

White Rose Social Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership Studentships 2020/21

This is a call for nominations for Cohort 4 of WRDTP ESRC PhD studentships.

The White Rose DTP has been accredited by the ESRC for six years funding from September 2017. The WRDTP has been allocated 39 studentships per annum. The WRDTP builds on the success of the White Rose DTC universities of **Sheffield, York and Leeds** by bringing in the social sciences research excellence of the Universities of **Bradford, Hull, Manchester Metropolitan** and **Sheffield Hallam**.

Thematic Interdisciplinary Training Pathways

The WRDTP is offering ESRC studentship awards in 7 Thematic Interdisciplinary Training Pathways (see Annex I):

1. Cities, Environment, and Liveability (CEL)
2. Security, Conflict, and Justice (SCJ)
3. Education, Childhood, and Youth (ECY)
4. Data, Communication, and New Technologies (DCT)
5. Wellbeing, Health, and Communities (WHC)
6. Sustainable Growth, Management, and Economic Productivity (SMP)
7. Civil Society, Development, and Democracy (CDD)

Eligible Schools/Departments

Full details of the units of delivery across the 7 HEI partners, eligible to submit candidates for WRDTP studentship nominations to the 2020/21 competitions, are listed in Annex II.

Collaboration

Of the ESRC DTP studentships awarded each year, the ESRC provides a steer on 6 studentships and also requires that 30% involve meaningful collaboration with non-academic partners. The collaborative element from the non-academic partner does not necessarily have to be financial however, wherever possible, co/match funding is encouraged. An in-kind contribution may include an internship/placement opportunity etc. These collaborative elements are defined as follows:

- Collaborations must be with a non academic organisation in the public, private or civil society/third sector
- Collaborations must include substantive knowledge exchange and not just one way engagement (e.g. not only data collection)
- Collaborating organisations should be involved in the development of the project

Studentship Match Funding

To ensure that the WRDTP makes the most of the 39 prestigious ESRC studentship awards, they are offered as either fully funded (100%) or match funded (50%).

The Funding Table below shows the approximate breakdown of costs per studentship for 2019/20 based on recent inflation rate annual increases:

	2019/20 ESRC rates p.a.	100% +3 award	100% 1+3 award	50% +3 award	50% 1+3 award
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees	4,327	12,981	17,308	6,490	8,654
Stipend	15,009	45,027	60,036	22,513	30,018
RTSG*	667	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000
Cohort Activities and Development Fund**	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000
		64,008	83,344	32,003	41,672

*RTSG - Research Training Support Grant

**Cohort Activities & Development Fund - a single payment per studentship

ALL awards are available as either +3 or 1+3 studentships.

ALL awards are available as either full-time or part-time study.

NB: Candidates **MUST** have a minimum of 60 credits research methods social science training (not including the dissertation) at masters level to be considered for a +3 studentship.

WRDTP ESRC Studentship Award Schemes

The following table summarises the range of WRDTP ESRC studentships on offer for 2020/21.

	Type of studentship	Minimum number of awards	Funding offered by DTP	Process Notes (all available across the 7 interdisciplinary themed pathways)
1.	DTP Pathway Awards	41	50%	Via an open competition for a maximum of 41 studentships. This incorporates the 2 x steered Interdisciplinary Research Awards.
2.	DTP Advanced Quantitative Methods Awards (AQM)	4	100%	Via an open competition (ESRC steer).
3.	DTP Network Awards (open to White Rose Universities only – Leeds, Sheffield, York)	1 (3)	100%	3 x studentships (co-funded by the White Rose University Consortium) available in one White Rose DTP Network. Based on the ESRC Delivery Plan 2016-20 themes. Requires collaboration with a non-academic partner.
4.	DTP Collaborative Awards	11	100%	Via open competition. Requires collaboration with a non-academic partner.

WRDTP ESRC awards commencing 2020/21

1. WRDTP ESRC Pathway Awards (41 awards, 50% funded)

Outside of ESRC's steered studentships and target requirements for collaboration with non-academic partners, the DTP is required by the ESRC to offer awards through open competition and not based on internal quotas. 41 DTP ESRC awards, with 2 of these been allocated as Interdisciplinary Research Awards, are available in the themed pathways (see Annex I).

2. WRDTP ESRC Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) Awards (4 awards, 100% funded)

Four fully funded AQM awards are available via open competition across all departments/schools and will be of specific interest to those schools/departments that have a strong track record of AQM or are looking to expand into this area. The DTP will give priority to those who will be working with large data sets (an ESRC priority). Both 1+3 students and +3 students are eligible for nomination.

Note: The DTP can recruit up to 35% of students internationally for full awards in AQM, i.e. one of the four AQM studentships on offer. However, the DTP is only allowed to offer the standard RCUK fee rate of £4,327, thus the department/school would need to supplement the fee for any successful overseas/EU applicant.

3. WRDTP ESRC Network Awards (1x network, 100% funded, ie. 3 studentships)

The DTP is offering one new White Rose Network which is thematic and challenge focused. Preference will be given to proposals linked to the ESRC research priorities, as identified in [UKRI Delivery Plan Priorities 2019](#) (Productivity, Prosperity and Growth, Next-generation public services, Living with technology, Changing populations, The UK in a changing world, Global development, environment and society), though other research areas will be considered.

The Networks will be fully funded by the WRDTP (with co-funding from the White Rose University Consortium), though there MUST also be collaboration with an external partner (private sector, public sector or civil society/third sector etc).

Each studentship is distributed, bilateral and involves two supervisors – a principal supervisor per White Rose institution (Leeds, Sheffield University, York) and the co-supervisor at the partner institution. Each Network therefore consists of six academics and three PhD students. One academic (either principal or co-supervisor) will act as a Network leader.

4. WRDTP ESRC Collaborative awards (11 awards, 100% funded)

The DTP Collaborative Awards Scheme aims to ensure that at least 30% of studentships are linked to partners in the private, public or third sectors. These links do not have to

involve funding and could be internships, placements or other forms of meaningful collaboration.

This means that our **11 Collaborative Awards** which we have made available for competitive bids from departments *do not need to have secured financial support from an external body*, but must at least *show strong evidence of a real partnership with that body*. Nevertheless, we expect that the project partner will meet any travel, subsistence and accommodation costs incurred by the student associated with visits made to the non-academic organisation.

Please note: All partner universities will run an internal process of peer review for the Collaborative Awards scheme, given the highly competitive nature of this competition. Details of the internal review process will be announced locally by each university. When submitting a collaborative award application, you will be required to confirm that your application has been subjected to internal peer review at your own university. Failure to engage with the internal peer review process may result in the disqualification of your application.

Process and Timelines

In this 2020/21 cycle there are **59** studentships available to eligible departments/schools. The following table summarises the process timelines for the following 2020/21 competitions:

Pathway Awards, Advanced Quantitative Methods Awards

	Date	Who	Process
1.	July 2019	DTP Office	DTP announces 2020/21 Studentship Competitions
2.	Late Autumn 2019	HEIs	HEI systems go live for applications
3.	17:00hrs, 29 January 2020	Candidates	Closing deadline for student applications
4.	30 January – 26 February 2020	Units of Delivery (Depts/Schools)	Shortlist, interview and complete DTP Nomination Form
5.	17:00hrs, 26 February 2020	Units of Delivery (Depts/Schools)	Deadline for DTP Nomination Form and Application Packs to be submitted to Scholarship/Administrative Officers
6.	28 February – 13 March 2020	DTP Office	Prepare Assessment scoring sheets for Assessors
7.	16 March – 27 March 2020	Assessors	Assessors to score nominations
8.	30 March – 3 April 2020	DTP Office	Processing scores and preparing for Panel meetings

9.	7 April 2020	Academic Quality Committee	Academic Quality Committee Moderation Assessment Panel meets
10.	8 April 2020	Advanced Quantitative Methods Group	Advanced Quantitative Methods Moderation Assessment Panel meets
11.	w/c 13 April 2020	DTP Office	Scholarship/Administrative Officers notified of decisions
12.	27 April 2020	HEI Admin Officers	Deadline for Scholarship/Administrative Officers to notify applicants of outcome

The following table summarises the process timelines for the following 2020/21 competitions:

Network Awards (Leeds, Sheffield, York only), Collaborative Awards

	Date	Who	Process
1.	July 2019	DTP Office	DTP announces 2020/21 Studentship Competition
2.	Late Autumn 2019	HEIs	HEI systems go live for applications
3.	w/c 7 October 2019	Academic colleagues	Development Workshop* for new Collaborative and Network Award proposals (see workshop timing below)
4.	November 2019	HEIs and academic colleagues	Internal peer review of Collaborative Award applications, details to be announced locally
5.	12:00hrs, 6 December 2019	Units of Delivery (Depts/Schools)	Deadline for Proposal Forms to be completed (see wrdtp.ac.uk for details)
6.	16 December – 8 January 2020	Academic Quality Committee	Assessors to score nominations
7.	8 January – 15 January 2020	DTP Office	Processing scores and preparing for Panel meetings
8.	15 January 2020	Academic Quality Committee	Academic Quality Committee Moderation Panel meets
9.	w/c 20 January 2020	DTP Office	Collaborative and Network Awards announced
10.	Date tbc	Academic colleagues	Successful Collaborative/Network Award holders set own local deadline and advertise studentships, shortlist and interview
11.	12:00hrs, 10 April 2020	Scholarship/Administrative Officers	DTP student Nomination Forms and Application Packs completed/submitted to DTP Office for quality assurance checking and assessment

12.	End of April 2020 or asap after that date	Scholarship/Administrative Officers	Applicants notified of result
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*Development Workshop for new Collaborative and Network Award proposals

Academic colleagues who are interested in developing a proposal for the **Network** and/or **Collaborative Awards** competitions are invited to attend one of the following workshop sessions:

- 10.00am – 12 noon – 7th October 2019, H/G17 (Dawson Room), Heslington Hall, University of York
- 10.30am – 12.30pm – 8th October 2019, University of Sheffield, ICOSS Boardroom
- 11.30am – 1.30pm – 9 October 2019, Research Meeting Room, Floor 13 of the Edward Boyle Library, University of Leeds
- w/c 7 October - University of Hull, TBC

If you wish to attend one of these workshops, please book your place [here](#).

Administration Contacts

Your local university Postgraduate Scholarships Office (or DTP link administrator) is responsible for liaising with you on DTP studentship matters. The local **nominated contacts** at each university are as follows:

- **Manchester Metropolitan University** – Kate Townsend (k.townsend@mmu.ac.uk), Research Degrees Manager, Graduate School.
- **Sheffield Hallam University** - Dr Sarah Smith (s.a.smith@shu.ac.uk), Doctoral School Manager, Research and Innovation Office.
- **University of Bradford** – Omar Ali (o.f.ali@bradford.ac.uk), Research Support Officer, Faculty of Management & Law.
- **University of Hull** – Dr. Nigel Shaw (N.A.Shaw@hull.ac.uk), Administrative Manager, The Graduate School.
- **University of Leeds** - Shirley Yeadon (s.yeadon@adm.leeds.ac.uk), Postgraduate Scholarships Officer in the Postgraduate Scholarships Office.
- **University of Sheffield** – Catherine Wynn, (pgr-scholarships@sheffield.ac.uk), PGR Scholarships Officer, Research & Innovation Services.
- **University of York** – Helen Poyer (research-student-admin@york.ac.uk) Research Student Administration, Registry Services.

All of the following information **MUST** be submitted to your Scholarships/Administrative Officers for each nominated candidate. They must be presented in **ONE** combined PDF in this order:

1. WRDTP Nomination Form (Google)
2. Scholarships Application Form
3. 2 x academic references
4. Full transcripts including grading system
5. University Application Form for a PhD place
6. Formal university offer letter
7. IELTS/TOEFL (or equivalent) certificate if applicable

The PDF file name must follow a specific nomenclature:

Surname_Initial_HEI_Pathway_competition

e.g. Jones_M_Sheffield_CEL_AQM

Further information regarding ESRC studentship eligibility criteria and detailed FAQs will be available on the DTP Studentships page of the White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership web site www.wrdtp.ac.uk as soon as possible.

For general enquiries contact enquiries@wrdtp.ac.uk

Academic Quality Committee
White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership
5 July 2019

Annex I - DTP Interdisciplinary Themed Pathways

DTP Pathway	Discipline and Topic Coverage
Cities, Environment, and Liveability (CEL)	Understanding and managing socio-economic change in cities and urban-based responses through policy, governance, and the connecting of communities. An emphasis on environment recognises the growing importance of interactions between populations and climate/environmental/ecological changes, the politics of sustainability, and the importance of urban and rural dynamics and interconnections. Liveability provides a nexus by placing emphasis on infrastructures and their resilience (breadth of services, utilities, such as energy and water) and shifts within the built environment (spaces and places, mobilities, interaction, property, housing policy and practice).
Security, Conflict, and Justice (SCJ)	The Security, Conflict and Justice pathway engages with a range of broad societal challenges addressed within and across political science, international studies, criminology, law, socio-legal studies, and public policy. Climate change, social deprivation, public health, global development challenges, distributive justice, violent extremism and terrorism, egregious human rights abuse, changing patterns of conflict, the impact of new technologies on criminal justice, (forced) migration, and the evolving security agenda – amongst many others – are challenges which arguably defy narrow disciplinary approaches. They are also defined by the evolving social, technological and normative contexts in which they are found, and the blurring distinction between traditional academic categories. Debates about the nature and driving forces of conflict – and in particular the growing emphasis upon social and economic factors, identity, and environmental stresses – are relevant to the development, governance and security subject areas. In turn, security and conflict are both inherently linked to debates about justice. Injustice is a source of conflict, and the question of ‘just security’ – including the politics and governance of security in contemporary society – is highly topical and contested. Injustice and insecurity are experienced by people in different ways on an everyday basis, including the challenges of social deprivation, unequal access to legal justice, the denial of minority rights, and deficiencies in the rule of law. These challenges illustrate interlinkages across the security, conflict and justice theme, as well as links to broader societal debates. Many of the themes related to this pathway are also directly linked to pressing policy challenges which need to be approached with new and wider perspectives in order to develop better strategies for conflict resolution and securing justice locally/globally.
Education, Childhood, and Youth (ECY)	This pathway covers the fields of education, learning and development, including students and academic staff from Education, Psychology, Sociology and Language & Linguistics departments. Members have an interest in learning and education, from early childhood through to adulthood. As an interdisciplinary pathway, we look at ways in which the different disciplines concerned with education, learning and development, practice and research, learn from one another and collaborate to produce new findings. As such, we cover a wide range of research areas, from laboratory studies of learning and development, to educational interventions to improve children’s outcomes in schools, to exploring ways in which children and young people are conceptualised and produced.
Data, Communication, and New Technologies (DCT)	Communications and interactions between social groups, society, and data, information and digital technologies. Cutting-edge frameworks and methods for understanding these interactions and novel applications to support them. How social actors can better make sense of and manage increasing volumes of data and information encountered (‘datafication’) in a variety of domains, and investigates how we experience and make sense of the changing data landscape and information environment.

<p>Wellbeing, Health, and Communities (WHC)</p>	<p>This pathway concerns multi-disciplinary perspectives on health and wellbeing often in partnership with policy and practice networks, including local authorities, voluntary organisation and NHS trusts, and increasingly decentralisation and devolution to communities. The partnership has expertise on the following topics: inequalities, ageing, e-health, emergency care, obesity, modelling and economic evaluation, and cost-effectiveness of health policy interventions. In addition, inclusion and resilience connections are made between health, employment, employability and work psychology in this pathway.</p>
<p>Sustainable Growth, Management, and Economic Productivity (SMP)</p>	<p>Productivity and sustainable economic growth at multi-level scale, from firm, to sectoral, regional and national levels. Wages, finance, financialisation, skills and welfare. Macro-level economics and other levels of micro-analysis to capture complex systems of management, regulation, governance (covering marketing, work and employment relations, accounting and finance, public services). Economic development, business support, and the sustainability of economic policies and interventions.</p>
<p>Civil Society, Development, and Democracy (CDD)</p>	<p>Spans excellence in understanding the changing nature of civil and political society: governance, institutions, community, individuals, migration, and difference. Addresses political climate of devolution, constitutional change, patterns and processes of democracy, legitimacy, and citizenship. This is set within the broader context of crisis, inequality, processes and patterns of uneven international development, public policy, situated development studies, and dynamics of rising powers vis-à-vis area studies.</p>

Annex II – List of eligible departments for studentship awards

Manchester Metropolitan University

Department of Social Care and Social Work – *Education, Childhood, and Youth Pathway; Wellbeing, Health, and Communities Pathway*

Faculty of Education – *Education, Childhood, and Youth Pathway*

Sheffield Hallam University

Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research – *Cities, Environment, and Liveability Pathway; Wellbeing, Health, and Communities Pathway; Civil Society, Development, and Democracy Pathway*

Sheffield Institute of Education – *Education, Childhood, and Youth Pathway*

University of Bradford

Faculty of Health Studies – *Wellbeing, Health and Communities Pathway*

School of Management - *Wellbeing, Health and Communities Pathway; Sustainable Growth, Management, and Economic Productivity Pathway*

University of Hull

Department of History – *Cities, Environment, and Liveability Pathway*

Department of Psychology – *Education, Childhood, and Youth Pathway; Wellbeing, Health and Communities Pathway*

Geography/Geology – *Cities, Environment, and Liveability Pathway; Sustainable Growth, Management, and Economic Productivity Pathway; Civil Society, Development, and Democracy Pathway*

University of Leeds (ALL 7 Thematic Interdisciplinary Pathways)

Leeds University Business School

Institute for Transport Studies

School of Computing

School of Earth and Environment

School of Education

School of Geography

Institute of Health Sciences

School of Healthcare

School of History

School of Languages, Cultures and Societies

School of Law

School of Media and Communications

School of Politics and International Studies

School of Psychology

School of Sociology and Social Policy

University of Sheffield (ALL 7 Thematic Interdisciplinary Pathways)

Department of Computer Science

Department of Economics

Department of Geography

Department of History

Department of Human Communication Sciences

Department of Journalism Studies

Department of Landscape

Department of Politics

Department of Psychology
Department of Sociological Studies
Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Information School
Management School
School of Architecture
School of East Asian Studies
School of Education
School of Health and Related Research
School of Law

University of York (ALL 7 Thematic Interdisciplinary Pathways)

Department of Economics
Department of Education
Department of Health Sciences
Department of History
Department of Language and Linguistic Science
Department of Politics
Department of Psychology
Department of Social Policy and Social Work
Department of Sociology
Environment Department
Law School
Management School

5 July 2019