

ESRC-Funded PhD Scholarship Opportunity

'The meaning and practice of translational research in biomedicine'

We are seeking outstanding applicants for an ESRC funded-PhD scholarship on the topic of *meanings and practices of translational research*. The successful scholar will be part of the Science and Technology Studies Network that is developing between the Universities of Sheffield, Leeds and York. A research Masters degree (or equivalent) is desirable but not essential. Only applicants eligible for ESRC scholarships may apply.

The project

Everyday practice in a scientific research laboratory is shifting in response to a wide range of internal and external pressures on knowledge production (e.g. changes in funding sources; societal demands; novel forms of inter-disciplinary working etc.). The PhD study will investigate the changing nature of these inside/outside lab dynamics and seek to unpack the meanings of 'translation' in biomedical contexts. It is envisaged this will be primarily an ethnographic study of a specific scientific research area; possibly in a field related to tissue engineering.

Objectives

1. To explore the nature of translational biomedicine e.g. how knowledge is made in translational contexts; how actors shape progress; how knowledge travels across institutional boundaries.
2. To explore the voices and narratives of translation that are present in research work and associated debates, the character of these debates, and what narrative exclusions may inform.
3. To understand the implications of the debates and dynamics for laboratory life, for relations between institutions (such as lab and clinic) and for broader society.

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How to apply

Applicants interested in the project based at Sheffield can find further details about the work here:-

<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/social-sciences-dtc/postgraduate-programme/esrc-studentships>

Procedures for applying and associated deadlines are available here:-

<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/ppr/scholarships>

General information about applying to University of Sheffield is available here:-

<http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/scholarships/process>