Department of Sociological Studies
PhD Information Session
November 2021
PhD Information Session

1. Kate Weiner, PGR admissions tutor – PhD and scholarship applications process

2. Jo Britton, Director of PGR – PhD study in the department

3. Danica Darley, Monika Fratczak and Yingzi Shen, current PhD students, application and PhD experience

4. Your questions
PhD Application Process

• Start to think about your research idea/develop research proposal (1-2000 words) - https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/phd/research-proposal

• Make contact with prospective supervisors https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/people/academic-staff

• Make a formal application via the University PG application system https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/phd/apply/applying
Entry Requirements for PhD Study

- Undergraduate Degree at minimum 2.1 or equivalent
- Masters Degree at minimum Merit of equivalent
- IELTS average 6.5 or above (no less than 6.0 in any component)
White Rose Social Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership Studentships

- WRDTP – regional consortium funded by ESRC
- 35 pathway awards
- 2 ring fenced for Black British students ([details](#))
- 4 Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) awards
- Available as 1+3 programme or +3 programme
  - 1 +3 - [MA Social Research](#)
  - +3 programme: at least 60 credits social science research training at M level, excluding dissertation ([FAQs](#)).
Scholarships and eligibility

• WRDTP awards – UK and international applicants
• University/faculty awards – UK and international applicants
• Joint China Scholarship Council/University of Sheffield scholarship (details) – Chinese nationals
• White Rose College of Arts and Humanities (WRoCAH) AHRC scholarships (details) - UK and international applicants
Scholarship application process

- Apply for PhD place – deadline **14th of January** (but earlier is better).
- Apply for scholarship through PG application system (except for WRoCAH AHRC scheme)
- Deadline for ALL schemes: **27th January 17.00**.
- Department shortlists applications to nominate to faculty, who decide who to forward to regional awards committees
- Nominated applicants notified of outcome end of April.

=> Dept has strong track record, but good to be realistic
Doing a PhD in Sociological Studies

- Supervision (different models)
- Training Needs Analysis: University, Faculty and Department Training (e.g. Training in Discipline module)
- Postgraduate research conference
- Study space and social space
- Teaching opportunities (Graduate Teaching Assistants)
- Careers support
- Publishing (internal review system)
- Postdoctoral Fellowships (internal review system)
A summary of PhD progression milestones

Year 1
- Induction & Training Needs Analysis
- *Biannual review (6 months)*
- Confirmation review (12 months)

Year 2
- *Biannual review (18 months)*
- Submission review (24 months)

Year 3
- *Biannual review (30 months)*
- Thesis submission/Submission review (36 months)
Sociological Studies’ Research Community

**Research themes:** Everyday Life and Critical Diversities, Social Inequalities and Social Ordering, STeMiS, Wellbeing and Health Across the Lifecourse

[https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/research/research-research-themes](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/research/research-themes)

**Centres and Networks:**
[https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/research/centres-and-networks](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/research/centres-and-networks)

**Annual lecture series:**
Next one is the Westergaard Annual Lecture online on Tuesday 17 November 2020. Register here:
[https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/events](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/events)
Contact details

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