

# Fully Funded ESRC Wales-DTP DOCTORAL STUDENTSHIPS School of Social Sciences—FLEXIS

Apply by 1 February 2018

[www.tinyurl.com/socsi-esrc-phd-studentships](http://www.tinyurl.com/socsi-esrc-phd-studentships)

Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences, supported by the ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership for Wales (Wales DTP), invites applications for funded doctoral studentship awards to start in October 2018.

Within the ESRC Science & Technology Studies pathway sits the major research challenge of new energy technologies. The School of Social Sciences works in collaboration with FLEXIS (Flexible Integrated Energy Systems) a £24 million research operation designed to integrate social science and technical research to investigate social, psychological and environmental aspects of the complexities and issues concerning future integrated energy system changes.

Possible topics for a doctoral studentship include:

- Potential social impacts of energy system change in communities surrounding the Port Talbot steelworks
- Social legitimacy and acceptability of CCU and socio-technical change
- Smart living and vulnerable consumers
- Decarbonisation and digitisation of energy systems change
- Intelligibility of problems of energy use and demand: How experts and members of the public construe contemporary logics of energy demand reduction
- Understandings of materials use: Exploring divergent notions of waste, efficiency, abundance and excess in the context of energy systems change
- The UK's industrial strategy – Is there a place for environmental stewardship and psycho-social citizenship?
- Creative designs for investigating relationships between air quality, environmental risk controversy and quality of life
- (Inter) generational encounters with energy systems change

We would be interested to discuss possible PhD projects with students on these topics or other related topics of interest prior to the submission of an application. Students with backgrounds in sociology, human geography, social psychology and with interdisciplinary interests are welcome to apply.

Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences values diversity and equality at all levels and encourages applications from all sections of the community.

#### Further details

contact Professor Karen Henwood:  
[henwoodk@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:henwoodk@cardiff.ac.uk)  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/social-sciences)



## RESEARCH SUPERVISION

These studentships are 'open' awards and the School welcomes proposals over a wide range of pathways. Applicants should consider approaching a potential supervisor before submitting their application to confirm that there is supervisory capacity within the School and to discuss their draft application.

Published works by the School of Social Sciences in collaboration with FLEXIS on energy and everyday life draw upon object relations theories, social theories of attachment, embodiment, non-linguistic expressiveness, and affect. Examples can be found at:

[www.energybiographies.org](http://www.energybiographies.org)

Further details of the FLEXIS project can be found at:  
[www.flexis.wales/](http://www.flexis.wales/)

## 1+3 OR +3 AWARD TYPES

The awards are available on either a 1+3 or +3 basis:

- A 1+3 studentship provides funding for four years (or up to seven years part-time), completing the MSc in Social Science Research Methods in the 1st year, followed by 3 years research funding for a PhD.
- A +3 studentship provides funding for the three years PhD research study only (or five years part-time).

## STUDENTSHIP FUNDING

Studentship Awards commence in October 2018 and will cover your tuition fees as well as a maintenance grant (currently £14,553 p.a. for 2017/18 for full-time students, updated each year); and includes access to an additional Research Training Support Grant (RTSG). There are other opportunities and benefits available to studentship holders, including an overseas fieldwork allowance (if applicable), internship opportunities, overseas institutional visits and other small grants.

## CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

ESRC studentships are highly competitive. Candidates should have:

- an excellent academic background in the social sciences
- a 1<sup>st</sup> or strong upper 2<sup>nd</sup> class undergraduate degree
- a relevant research training Masters degree (or an equivalent background in research training) to be considered for a +3 award

Full awards (fees plus maintenance stipend) are only open to UK Nationals and EU students who can satisfy UK residency requirements.

## HOW TO APPLY

Candidates must submit a completed application for admission to Doctor of Philosophy in Social Sciences with an October 2018 start date by the deadline of **4pm, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018**.

In the funding section, please select "I will be applying for a scholarship/grant" and "ESRC Wales Doctoral Training Partnership".

The application form must contain the following documents:

**1. Covering letter:** Please address to Dr Teresa de Villiers, Director of Postgraduate Studies. The covering letter must set out your reasons and motivation for applying to study at Cardiff University, and the School of Social Sciences; your understanding, and expectations of doctoral study; and your academic interests generally, and particularly of those relating to your proposed research. The covering letter should be no more than two pages. Please also specify which pathway you will be applying to and whether you wish to apply on a +3 or 1+3 basis.

**2. Academic / Professional Qualifications:** This should also include proof of English Language Competency (7.0 IELTS minimum).

**3. References:** All applications require two academic references to be submitted in support. Candidates must approach referees themselves and request a reference to be submitted.

**4. Curriculum Vitae:** This should be no longer than two pages.

**5. Research Proposal:** Applicants should use the 'Research Proposal' section of the application form to set out their doctoral thesis and project in summary. The proposal should be up to a *maximum* of 1000 words, not including references. We suggest that you use the following five headings in your research proposal:

- Aims and purpose of the research;
- Overview of the academic literature relevant to your field;
- Proposed methodology;
- Academic contributions of your research.
- References

**PLEASE NOTE: Where the form requests a personal statement, please leave this section blank.**

## TIMELINE

- Application deadline is 4pm, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.
- Interviews will take place between late February and mid-March 2018.
- Successful applicants will be informed of ESRC Wales DTP Doctoral Panel decision by mid-April 2018.