



**Economic
and Social
Research Council**

Collaborative Studentships (CASE) Online Briefing for Supervisors

2023 Entry

LISS DTP Team



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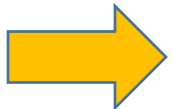
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A short introduction

- Partnership between King's College London, Queen Mary University of London, and Imperial College London.
- Commissioned and funded by the ESRC and institutional investment, with approx. 60 studentships and 7 postdoctoral fellowships offered annually.
- Provides foundation and advanced social science training - all PGRs using social science approaches across the partnership can participate in LISS Pathway activities and research methods training.



Thematic Pathways

- Research remit falls within 13 interdisciplinary Thematic Pathways
- These Pathways are led by academics across the DTP and have their own annual budgets to support activities and training events for their affiliated students (Pathway Activity Funding and Student Led Activity Funding).
- Groups of Pathway Leads are also essential for assessing and awarding new studentships each year.



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- <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/thematic-pathways/>
- <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/about/pathway-lead-information/>

Pathway	Research Area
1. Health Practices, Innovation and Implementation (HPII)	Health, well-being and social inclusion
2. Life Course, Psychology, and Health (LCPH)	
3. Health, Biopolitics & Social Inequality (HBSI)	
4. Economics, Finance & the World Economy (EFWE)	Economics and Business
5. Work, Organisations & Business Management (WOBM)	
6. Education, Mind & Society (EMS)	Language Culture and Education
7. Linguistics, Media & Culture (LMC)	
8. Urbanisation, Social Change & Urban Transformation (USCUT)	The Environment and Urban Life
9. Political Ecology, Energy & Environmental Health (PEEEH)	
10. International Development and Human Security (IDHS)	Governance and security
11. Global Order, Violence & Security Practice (GOVS)	
12. Strategic, Regional, and Security Studies (SRSS)	
13. Politics, Public Policy & Governance (PPPG)	





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LISS DTP Studentships

Paula Sawyer – LISS DTP Manager

LISS DTP Studentships

- There are two studentship competitions:
 1. the **Open Competition** where research proposals are generated by applicants
 2. the **CASE Competition** where research projects must have a non-academic partner, and the research proposal is submitted by the academic supervisor. Input to the proposal from a student applicant is possible.
- **Studentships:** 1+3 (Master's + PhD) or +3 (PhD only) formats. Applicants for +3 awards must meet the ESRC's [core research methods training](#) standards.
- **Open competition**- student-generated proposals, approximately 45 studentship awards per year, opens October and closes January 2023 (exact dates TBC).
- **CASE competition (30% of LISS DTP's Studentship Allocation = c. 15p/a)** - project proposal generated by academics with a non-academic partner or partners, funding decisions made in December each year, projects can have pre-chosen candidates or successful projects can recruit after December for October starts.
 - CASE Proposal can have a 'nominated' student
 - CASE Proposal without a 'nominated' student.



LISS DTP CASE Studentship Competition – Timeline for October 2023 Entry

Competition Opens for Proposals	w/c 18/07/2022
Briefing for Academics	Pre-recorded version available w/c 18/07/2022 Live Session: 15/09/2022
Application Deadline	04/11/2022
Proposal Review Period	09/11/2022 - 09/12/2022
Project Outcomes confirmed	09/12/2022
Project Details added to website	w/c 12/12/2022
Deadline for Student Nominations	31/03/2023
Formal Funding Offers from the LISS DTP made to CASE Studentship Awardees	w/c 17/04/2022

Studentship eligibility

- Open to both Home and International (including EU) students, but only the equivalent of the UKRI Home fee will be covered by the ESRC studentship.
- LISS DTP can award 30% of total studentship allocation to International Students (capped at this level by the ESRC).
- LISS DTP will fund the difference between UKRI Home Fee and international fee for a small number of CASE students (3) - **international candidates must be discussed with the LISS DTP before an offer is made.**
- Students must be resident close to London, UKRI expect students to 'live within a reasonable travel time of their' host institution
- Project must be at least 50% social science.
- Must not be more than 1 year (full-time) or 2 years (part-time) into PhD programme by date of starting studentship (*relevant for Proposals naming a student in the proposal*).
- Primary supervisor must be based within LISS DTP partner institutions.
- LISS particularly welcomes applications from UK students with a BAME background who are underrepresented.



<https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/studentships/collaborative-case-studentships/>

What does a studentship include?


Home Students:

- Stipend of at least £18,062 at the full-time rate
- Stipend of £9031 at the part-time rate (50%)
- Fees at the UKRI Home Level of £4,596 p/a
- Research Training Support Grant of around £750 per annum
- Additional support for internships, overseas fieldwork, difficult language training or overseas institutional visits.
- Funding award for 3 years (+3) or 4 years (1+3) depending on application for PhD-only or Masters + PhD.

International Students:

LISS DTP can award up to 30% of total studentship allocation to International Students (capped at this level by the ESRC).

- Stipend of £18,062 at the full-time rate
- Stipend of £9031 at the part-time rate (50%)
- Fees at the UKRI Home Level of £4,596 p/a
- ESRC will only fund the Home UKRI Fee, which means that the difference between the UKRI Home and international fee must be found elsewhere, such as: the student's department, institution, or another source such as self-funding. LISS DTP institutions will fund the difference between the home and international fee for a limited number of international students. At this stage we cannot guarantee that every international student offered a LISS DTP studentship will receive this funding as part of their studentship.
- Research Training Support Grant of around £750 per annum
- Additional support for internships, overseas fieldwork, difficult language training or overseas institutional visits.
- Funding award for 3 years (+3) or 4 years (1+3) depending on application for PhD-only or Masters + PhD.



Training and Development

- Provided through Pathway activities and LISS DTP's central core and advanced methods training programme (40-50 courses per year)
- Open to all funded and unfunded PGR students in the partnership
- Extensive programme of writing skills support
- Individual Research Training Support Grants of £750 per annum (for funded LISS DTP Students)
- Opportunities to undertake internships and international visits

See: <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/our-training-programme/>





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CASE Studentships

Professor Arnab Majumdar – Deputy Director

CASE Studentships

- project proposal **generated by academics with a non-academic partner** – any sector, more than one partner possible
- ESRC advise that International Partners can be considered; however, they **must make the case that they provide training that cannot be provided in the UK**. UKRI funded studentships must be undertaken in the UK.
- funding decisions made in December each year
- projects can have a nominated candidate or successful projects can recruit from January – March for October 2023 starts
- allow students to enhance their training by **working closely** with the non-academic partner in the development of their research project. They are a great way to initiate longer-term partnerships and to ensure the ‘impact’ of doctoral research.
- While it is recommended that a financial contribution to the studentship be negotiated with the non-academic partner, this is not essential if the value of the partnership can be **shown in-kind**, for example through student access to partner data, office space, resources and equipment, training, field sites, research subject communities etc.



ESRC Guidance for Collaborative Awards

"The ESRC is not always prescriptive about the type of collaboration, but rather asks ROs to demonstrate that studentships are developed in collaboration with other organisations and **involve substantive user engagement and knowledge exchange activity as part of the award.**

The general principles of what activities count towards the collaborative target are:

- To contribute to the target collaborative activities these do not need to be co-funded, though there are clear benefits to securing cofunding
- Collaborations **must be with a non-academic organisation in the public, private or civil society sector**
- Collaborations must include **substantive knowledge exchange** and not just one way engagement (for example, data collection)

Whilst co-funding is not a requirement of a collaborative award, the ESRC encourage institutions to seek co-funding whenever possible to support collaborative elements of studentships."

Source: <https://esrc.ukri.org/files/skills-and-careers/doctoral-training/postgraduate-funding-guide/>





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Examples of CASE non-academic Partners

Private:

- Norton Rose Fulbright (Law Firm)
- Baringa Partners (Management Consultancy)

Public:

- Museums
- The British Library
- PHE
- Department for Work and Pensions

Third Sector:

- Student Minds
- Disability Rights UK

Examples from previous funded projects: <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/applying-to-liss/case-studentships-student-applicants/>

The logo for LISS DTP is a circular emblem. It features a dark blue outer ring, followed by a red ring, and a light blue ring. In the center, the letters 'LISS' are stacked above 'DTP' in a bold, light blue, sans-serif font.

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Examples of Funded CASE Studentships

See: <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/case-studentships-student-applicants/>

All previously funded projects detailed on this page – see ‘past projects’ section, click on each title for more information.

Project Proposal Assessment Criteria



- **Quality of the social science involved in the project (40%)**

Is the topic relevant and likely to produce high quality social science? Is the research area likely to provide a stimulating and manageable topic for the student? (e.g., are the research topic and questions well formulated?) Is there a feasible plan of action? Does the work offer genuine scope for doctoral research? How well does the research project resonate with the aims and Pathways of LISS DTP and the strengths and priorities of the particular academic institution and department in which it will be based? (40% weighting).

- **Quality of the collaboration proposed (30%)**

What is the added value of the non-academic collaboration? What is the nature of the commitment from the partner organisation? (e.g., what are the additional developmental or training opportunities that will arise through the collaboration between the student/academic team, their broader academic environment including the academic department, institution and LISS DTP and the partner organisation? How will these training opportunities be structured? Will the partner organisation offer distinctive forms of experience in areas related to analysis, dissemination, research management, networking, knowledge transfer etc.?) (30% weighting)

- **Clearly defined potential for societal and/or economic impact in collaboration with the partner organisation (15%)**

e.g., What is the potential impact of the project? How does the partner organisation envisage its role in realising the potential impact? Does the work offer opportunities that will lead to economic and/or social impact? (15% weighting)

- **Suitability of the project team (15%)**

Why is this combination of academics, student (if known) and partner organisation optimal for the proposed project? e.g. Are the research areas of the supervisors relevant to the proposed work? Do the supervisors have significant PhD supervisory experience? If a student has already been identified, are they suitable and qualified to undertake the project? If a student has not yet been identified, is the recruitment process well planned? How does your student recruitment process seek to widen university participation of candidates, especially from non-traditional routes to PhD research? (15% weighting)

Training and Development Opportunities for the Student

The [ORG] has an established analytics function, comprising of a Business Intelligence team and a data science team of Forecasting & Planning. The successful PhD student will be **encouraged to work closely** with the groups, utilising the existing analytical expertise and their experiences in the [topic] sector. The student will be able to **work on-site regularly** at [ORG], facilitating a fluid two-way sharing of knowledge.

The analytics function has strong working relationships with all other Directorates across the organisation and would be able to **connect the student** with the relevant departments and experienced personnel for enhanced contextual understanding. The team also run **weekly technical review sessions** whereby recent work is shared. The PhD student will be able to use these opportunities for development and to provide research updates.

The [ORG] will offer additional in-kind contributions, including **desk space** within the department (subject to availability and flexible working arrangements); access to the [ORG] **data warehouse** (dependent on Information Governance training); and access to **technical, operational, corporate and healthcare economy expertise**. **Training** on all data stores, definitions and standards will also be provided. The Forecasting & Planning team is expected to grow in 2019, providing an opportunity for **mentoring** junior members of the team, as well as receiving **mentorship** from senior members.

The student will be invited to participate in analytics **team training** sessions and accompany [ORG] representatives at **internal and external workshops/events**. In particular, Forecasting & Planning recently established a **national network** for predictive analytics in [org services], facilitating knowledge sharing within this community – this would be an excellent forum for the PhD student to **enhance communication skills** and will enable them to contribute to strategic demand modelling.

Funding and/or in-kind support to the student:

- In-kind support from the [ORG] has been committed to support a thorough review of work and quarterly project meetings with an estimated value of £800 per year.
- Assistance with the dissemination of the questionnaire and identifying two case study areas where the participatory mapping will be conducting, thus enabling access to participants for the study is estimated at £1500
- Additional follow up expert input assessing the value of the information on cultural ecosystem services and discussion of how this could be used in [project] planning £1000
- Dissemination through publicising a briefing note, hosted on the [ORG] website and opportunity to present at a relevant workshop/annual conference £500



The Proposal Form

- Visit <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/studentships/collaborative-case-studentships/> for information about the Proposal process
- PDF of Proposal form is available on our website (link above)

Proposals must be submitted by the 04/11/2022 and the Review Panel meets in w/c 7/12/2022 to confirm proposal outcomes.

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Further information

- LISS DTP website:
<https://liss-dtp.ac.uk>
- Queries: [liss-
dtp@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:liss-dtp@kcl.ac.uk)

