

Behavioural Science PhD Studentship, Warwick Business School

Studentship related to ESRC Network for Integrated Behavioural Science

The Network for Integrated Behavioural Science

This ESRC-funded programme is a collaboration principally between economists and psychologists at the Universities of Warwick, Nottingham and East Anglia to develop interdisciplinary research and address major challenges for theory and policy in behavioural science – see <http://www.behavioural-science.ac.uk/esrc-nibs/index.aspx>. The successful candidate will become part of this network. This is an exceptional opportunity to be involved with a large number of leading researchers in the field.

One studentship will focus on **modelling decision processes** when people are dealing with risk, uncertainty, intertemporal choice and strategic interactions. Two questions are of particular interest in the context of the Network for Integrated Behavioural Science. One concerns the extent of the similarities and differences between the ways in which people process risky decisions – how to balance the probabilities of better or worse outcomes from different courses of action – and the ways in which they handle trade-offs between different outcomes in the present and at different times in the future. The other question concerns the relationship between models of individual decision making, which focus on the way people choose in cases where the risks and uncertainties are ‘given’ as if by Nature, and models of group and/or interactive decision making, where the uncertainties may stem from the (strategic) behaviour of other individuals or organisations and/or where they are acting as part of a group (e.g. family, team, firm, political party). Here too there are likely to be intertemporal considerations alongside the risks and uncertainties.

Supervision for this studentship will be provided by Professors Graham Loomes and Daniel Read, Dr Andrea Isoni and/or other members of the WBS Behavioural Science Group. The ideal candidate will either be someone with a background in economics who is keen to bring psychological insights, methods and tools to bear on the issues listed above or someone a background in psychology who is interested in applications to economic/policy issues.

Funding

The studentship will be funded for 3 to 4 years, paying an annual maintenance allowance at the standard rate of £13,590 (based on the ESRC’s current rate) and Tuition Fees at the Home/EU rate. Overseas applicants are welcome to apply but, if successful, will have to pay the difference between the Home/EU and Overseas Fees.

Application

Applicants are invited to draft a short proposal of two pages for research on one of the questions identified above, demonstrating their knowledge of and interest in some subset of the issues listed. An application form *must* be completed if you wish to be considered for these scholarships.

For applicants who have not already applied to Warwick:

Candidates must apply via the Warwick Business School Doctoral Programme. Details can be found at: <http://www.wbs.ac.uk/students/doctoral/applying.cfm>

Click here to apply: <http://go.warwick.ac.uk/pgapply>

Application process: Complete the online application form, upload your transcripts and provide a research proposal.

For applicants who already have applied to Warwick:

If you already hold an offer of a place at WBS or are a current student in your first year please contact the DPO office on PhDadmission@wbs.ac.uk

Deadline for applications: 28th March 2014

For further information please contact:

Professor Graham Loomes
Professor of Behavioural Science
Email Graham.Loomes@wbs.ac.uk

For information on making your application please contact phdadmissions@wbs.ac.uk.