PhD project title
Delivery Work: Exploring Labour Process Change in the Parcel Delivery Sector.

Supervisors
Kirsty Newsome

Research centre
WOERRC

Project description
The burgeoning expansion of e-commerce has increased demand for home delivery and has facilitated the growth in parcel delivery companies, subcontracted from retailers. To date there is limited research evidence which explores the impact of this logistics transformation on work, employment and the labour process within the highly competitive sector of parcel delivery. Unpacking the nature of the relationship between parcel delivery companies and their retailer customers is critical to understanding work and employment outcomes at the point of delivery. How do retailers exert their power in these relationships and what is the impact on work and employment at the end point of supply chain, at the point of delivery? Drawing on qualitative research evidence from case-study organisations this project will consider how supply chain pressures are impacting on work, employment and the labour process. The project will seek to contribute to growing debates concerned with labour process change within supply chains as well as contributing to an understanding of labour within wider production networks.

PhD candidate profile
The PhD candidate should meet the following requirements:

- Be enthusiastic, well-organised and have good inter-personal skills.
- High motivation and a keen interest in the research area.
- A first degree that is equivalent to a UK classification of upper second class honours or above. In addition, a good masters level qualification of merit or above, with a minimum of 60 per cent in the dissertation, research project element or equivalent experience. We also accept an MBA from an accredited school where the candidate can demonstrate that a significant research element has been undertaken. For further information on entry requirements, please see: http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply

Duration and start dates
Full or part time study for 3 or 6 years is available, and remote location study is also possible. We have two start dates a year for PhD students. Our preferred start date is 1 October, however we do recognise that not everyone will be able to commence studies at that time, so we also offer a second start date of 1 February. If you are unable to start in October or February, it may be also possible to start your PhD at a different time of the year.

Closing date for applications
Applications will be considered until a suitable candidate has been identified. For the 1 October start date, a full application must have been received by 15 July. For 1 February start date, a full application must have been received by 15 November.
How to apply
See http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/management/study/researchdegrees/howtoapply for full details of how to apply.

For an informal discussion about this opportunity, please contact Kirsty Newsome at kj.newsome@sheffield.ac.uk.