

ESRC North West Doctoral Training Centre (NWDTC) PhD Studentships 2012/13 Humanitarian & Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) at The University of Manchester

Start date	September 2012
Nature of award	Funding details are being finalised – for further information on the NWDTC please visit http://www.nwdtc.ac.uk
Deadline	Applications to HCRI PhD programme: 1 March 2012 Applications to ESRC (for successful applicants only): 23 March 2012

As part of the University of Manchester, HCRI is now a member of the ESRC's *North West Doctoral Training Centre* (DTC).

The North West Doctoral Training Centre (NWDTC) is one of 21 in the UK, created by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and will provide PhD students with access to quality research training in social science disciplines. Liverpool, Manchester and Lancaster are now guaranteed a total of 63 new postgraduate studentships per year to support research and training at doctoral level each year. This will amount to more than £15 million of investment over the next five years.

Studentships will be available across the full range of social science disciplines. The ESRC has also identified particular areas of study that would benefit from further development across the UK. These include subjects such as Language Based Area Studies, Economics, and Management and Business Studies. A number of studentships will be set aside for these particular areas to help ensure that social sciences continue to contribute to the development of society and the economy.

Scope of research at HCRI

This structured PhD is inspired by the need to conduct rigorous, in-depth research and analysis on the impact and outcomes of contemporary and historical crises. It is driven by a desire to inform and support policy and decision makers (inc. World Health Organisation, Foreign Office), to optimise joint working between partner organisations, and to foster increased understanding and debate within the field of humanitarianism. We will offer a flexible approach to the provision of teaching to cater for the current needs of the aid industry and prepare the next generation of crisis response researchers and practitioners. The programme will seek to engage directly with people affected by situations of ongoing conflicts and crises.

This PhD therefore reflects the need for structured forms of professional development and dynamic knowledge practices that function effectively across multiple academic and non-academic contexts. Action research and reflective practice-inspired pedagogy can respond to and influence the complex, unpredictable and shifting social, political and cultural contexts within which professional practitioners operate. The PhD will introduce students to a range of dynamic and challenging concepts and methods with which to reflect critically and constructively on their current professional experience/context. This pedagogical approach enables students' professional context to become a primary research resource.

We welcome applications from students wishing to study in one of the following areas:

- The history of humanitarian relief from the 19th century onwards

- Turkey, political violence, conflict theory and state formation
- Performance and artistic responses to war and disaster
- The politics of modern peacebuilding
- Critical peace studies
- Post-conflict governance in the third world
- The history of population displacement from the 19th century onwards
- Emergency humanitarian assistance in conflict and catastrophe
- Theory and empirical research concerning contemporary violent conflict
- Theory and practice of conflict resolution
- Militarism and the use of force in humanitarian interventions

For further information on HCRI's PhD programme please visit <http://www.hcri.ac.uk/study/phd/index.htm>

How to Apply

The ESRC DTC application process has two stages:

1. You must apply to the HCRI PhD programme by **Thursday 1 March 2012** using the University's standard online postgraduate application process at this link <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/researchdegrees/researchdegrees/atoz/course/?code=08245>
Once you are in receipt of an offer on the HCRI PhD programme, you can proceed to step two.

Applicants for the studentship should hold or be expecting a First Class degree award, and/or a Distinction in a related Masters degree. Applicants who hold a good 2:1 in their first degree will be considered on merit. Applicants should include full details of any teaching experience or areas of expertise on their application form. Applications should include a 500 - 1000 word research statement and a minimum of 2 letters of reference.

Please indicate on the online application form (under the heading "Funding") that you would like to be considered for this award.

Please note: you are advised to submit your PhD application to the University as early as possible to ensure that you are in receipt of an offer in good time.

2. Upon being accepted onto the programme, candidates will then be asked to complete an ESRC funding application form by **23 March 2012**. HCRI will forward this form to successful candidates along with instructions on how it should be completed and submitted. For further information on the NWDTDC please visit <http://www.nwdtc.ac.uk>

Any enquiries relating specifically to the submission of applications should be directed to Dr Jenny Peterson, HCRI Director of Postgraduate Research jenny.h.peterson@manchester.ac.uk