

LISS DTP CASE Studentships - Academic Project Proposal Form 2024 Entry

Page 1: LISS DTP CASE studentships - Project Proposal Form

This is the 2023-24 competition, for studentships with a start date of October 2024.

Please note: this form SHOULD NOT be filled out by prospective students interested in receiving studentship funding. This form is for academics working within one of the three LISS DTP institutions- King's College London, Queen Mary University of London and Imperial College London- who would like to propose a studentship project involving significant collaboration with a non-academic/non-HEI partner(s).

A collaboration agreement between the host University and the non-academic partner(s) must be **signed before the student commences in October 2024**. It is not necessary for the agreement to be in place in order to submit a project proposal.

Academics submitting a proposal may name a prospective student candidate who will be assessed if the project is successfully funded. It is optional to nominate a student and does impact the review process of the application.

All student candidates (nominated or recruited) must be approved by the LISS DTP review panel, which will assess their academic and professional credentials and existing [core research methods training](#) to ensure they meet ESRC standards. To be successful, studentship candidates must also be accepted onto a relevant Master's or Doctoral programme for their area of study, chosen by the project academic supervisor. **If you are not nominating a candidate for the studentship, this section of the proposal form can be left blank.**

If you intend to recruit a student to the CASE project, advertising and interviews for the studentship are to be organised between January and March 2024 ***after successful CASE proposals are announced.***

This online project proposal form form must be submitted by 5th November 2023 (23:59 GMT) together with the following documents which should be emailed to lissapplications@kcl.ac.uk by the same deadline:

- 1) a signed letter of support on headed paper from your proposed non-HEI partner,**
- 2) a signed letter of support from your head of department/institute or equivalent, and**
- 3) a CV for your nominated studentship candidate (only if you have a nominated student).**

Incomplete project proposals will be rejected.

Page 2: CASE Studentship Project Proposal - Assessment Criteria

LISS DTP will evaluate CASE Project Proposals according to the four below criteria; percentage weightings are detailed. All applications will be assessed using the same criteria.

1. **Quality of the social science involved in the project** - 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)**.
2. **Quality of the collaboration proposed**- 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)**
3. **Clearly defined potential for societal and/or economic impact in collaboration with the partner organisation** e.g., 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)**
4. **Suitability of the project team** - 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? If a student has not yet been identified, how does your student recruitment process seek to widen university participation of candidates, especially from non-traditional routes to PhD research? **(15% weighting)**

Page 3: Guidance For Completing This Form

Once you start this online form, your data WILL NOT be saved unless you click the ‘Finish later’ link at the bottom of the form page where you are working.

If you click on the ‘Finish later’ link (at the bottom of each page) you will be taken to a new page giving the application form’s closing date and a ‘finish later’ URL. You can use this URL to return to the application at the page on which you clicked the ‘Finish later’ link.

Note: you can either bookmark the URL in your browser, or ask for the URL to be emailed to you.

It is your responsibility to accurately enter your email address or bookmark the ‘finish later’ link to be able to resume the survey. LISS DTP cannot reunite you with your unfinished application if you have lost your ‘Finish later’ link.

Because of these limitations with our form, we STRONGLY recommend that you download a PDF version available on the LISS website, which lists all the questions that will be asked on the form and any character restrictions on answers. We advise that you complete your answers to many of these questions ahead of time and then simply copy/paste them into the online form to minimise the risk of lost responses/forms.

Page 4: Project Proposer & Project Details

1. Surname of Project Proposer: * *Required*

1.a. First name of Project Proposer:

2. Project Proposer's email: * *Required*

+ More info

3. Project supervisor's institution: * *Required*

King's College London

Queen Mary University of London

Imperial College London

4. Project Proposer's department/school: * *Required*

Project Details

5. Which is the most relevant LISS DTP Pathway to your project? You can see full descriptions of each Thematic Pathway here: <https://liss-dtp.ac.uk/thematic-pathways/> *
Required

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

6. ESRC Discipline Classification which best describes the research. You can see full details here: <https://esrc.ukri.org/about-us/what-is-social-science/social-science-disciplines/>

- Anthropology

- Area & Development Studies
- Demography
- Economics
- Economic & Social History
- Education
- Environmental Planning
- Human Geography
- Linguistics
- Management & Business Studies
- Politics & International Relations
- Psychology
- Science & Technology Studies
- Social Policy
- Social Work
- Socio-legal Studies
- Sociology
- Statistics, Methods & Computing

7. Project title: * *Required*

8. Proposed non-HEI partner: * *Required*

9. What category does your non-HEI partner most closely align to? *This will be used for annual reporting purposes to the ESRC.*

- Private Company
- Charity/Third Sector
- Public Sector
- Other

10. Do you envisage this project as being best suited to a 1+3 (Masters + PhD) or +3 (PhD only) award? * *Required*

- +3 (PhD only)
- 1+3 (Masters + PhD)
- Could be +3 or 1+3 format

10.a. If this project is to be 1+3 in format, which Masters programme(s) would you advise a successful candidate to apply for?

[+ More info](#)

10.b. If this project is to be +3 in format, which doctoral programme would you advise a successful candidate to apply for?

[+ More info](#)

10.c. If this project could be 1+3 or +3 in format, please list the Masters programme(s) and Doctoral programme you would advise a successful candidate to apply for.

+ More info

Page 5: Project Description


Relevant Assessment Criteria: (1) **Quality of the social science involved in the project**

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)**.

11. Non-technical summary: please provide a summary of the project in non-technical language. The summary will be used to publicise the research project on the LISS DTP Website (max. 3000 characters, approx. 500 words) * *Required*


Your answer should be no more than 3600 characters long.

12. Project description: please provide a full description of the proposed project here, outlining its aims, proposed methodology, timescales and plans for dissemination and knowledge exchange, both between the project and external partner and with wider audiences (max. 6000 characters, approx. 1000 words) * *Required*



13. Developmental/training opportunities: please provide details of how the involvement of the non-HEI partner will add value to the student's training, and how these additional development opportunities will be structured. This contribution could involve funding or in-kind contributions including: relevant research resources (equipment use, research accommodation and office space, expertise and skills, access to data sets and research participants), training provision, end user contacts and facilitation of research dissemination (max. 2500 characters, approx. 400 words). * *Required*

Your answer should be no more than 2800 characters long.



14. Internships. Please indicate if the student is likely to undertake an internship at the partner organisation or another organisation. (Internships of up to 13 weeks full-time

equivalent may be funded by LISS DTP. The student receives their usual stipend for the duration of the internship and their stipend is extended by the same period at the end of their original funding end date.)

15. Advanced Quantitative Methods Training: Will the proposed research use quantitative methods that are regarded as advanced within your subject specialism? (please read the examples below to ensure you answer correctly) AQM research goes beyond applying descriptive statistics and other basic generic (eg. simple regression) and subject specific methods. The expectation for AQM research is that the analysis will use quantitative methods that extend beyond the standard elements of quantitative research. For example, AQM may be expected to include any of the following (though this is not an exhaustive list: multivariate analysis using advanced regression techniques including: tobit, multinomial, proportional hazards regression, Heckman selection models etc. - multi-level modelling (equivalent to random effects panel model) - latent variable models, latent trait analysis - structural equation modelling, path analysis - factor analysis, components analysis - longitudinal or panel analysis, including fixed effects and random effects panel models, event history, duration modelling, survival analysis/hazard modelling (proportional hazards models) - statistical techniques including for example: weighting, imputation, complex sampling, bootstrapping, Bayesian MCMC estimation - identification strategies for causal effects such as instrumental variable approaches, propensity score matching, regression discontinuity - experimental approaches - calibration and modelling techniques to do counterfactual analysis and test structural models - vector autoregressive modelling - simulation - item response theory - meta-analysis - Markov switching models - smooth transition autoregressive (STAR) and threshold autoregressive (TAR) models - DSGE models * *Required*

- Yes
- No

15.a. If yes, please identify the methods and their contributions to your project (max. 600 characters, approx. 100 words).

Your answer should be no more than 630 characters long.

16. Linguistic proficiency: Will the proposed research require the student to be proficient in a language other than English? * *Required*

- Yes
- No

16.a. If yes, please state the language and whether a student taking up the project with no background in the language could reasonably acquire the necessary proficiency during the duration of the project or whether an already-fluent student will be required (max. 600 characters, 100 words).

Your answer should be no more than 600 characters long.

17. Overseas fieldwork: Will the proposed research likely involve the student undertaking international travel for fieldwork/research? * *Required*

- Yes
- No

17.a. If yes, please outline where the student will likely undertake the fieldwork and for how long (we understand at this point this may only be indicative). (Max. 1200 characters, approx. 200 words).

Your answer should be no more than 1200 characters long.

18. Interdisciplinarity: Will the proposed research involve an interdisciplinary approach? This should be interpreted as approaches that cross Research Council boundaries rather than simply various approaches/traditions within the social sciences, ie. natural and social sciences, engineering/physical sciences and social sciences, medical sciences and social sciences, arts & humanities and social sciences, computing sciences and social sciences. * *Required*

- Yes
- No

18.a. If yes, how does the proposed research straddle these large disciplinary boundaries and which Council boundaries are crossed? (max. 1200 characters, approx. 200 words)

Your answer should be no more than 1200 characters long.

Page 6: Partner Details - please enter information for all Partners in this section

Relevant Assessment Criteria (2) **Quality of the collaboration proposed**

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)**

19. Proposed non-HEI partner address and website URL: * *Required*

20. Key contact person at partner organisation (please include name, address and email): * *Required*

21. Student supervisor at partner organisation (if different from key contact). Please include name, address and email: *Optional*

22. Details of collaboration: please provide details of any existing collaboration between the proposed academic supervisor and/or department and the proposed non-HEI partner(s) to date, and describe how this studentship will further enhance the collaborative relationship(s) (max. 2500 characters, approx. 400 words) * *Required*

Your answer should be no more than 2500 characters long.

23. In the event that the proposed non-HEI partner is unable to fulfil its commitments during the project as outlined in the proposal, please outline briefly your contingency plans. (Max 300 Words).

Page 7: Annual Financial Contribution From The Non-HEI Partner

Note: Relevant Assessment Criteria (2) **Quality of the collaboration proposed**

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)**

24. Financial contribution to the studentship. The maximum financial contribution possible is 50% of the value of the studentship, which would equal approx. £11,500 p/a for a Home Student, but smaller contributions are welcomed. This contribution supports the student's stipend, fees and training costs. * *Required*

[+ More info](#)

25. Funding support to the student. This contribution is in recognition of the extra responsibilities associated with collaborative studentships, and increases the student's basic stipend. Basic London weighted UKRI studentship stipends are set at circa £18,062 p/a for 2023-24. Any additional contributions from the partner should be paid directly to the student. * *Required*

[+ More info](#)

26. Any additional financial or in-kind contributions: eg. travel and subsistence expenses to support the student/supervisors travelling between their institution and the partner organisation(s), other materials, data, training, facilities etc. to be made available to the student. * *Required*

[+ More info](#)

Page 8: Letter of Support - Non-HEI Partner

In addition to this online proposal, please submit the following document via email to ensure a complete project proposal submission:

(1) A signed letter of support from your proposed non-HEI partner(s) on headed paper, including appropriate details of the ways in which they anticipate realising mutual benefit as partners in this collaboration.

**ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS MUST BE EMAILED
TO lissapplications@kcl.ac.uk BY 23:59 GMT, 4 NOVEMBER 2022.**

Page 9: Project Academic Supervisors

27. Name, department and institution of first academic supervisor for this project: *
Required

28. Please provide details of: position held; total number of students currently under supervision and supervised to date; details of relevant research expertise (max. 1500 characters, approx. 200 words). * *Required*

+ [More info](#)

Your answer should be no more than 1500 characters long.

29. Name (and department and institution) of second academic supervisor: *
Required

30. Please provide details of the position held, total number of students currently

supervised and supervised to date, details of relevant research expertise: (max. 1500 characters, approx. 200 words) * *Required*

[+ More info](#)

Your answer should be no more than 1500 characters long.

Page 10: Recruitment of a Student

Relevant Assessment Criteria: (4) **Suitability of the project team**

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)**

31. Where a candidate for the project has already been identified, please: explain the suitability of the candidate (max. 1500 characters, approx. 250 words) and indicate research training courses (available through LISS DTP, use the [LISS DTP training programme webpage](#) as a guide and/OR refer to training offered at LISS partner institutions- Queen Mary, King's and Imperial College London) that will be relevant (max. 1500 characters, approx. 250 words): *Optional*

Your answer should be no more than 3000 characters long.

In addition, please email your candidate's CV, which should include details of their educational background (including degree classifications and prior research methods training) and all relevant experience (max. 2 sides of A4 paper, Times New Roman, 11pt).

THIS MUST BE EMAILED TO lissapplications@kcl.ac.uk BY 23:59 GMT ON 4 NOVEMBER 2022.

32. Where a candidate has not already been identified, please give an indication of the

recruitment and selection strategy to be used. LISS will advertise projects on its website but cannot otherwise assist with recruitment (max. 1500 characters, about 250 words)

Optional

Your answer should be no more than 1500 characters long.

33. Briefly outline how your planned student recruitment process incorporates widening participation criteria at your institution (max. 1500 characters, about 250 words).

Page 11: Societal and/or Economic Impact

Relevant Assessment Criteria: (3) **Clearly defined potential for societal and/or economic impact**

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)**

34. What is the potential societal and/economic impact of the project? (max. 6000 characters, approx. 1000 words):

Page 12: Confirmation of Ethical Approval/Intellectual Property Rights

35. Ethical Approval: The ESRC requires that the research and training it supports will be carried out to a high ethical standard as described in its [Framework for Research Ethics \(FRE\)](#). If successful, your project will have to be submitted to a relevant institutional Research Ethics Committee (King's College, Queen Mary University of London, Imperial College and/or NHS NRES). It is a requirement that the project receives full and formal ethics approval. By submitting this application you agree to meet this requirement if successful. * *Required*

I have read and agree.

36. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR): If successful, full provision for agreement between parties on intellectual property rights (IPR) issues must be specified. It is a requirement that IPR issues are clarified and that a formal agreement is signed by all parties before the start of the studentship. By submitting this application you agree to meet this requirement if successful. * *Required*

I have read and agree.

Page 13: Confirmation of Support from Head of Department/Institute

37. As CONFIRMATION OF INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THIS STUDENTSHIP, we require an email from your Head of Department/Institute or equivalent naming the project in full and confirming their knowledge of it/support of it. **This email must reach lissapplications@kcl.ac.uk by 23:59 GMT on 4 NOVEMBER 2022 at the latest. Please list the name, title and email address of your HoD/Hol/equivalent who will provide the confirmation of support. * Required**

You've now completed the LISS DTP CASE proposal form. Don't forget that, as well as submission of this form by 23:59 GMT, 4 November 2022, we also require the following items submitted via email (lissapplications@kcl.ac.uk) by the same deadline:

- 1) a signed letter of support on headed paper from your proposed non-HEI partner.**
 - 2) a signed letter of support from your head of department/institute or equivalent.**
 - 3) a CV for your nominated studentship candidate (if you have nominated a student).**
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