PhD project title
Work and employment change in the logistics sector

Supervisors
Kirsty Newsome

Research centre
WOERRC

Project description
Logistics, is broadly defined as the synchronisation of the movement of goods from the point of production to the point of sale and/or delivery. It embraces modes of transportation (rail, ship, truck, flight, delivery) as well as the coordination of nodes of transfer or storage (ports, warehouses, distribution centres). With the increasing geographical fragmentation of production from points of consumption, is increasingly recognised as providing the necessary infrastructure to facilitate the movement of goods within global value chains and production networks. The contested territory between logistics providers and their client organisations has significant implications for labour, the labour process and for collective worker organisation. Logistics workers find themselves within a ‘perfect storm’ of globalisation, fragmented production, new logistics technologies, de-regulated and segmented labour markets coupled with eroding collective regulation (Cowan 2014, Gutelius 2015, Newsome 2015). This project will seek to explore the impact of the so-called ‘logistics revolution’ on work and employment. Applications concerned which exploring any aspect of work and employment change of the logistics function are welcome.

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 k.j.newsome@sheffield.ac.uk.