***ESRC Wales DTP General studentships***

Cardiff University, School of Journalism, Media and Culture, supported by the ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership for Wales (Wales DTP), invites applications for PhD study, with the possibility of being awarded a fully-funded ESRC DTP Studentship, available to start in October 2020. We expect to make doctoral studentship awards in the area of:

**“Journalism and Democracy”**

The School of Journalism, Media and Culture (JOMEC) has a long-standing reputation as a world-leading centre for innovative teaching and research.

The School’s researchers engage with pressing contemporary issues and debates across journalism, media and culture bringing together theory and practice. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework assessment, JOMEC’s research was ranked 2nd in the UK in terms of its quality and impact.

A key strength of JOMEC’s research environment is the ongoing dialogue between research and practice-based staff which delivers impactful research outcomes in relation to journalism, media and cultural practice and policy in the UK and internationally.

JOMEC’s cutting-edge research findings are shared through weekly seminars which also feature speakers from across the UK and internationally. The School also hosts the renowned biennial ‘Future of Journalism’ conference bringing together scholars and practitioners from around the world. and These activities, and more, contribute to a lively and thriving research environment.

JOMEC’s purpose-built, state of the art facilities at Two Central Square situate the School at the centre of local and national media, including BBC Cymru/Wales whose brand-new headquarters is situated next door. Our location facilitates the building of strong industry links, boosting students’ employability by providing access to major media organisations within the important and growing sector of the creative and cultural industries.

JOMEC academics draw on multi-disciplinary backgrounds from across the social sciences and humanities and have a strong tradition of teamwork and collaborative publications, as well as a strong industry base.

Applications are invited from exceptional candidates with a first class or strong upper second class honours degree, or appropriate Master’s degree. The University values diversity and equality at all levels and encourages applications from all sections of the community. We welcome applications for both full and part-time study, and studentships are available as either ‘1+3’ (i.e. one full time year of research training Masters followed by three years of full-time Doctoral study, or the part-time equivalent), or ‘+3’ (i.e. three years of full-time doctoral study or its part-time equivalent), depending on the needs of the applicant.

**Pathway Convenor**: Dr Cynthia Carter – email: cartercl@cardif.ac.uk

**Applications welcomed by 3 February 2020 (1200 hours).**

***Further details for ESRC Wales DTP General studentships***

These studentships are ‘open’ awards. Applicants should consider approaching a potential supervisor before submitting their application to confirm that there is appropriate supervisory capacity within the University and to discuss their draft application. Information on the research interests of our staff can be found on the School of Journalism, Media and Culture academic staff webpage (see: https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/journalism-media-and-culture/people/academic-staff). A short description of JOMEC’s accredited pathway, “Journalism and Democracy” is available on the ESRC Wales DTP website (see: http://walesdtp.ac.uk/pathway/journalism-and-democracy/).

**WHAT THE STUDENTSHIP WILL COVER**

Studentship Awards commence in October 2020 and will cover your tuition fees as well as a maintenance grant (currently £15,009 p.a. for 2019/20 for full-time students, updated each year); and includes access to an additional Research Training Support Grant (RTSG), though an element of this latter fund may be ‘pooled’ and require separate applications from 2020 onwards. 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.

**ELIGIBILITY**

ESRC studentships are highly competitive, candidates should have an excellent academic background in the social sciences, holding a 1st or strong upper 2nd class degree; applications from those also holding a relevant research training Masters degree (or an equivalent background in research training) will be considered for a +3 award. Full awards (fees plus maintenance stipend) are open to UK Nationals and EU students who can satisfy UK residency requirements.

**1+3 OR +3?**

With the exception of studentships in the Economics pathway, awards are available on either a 1+3 or +3 basis. A 1+3 studentship provides funding for four years (or part-time equivalent), completing a research training Masters 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 part-time equivalent).

**ASSESSMENT**

The closing deadline for applications is 12.00 noon on Monday 3 February 2020. Short-listed applicants will be invited to interview, which are expected to take place in late February/early March 2020. After interview, a final short-list of applicants will be put forward to a Panel convened by the ESRC Wales DTP Management Group at which final decisions with regard to studentship awards will be made. In most cases successful applicants can expect to hear by early April 2020.

**HOW TO APPLY**

A **completed** application form for admission to doctoral study at Cardiff University: submitted to through the University’s online application system (see JOMEC’s Study Postgraduate webpage for further details (see: <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/research/programmes/programme/journalism-studies>) by the **deadline of 12.00 noon, 3 February 2020**. Incomplete Applications or applications received after this specified time will not be accepted.

The application must contain the following documents:

1. **Covering letter**: Please address to Dr Cynthia Carter. The covering letter must set out your reasons and motivation for applying to study at Cardiff University, and the “Journalism and Democracy” pathway; 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**: Where appropriate, this should also include proof of English Language Competency (7.5 IELTS with a minimum of 7.0 in each sub score).

3. **References**: All applications require two academic references to be submitted in support. Candidates must approach referees themselves and include references with their application.

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

5. **Research Proposal**: The proposal should be up to a *maximum* of 1000 words, not including bibliographic references. We suggest that you use the following five headings in your research proposal:

* Title, aims and purpose of the research;
* Brief overview of the academic literature relevant to your field;
* Proposed design/methods;
* Academic contributions of your research.
* Bibliographic References