Leverhulme Magna Carta Doctoral Scholarship at Royal Holloway, University of London

The School of Law is pleased to announce a funded full-time studentship for doctoral research, awarded under the Leverhulme Magna Carta Doctoral Centre.

The Research Project

The Identification and Prosecution of Cyberstalking: Barriers to Combatting a New Crime in the Digital Age will be supervised by Dr Jennifer Storey, Lecturer in Forensic Psychology in the School of Law, and Dr Amina Memon, Professor in Psychology in the Department of Psychology. The project will investigate the crime of cyberstalking specifically focusing on public attitudes and awareness of the problem, policing practices and prosecution of the offence. The project aims to understand how best to educate potential victims about the offence of cyberstalking in order to increase help-seeking. The project further aims to highlight barriers in the identification and prosecution of the offence within the criminal justice system as well as identify pathways for improvement.

The successful candidate will be encouraged to refine their own PhD topic, working within the proposed phases, as below:

- An investigation of individual awareness of cyberstalking and effective education to increase awareness.
- Interview police and prosecutors in the UK to gain an understanding of how cyberstalking is combated within the criminal justice system and what barriers exist to prosecution and how improvements can be made.
- Use the research to develop a model that can have a positive impact on the criminal justice system or for victims of cyberstalking.

In line with the research interests of the supervisors, it is anticipated that this project will include both quantitative and qualitative analyses.

The applicant will be expected to engage with stakeholders in the area to gain a deeper understanding of cyberstalking and its present treatment within the criminal justice system.

The Scholarship

The scholarship will fund a full-time PhD for three years, during which time a full academic training programme will be provided. The successful candidate will be engaged in all aspects of the research project, including engaging with and disseminating findings to external stakeholders.
The scholarship covers UK and European Union tuition fees and an annual stipend towards living expenses. The 2017/18 value of the stipend is £16,553.

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the activities of the Magna Carta Doctoral Centre as well as the postgraduate research community in the multidisciplinary School of Law.

For further information about postgraduate research in the School of Law at Royal Holloway, please see:
https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/criminologyandsociology/prospectivestudents/postgraduate/home.aspx

For further details about the Leverhulme Magna Carta Doctoral Centre, please see:
https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere/researchdegrees/feesandfunding/leverhulmedoctoralstudentships/home.aspx

Supervision

The successful candidate will be supervised by Dr Jennifer Storey in the School of Law and Professor Amina Memon in the Department of Psychology, both at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Dr Jennifer Storey: https://pure.royalholloway.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/jennifer-storey%2874568cb5-0ff5-45eb-97a7-4d00ef53490b%29.html

Professor Amina Memon:
https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/aboutus/newsandevents/experts/directory/memonamina.aspx

Qualifications and Eligibility

Candidates with a background in psychology are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Due to the sensitive nature of the research project and the requirement for careful consideration of ethics and associated procedures, candidates would ideally:

- Have a first or upper-second class honours degree or equivalent
- Have a Masters-level qualification, including advanced quantitative and qualitative methods
- Be a resident of the UK or European Economic Area
- Have excellent interpersonal communication skills
- Be in a position to gain security clearance to engage in data collection (i.e. no criminal record)
- Be in a position to embark on full-time PhD study
- Previous work in the criminal justice system or with victims of crime would be an asset

Start Date

The preferred start date is September 2017.
Application Procedure

Informal enquiries can be made to Dr Jennifer Storey jennifer.storey@rhul.ac.uk or Professor Amina Memon Amina.memon@rhul.ac.uk.

Please make a formal application via Royal Holloway’s online application system, which can be accessed at: https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere/postgraduate/applying/howtoapply.aspx

Your application should include:

- A 3 page statement outlining your interest in the research project, how you would address the research aims and how you meet the eligibility criteria
- A copy of your undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications
- A current CV
- An academic reference

The closing date for applications is Sunday 11th June at midnight. Interviews will take place during the last week of June and on Monday July 3rd.