What attracts you to academia?

What do academics do

How to progress in academia

- Videos taken from “[An Academic Career](#)”
 - Please note, unfortunately the playlist widget for all the videos no longer works. However, there are transcripts for all videos which are available as pdfs for download.

What do academics do?



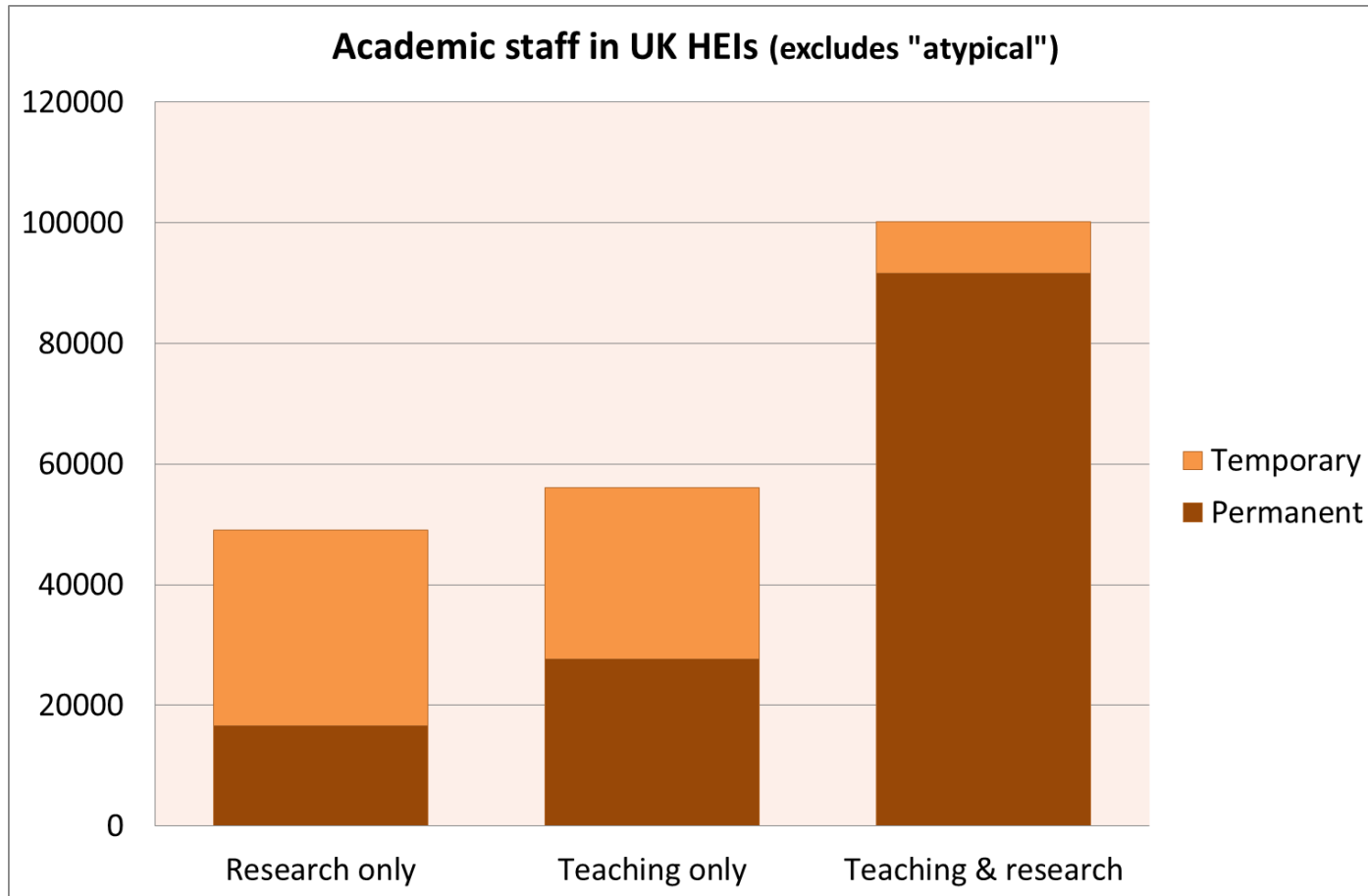
September

January

Easter

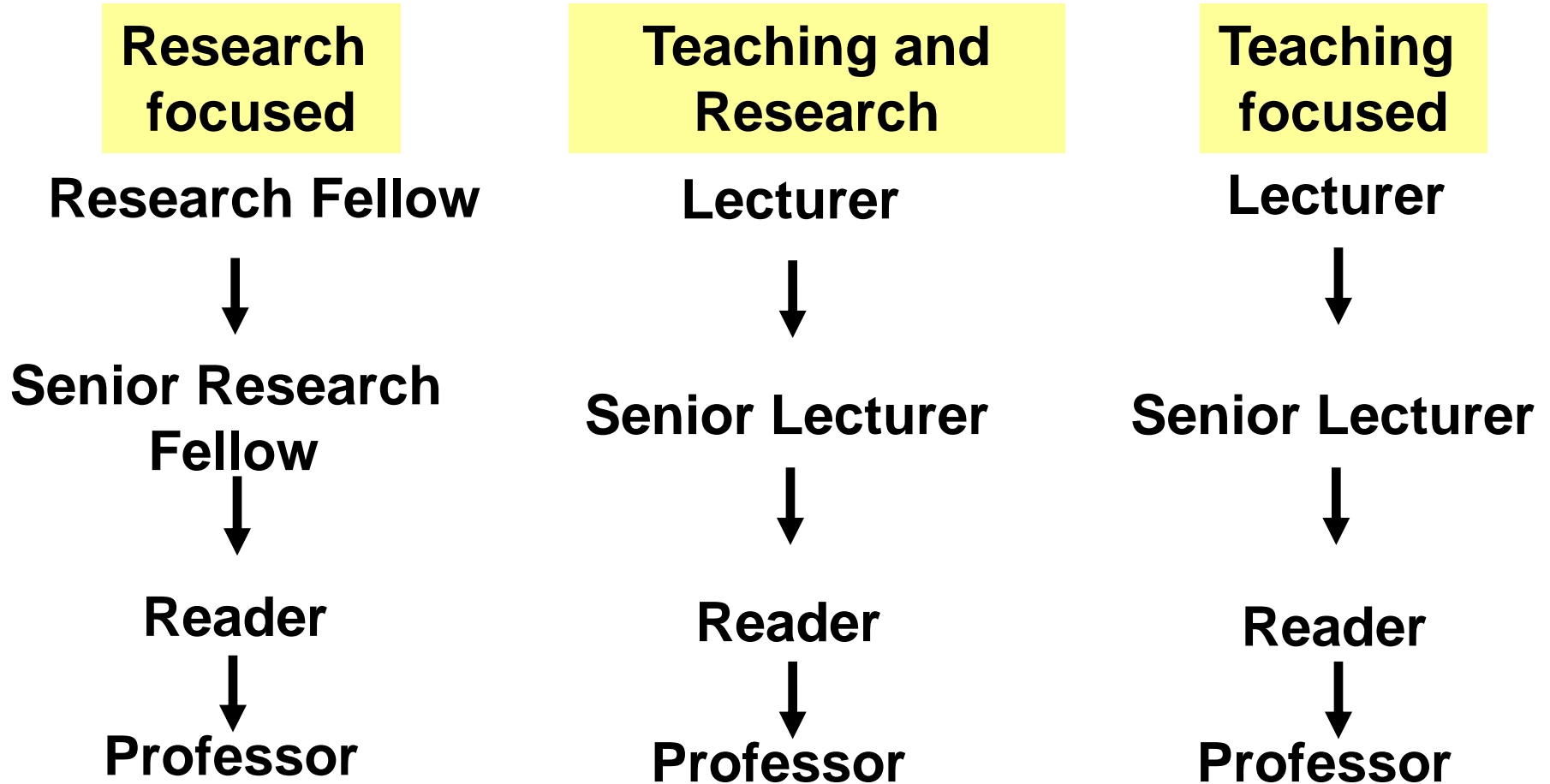
August

Could I focus on research or teaching only?



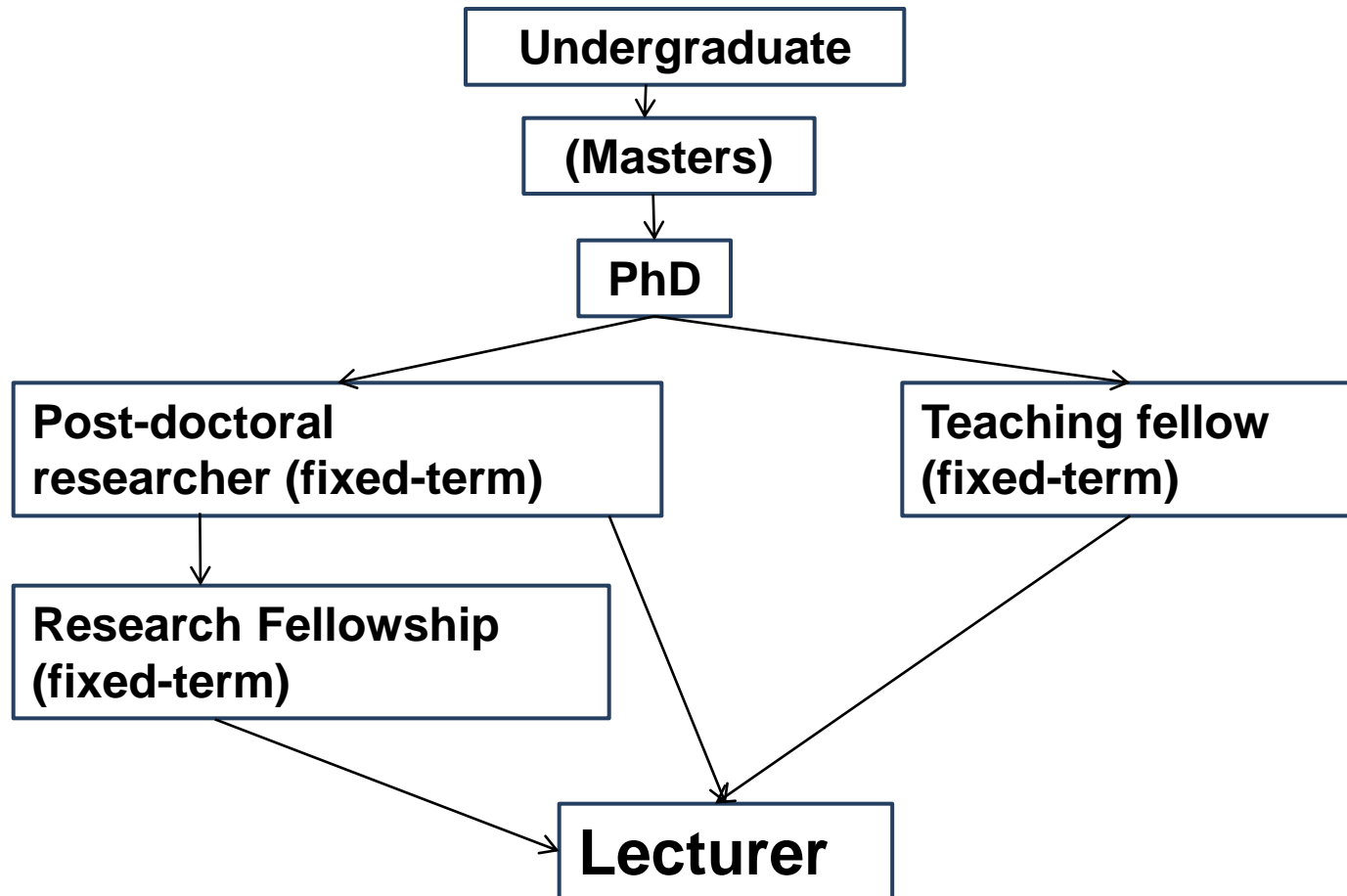
Depends on institution (research intensive vs teaching focused)

Academic Pathways - Manchester

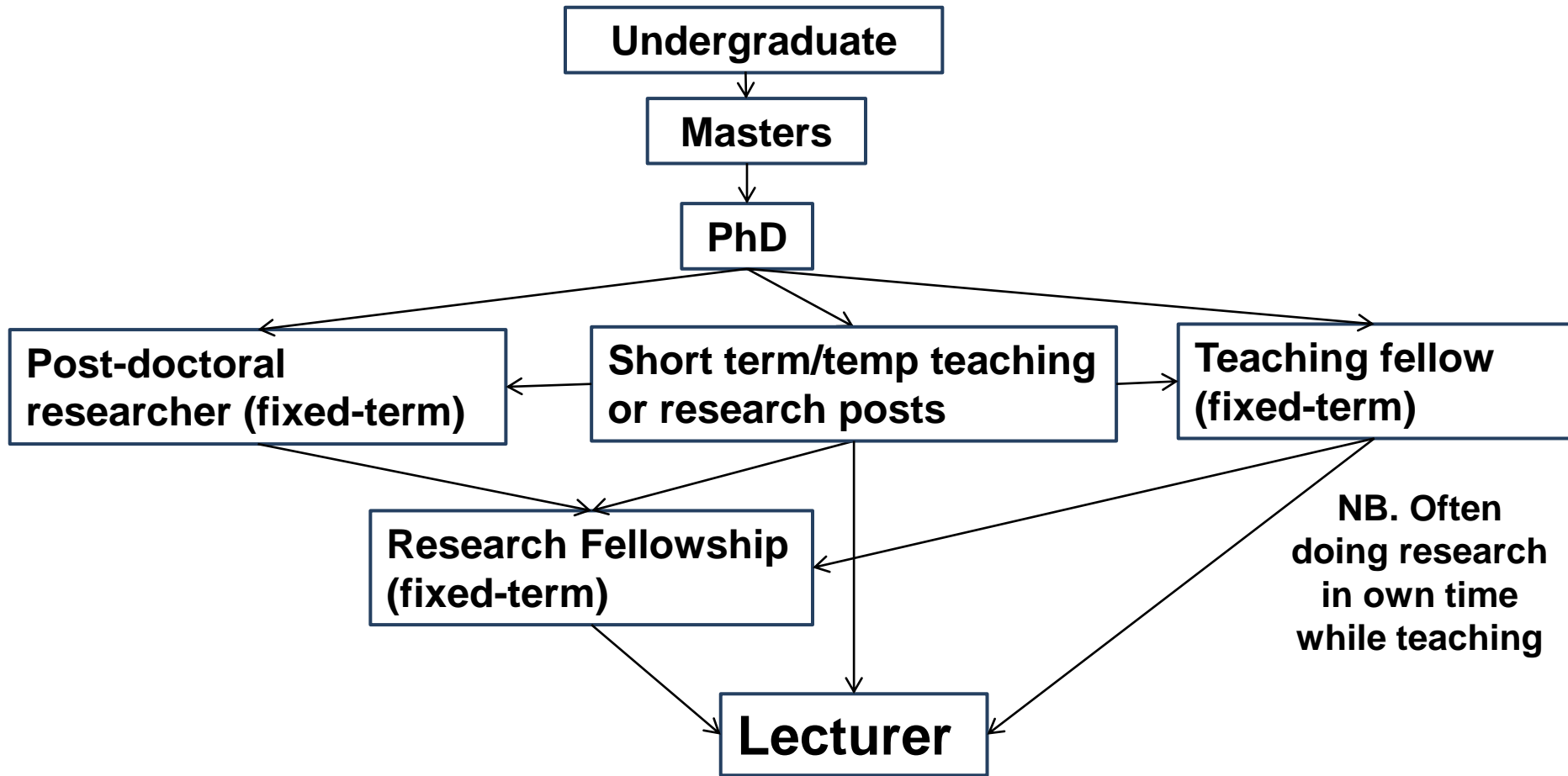


For info on academic promotion criteria and policies at University of Manchester, click [here](#)

Pathways to Lecturer- SET

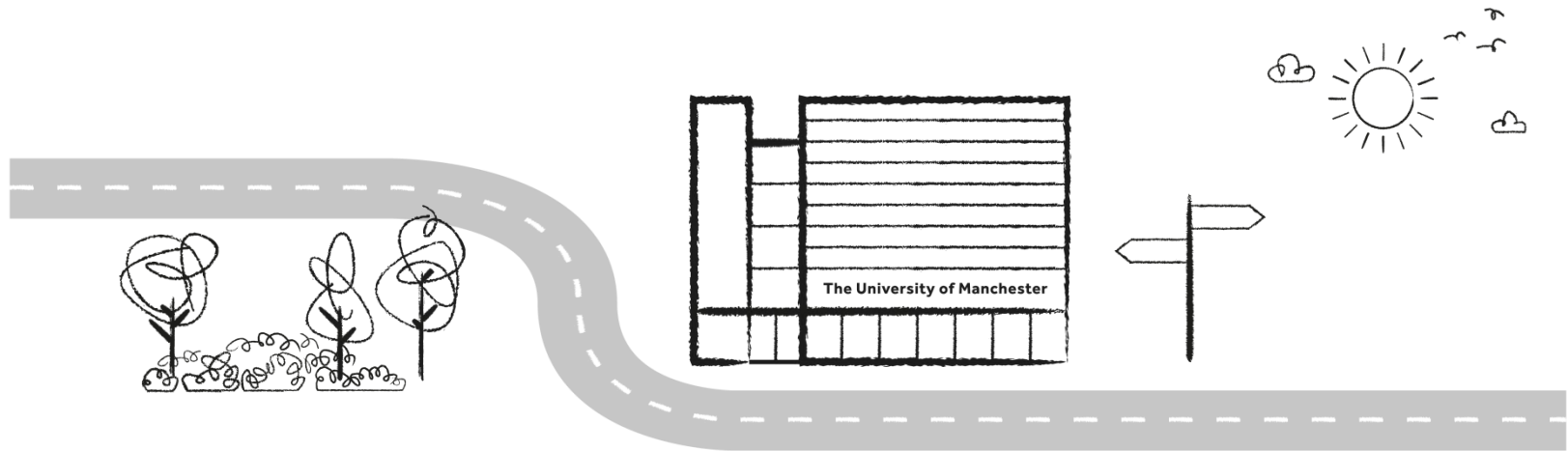


Pathways to Lecturer - Humanities

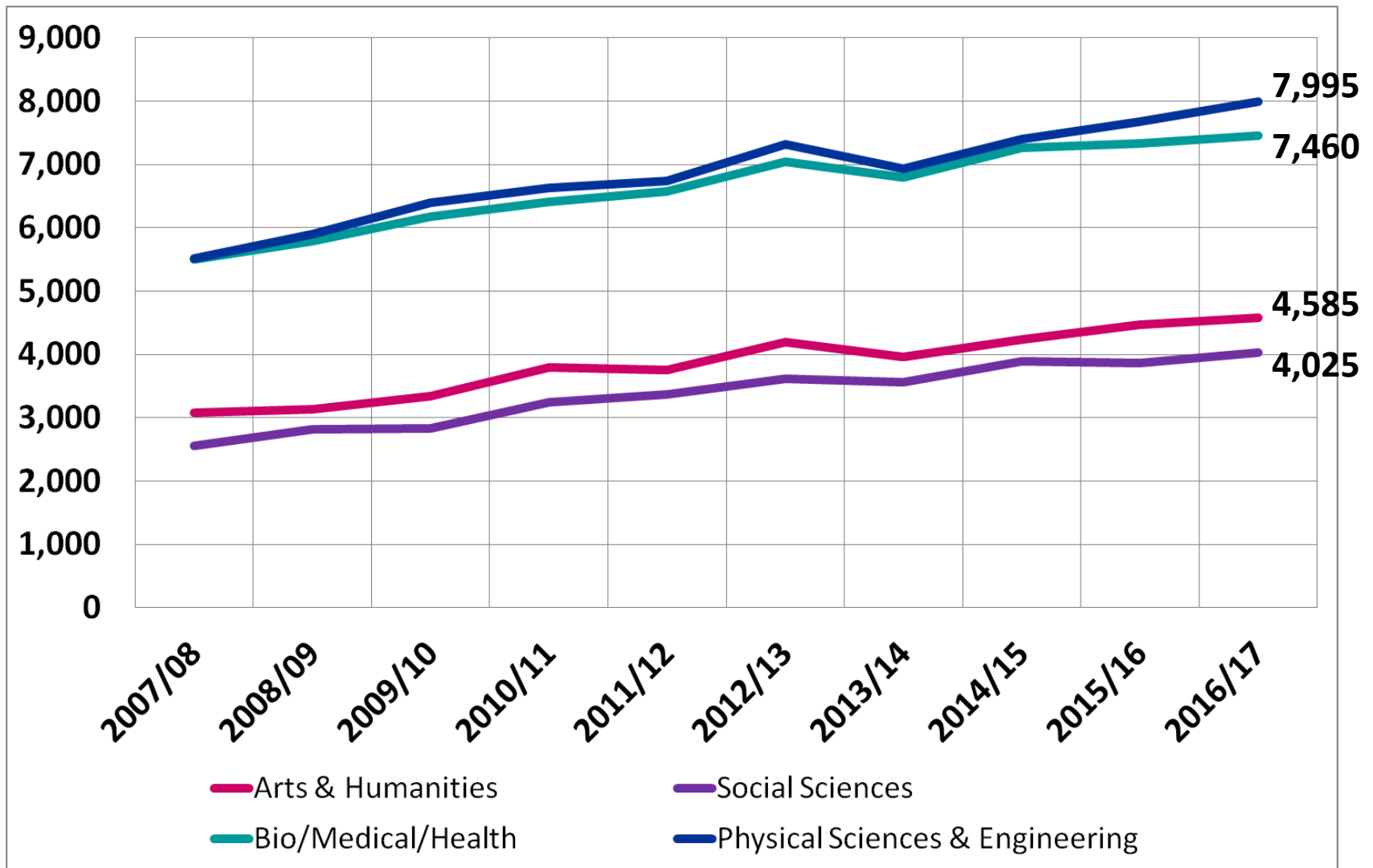
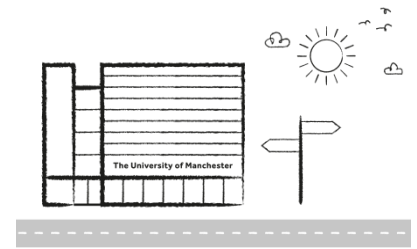


What are my chances?

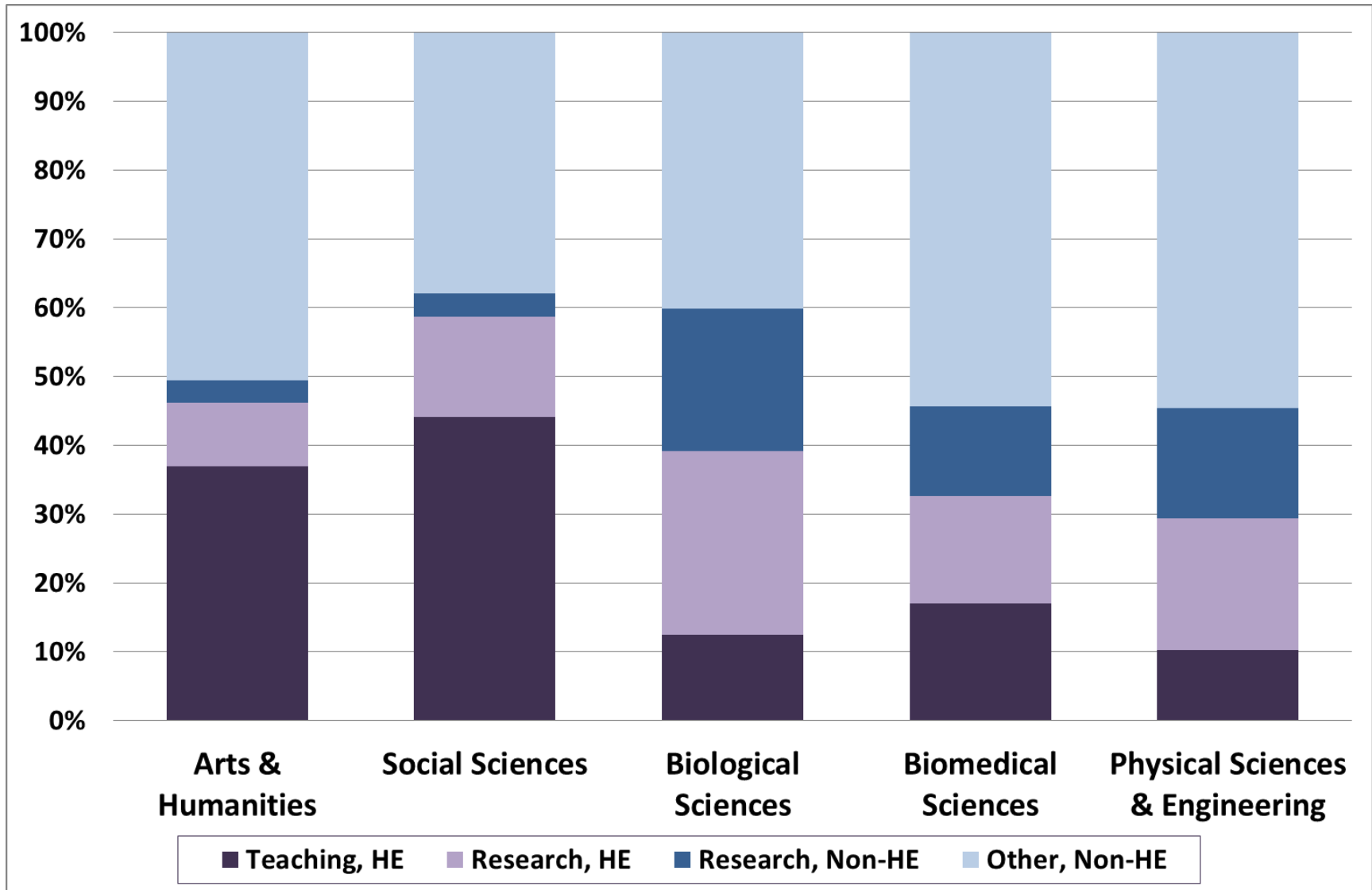
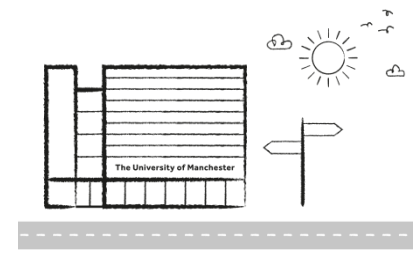
The employment landscape for Doctoral Researchers



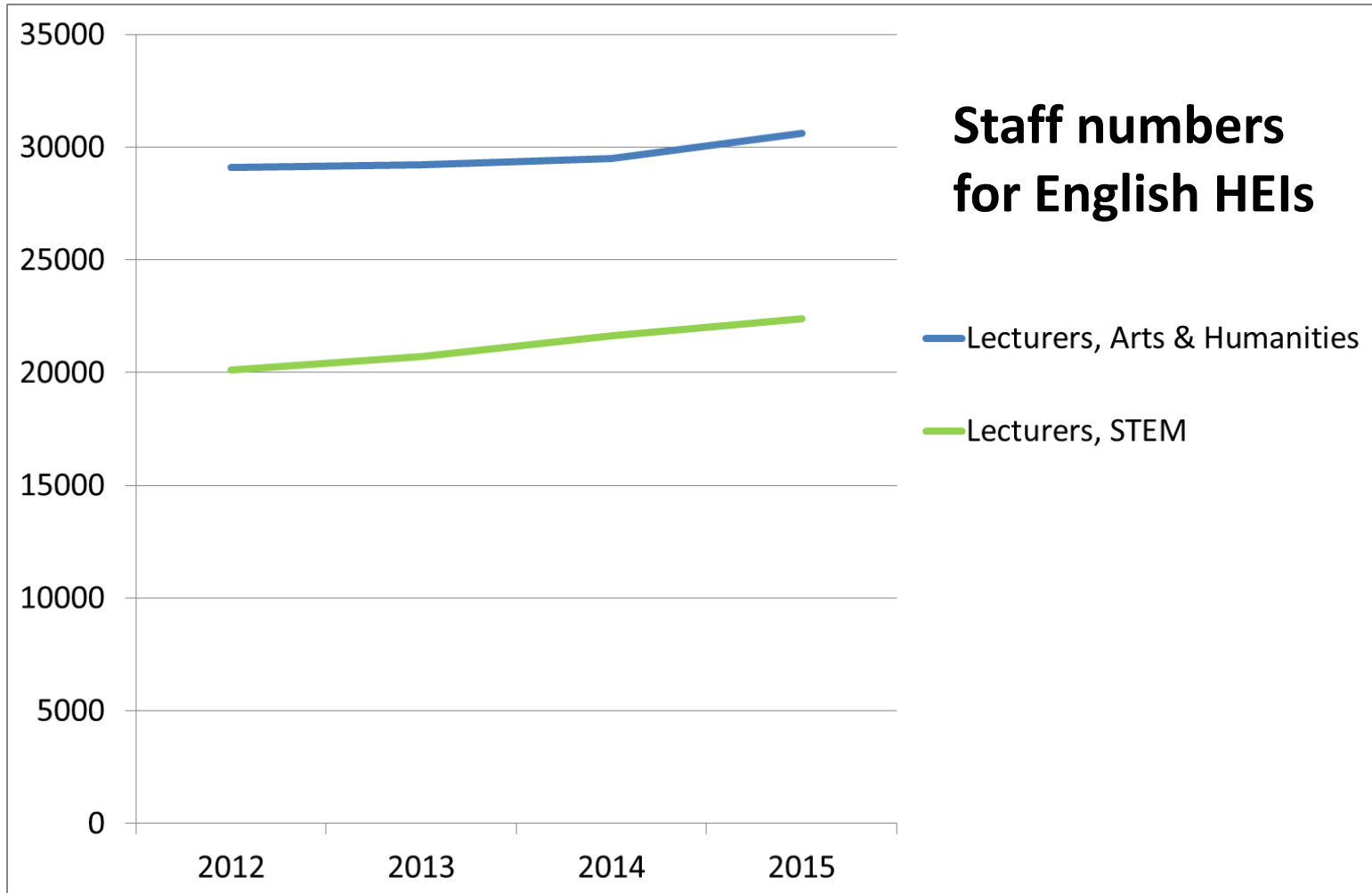
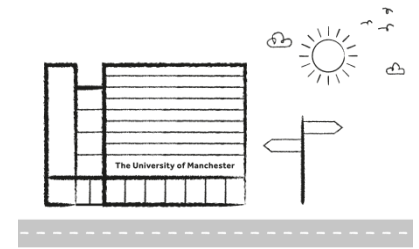
How many new PhDs are there in the UK?



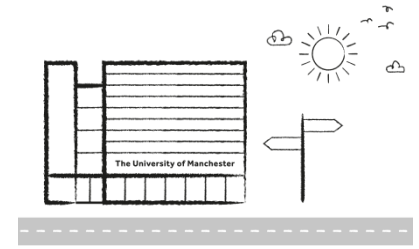
Where are PhDs, 3.5 years after graduating?



How many academic jobs are there?



Academic job ads



Social Sciences

Researcher – 2024 jobs

202 permanent researcher jobs



■ 10% PERMANENT
■ 90% CONTRACT/TEMP

Lecturer – 2464 jobs

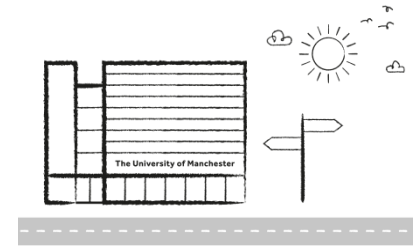
1897 permanent lecturer jobs



■ 77% PERMANENT
■ 23% CONTRACT/TEMP

Jobs advertised in 2015 on Jobs.ac.uk

Academic job ads



Arts & Humanities

Researcher – 792 jobs
71 permanent researcher jobs



■ 9% PERMANENT
■ 91% CONTRACT/TEMP

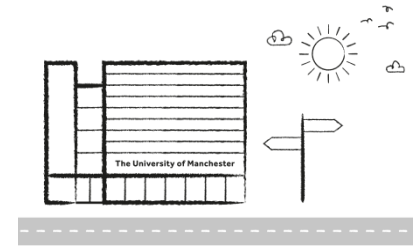
Lecturer – 1676 jobs
1173 permanent lecturer jobs



■ 70% PERMANENT
■ 30% CONTRACT/TEMP

Jobs advertised in 2015 on Jobs.ac.uk

Academic job ads



Bio/medical/health sciences

Researcher – 6077 jobs

425 permanent researcher jobs



■ 7% PERMANENT
■ 93% CONTRACT/TEMP

Lecturer – 1670 jobs

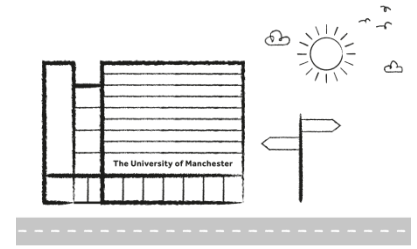
1269 permanent lecturer jobs



■ 76% PERMANENT
■ 24% CONTRACT/TEMP

Jobs advertised in 2015 on Jobs.ac.uk

Academic job ads



Physical sciences/Engineering

Researcher – 5708 jobs
400 permanent researcher jobs

Lecturer – 1431 jobs
1144 permanent lecturer jobs



■ 7% PERMANENT
■ 93% CONTRACT/TEMP



■ 80% PERMANENT
■ 20% CONTRACT/TEMP

Jobs advertised in 2015 on Jobs.ac.uk

Questions to ask yourself

- **Academic achievement**

- Are your qualifications on track?
- How strong is your publication record?

- **Skills**

- How good are your research skills?
- How effectively can you communicate (& defend) your work?
- What teaching experience do you have?
- Have you been able to compete for funding?



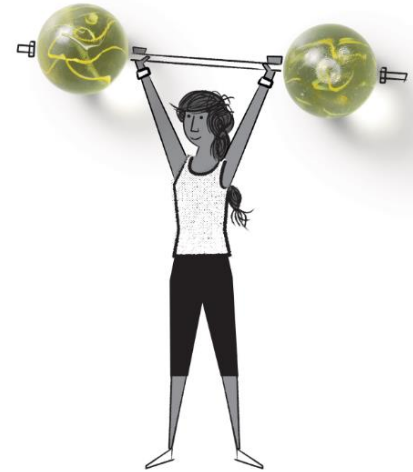
Questions to ask yourself

- **Motivation**

- Do you have a passion for your subject?
- Are you prepared for the demands on your homelife?
- Can you cope with the uncertainty & pressure of aspiring to be an academic?

- **The competition**

- Do you know your competitors
- What gives you the competitive edge?



Questions to ask yourself

- **Strategic focus**

- Where do you see your research going?
- Are you developing as an independent researcher?
- What is your strategy for publishing your work?
- Where will your funding come from as an academic?
- How much effort do you put into managing your professional reputation?



An Academic Career

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

An Academic Career

Search An Academic Career

Is an academic career for you? About academic careers Finding jobs Making applications Interviews & assessments

An Academic Career

Explore the tailored information below to find out what it takes to make it as an academic, wherever you are in your career - or dive straight in using the tabs at the top of the page.

Undergraduate / Masters

PhD / Doctoral researcher

Post-doctoral research / teaching staff

Is an academic career for you?
What do academics do?
How do you become an academic?

2011 THE AWARDS AWARD WINNER

Pathways
Career options event for PhDs and researchers

Job opportunities
Job opportunities at The University of Manchester

About us
Aims, background and future plans for this site

www.manchester.ac.uk/academiccareer

Further support

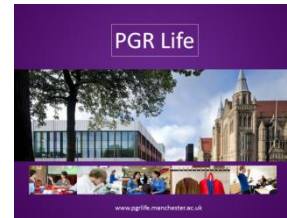
Slides for this session, plus all the other Postgrad careers essentials talks at:

www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/postgraduates/events

Postgrad researcher, thinking about an academic career?

- **PGR Life** - <http://bit.ly/PGRLife>

- Supporting your research / Activities to help your future research career



- Want funding for that conference or to add a few prizes to your CV (and bank balance)?

www.pgrlife.manchester.ac.uk/supportingyou/financesfundingandimmigration - under “All PGRs” – Research Professional and the Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding