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research film competition 2024

**About the competition**

The Doctoral and Researcher College Research Film Competition has been established to showcase the research undertaken by doctoral researchers at the University of Reading. The film should showcase your doctoral research in a clear and engaging way to a non-specialist academic audience. If your film is shortlisted it will be shown at the University of Reading Doctoral Research Conference on 12 June 2024. The competition will be judged by a panel drawn from the University of Reading’s research community.

The winner chosen by the Judging Panel will receive an award of £100. The winner of the People’s Choice Award voted for by conference delegates will receive £50.

**Eligibility – who can apply?**

All current University of Reading doctoral researchers, including those undertaking professional doctorates, who have not graduated before 1 June 2024.

**Key dates**

* Entry deadline = 19 April 2024
* Date by which shortlisted finalists will be notified = 17 May 2024
* Doctoral Research Conference = 12 June 2024
* Overall winner announced = 12 June 2024
* People’s choice award announced = 12 June 2024

**Competition guidelines and rules**

* The film must relate to research carried out during your doctoral studies. The film should communicate an element of your research in a clear and engaging way to non-specialists.
* The film should be your own creation using minimal or no budget; judges will be more interested in creativity and communication than high production values. Films which make use of commercial production help should not be entered.
* Production techniques can include animation and live action. Please do not submit a ‘talking head’ film or screen capture..
* If using a voice over, you should use a human voice, not an AI generated voice.
* The aim of the competition is tell the story of your research visually in an engaging way rather than through text.
* The film must be between two and three minutes in duration that explains your research in an engaging way to a non-specialist audience.
* Each student can submit only one film.
* Each student should submit a film accompanied by an abstract that explains what your film shows and how it relates to your research. The abstract must be accessible to a non-specialist academic audience.
* The film should be in the aspect ratio 16:9 with a landscape orientation.
* Please send your film as a MP4 or a MOV file via WeTransfer to [DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk](mailto:DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk)
* Students must have obtained all necessary permissions for the inclusion of any copyright-protected works, including music and/or images within the film.
* If your film is selected then you must be able to attend the conference on 12 June 2024. If you are registered By Distance then you should endeavour to attend on 12 June, but it is not necessary for you to take part in the competition.
* Entrants will be informed if their film has been selected by 17 May 2024.
* Shortlisted entries may be made available to the public online after the competition closing date.
* We reserve the right to disqualify entries that don’t comply with the competition requirements.
* Events may occur that render the competition (or certain aspects of the competition) impossible due to reasons beyond the control of the University. Accordingly, the University may at its absolute discretion change, suspend or cancel the competition (or elements of it) if circumstances beyond its control make it necessary to do so.

**Deadline for competition entry: 19 April 2024**

Research Film Competition 2024

Entry Form

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| --- | --- |
| **First name** |  |
| **Surname** |  |
| **Student number** |  |
| **Registration status** | On campus By Distance |
| **University email address** |  |
| **Supervisor** |  |
| **School** |  |
| **Department** |  |
| **Film title** |  |

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| **Please write a short abstract (max 150 words) that explains what your film shows and how it is related to your doctoral research. Your abstract must be accessible to a non-specialist academic audience.** |
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| **Disclaimer** |
| **Copyright**  As filmmaker, you will retain copyright ownership of your submitted film. By entering this competition, you grant the University of Reading a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use and reproduce your submitted film (including any excerpts from, or works derived from, your submission) – whether or not it is chosen to win a prize – for academic and/or marketing purposes (including in promotional materials), online and in all media as required, without further permission from, or compensation to, the filmmaker. Credit will be given that identifies you as the filmmaker.  To the extent that your submission includes a qualifying performance under the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, you authorise the University to reproduce, distribute and make available the recorded performance to the general public.  You further agree to the use of your name, biographical information and photographs of you taken at the Doctoral Research Conference, for academic and/or marketing purposes. |
| **Liability**  The University of Reading shall not be liable in any way for a submission. It is the responsibility of the filmmaker to secure all necessary permissions for the inclusion of any copyright-protected works or the recorded performances of third parties, and to obtain any necessary consents from identifiable individuals in their film by ensuring that written permission has been received. The University of Reading provides image release forms for photography and filming, which might be useful for this purpose: <https://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/imps/Copyright/ImageReleaseForms.aspx>  By submitting an entry to this competition you represent and warrant to the University that (i) you are the creator and sole and exclusive owner of your submission, or otherwise have all right and authority to grant to the University the rights in the submission described herein; and (ii) nothing in your submission infringes the intellectual property or personal data rights of any third party and that all necessary permissions, and/or releases from identifiable individuals depicted in your submission (or from their legal guardian as required), have been obtained. |
| I declare that my entry is an original piece of work generated during my doctoral research studies at the University of Reading. I have read the above statements about liability and copyright and accept and agree to them.  **Name:**  **Signature:**  **Date:**  **Supervisor’s name:**  **Supervisor’s signature**: |
| **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 19 April 2024**  **Please send your film file with your surname and film title as the filename.**  **Please send your entry form as a word document with your surname and film title as the filename.** |
| If your film has been shortlisted you will be notified by email once the deadline for submission has passed.  Please send your film (MP4 or MOV file) via WeTransfer to [DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk](mailto:DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk)  Then please send a hardcopy of the form signed by yourself and your supervisor to Doctoral and Researcher College, Old Whiteknights House, Whiteknights, University of Reading, PO BOX 217, RG6 6AH |

Please note if shortlisted, students will be required to be photographed, filmed and/or recorded, for the purposes of participating in the production of University photography, video or audio work.

Any personal data supplied on this form will be used to administer the competition entry and contact winners. Further information can be found in the University’s privacy policy. Shortlisted entrants and winners will be identified at the UoR Doctoral Research Conference and in Doctoral and Researcher College publications, including online.