

PhD Studentships in the DEMAND Centre, Lancaster University

Two fully funded 3 year PhD studentships in the DEMAND (Dynamics of Energy, Mobility and Demand) Centre are available to start in October 2014. DEMAND is a social science led research centre, funded for 5 years by the RCUK energy programme and involving ten University partners and non-academic collaborators. The two studentships are based at Lancaster University.

Successful applicants will join a *vibrant academic community* both at Lancaster and across the DEMAND consortium, including postdoctoral researchers and other PhD students. This will provide *many added benefits* in terms of the development of strong academic and non-academic networks and involvement in summer schools, workshops, seminars and reading and writing groups.

The PhD studentships provide an exciting opportunity to bring fresh perspectives to bear on fundamental questions about how societies and social practices change, and the implications of such change for energy demand/mobility and for reducing carbon emissions. Ideas and concepts from different traditions – including political science, history, human geography, social theories of practice; normative theory; technology/innovation studies, organisation/management studies and sociology – all have a part to play in developing this agenda, and we are keen to attract students with relevant interests and experience across the social sciences.

Students will have two supervisors: for example, Elizabeth Shove, Gordon Walker, Allison Hui, Nicola Spurling, James Faulconbridge, Mike Hazas, other members of the DEMAND centre, or experts from EDF-R&D (Paris) – as appropriate. [Further details](#) about student life in DEMAND.

An open call for expressions of interest

We are open to high quality proposals from people with a strong background in any area of the **social sciences** and with an interest in developing a project that relates to the DEMAND centre's distinctive [approach and research agenda](#). We are especially interested in proposals for internationally comparative research, or for projects that have an historical focus, that are theoretically challenging, that address uses of energy/mobility at work as well as at home, or that focus on how many different areas of public policy shape the dynamics of demand.

This is an open call so if you have an idea for a project, write a **one page expression of interest** and send it to Elizabeth Shove, E.Shove@Lancaster.ac.uk for a quick response and a chat. If we agree the topic is worth pursuing, and if you are eligible, you will be invited to prepare a full application – see below for more details. Please do not submit a full application without getting in touch first.

We intend to award the studentships based on a review of all full applications received by 30 September.

Eligibility and Application Process

Applicants should hold an undergraduate degree at 2(i) or first class level, and a relevant postgraduate Masters degree. We are only able to accept applications from UK or EU citizens, resident in the UK/EU, for these 'Home/EU' fees studentships. English language requirement is IELTS 7.0.

The studentship will cover tuition fees, and provide a maintenance grant of £13,590 per year for 3 years. Travel and research costs will be covered by the DEMAND Centre, normally up to £750/year.

Applications should be made via the University application system

<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/how-to-apply-for-postgraduate-study/>.

Please select 'Sociology PhD' as the Programme and submit the following documents:

1. **A covering letter** outlining:
 - why you want to undertake a PhD in the DEMAND Centre
 - why you have relevant skills, commitment and enthusiasm for PhD study
2. **A two page proposal** that expands on the description provided in your expression of interest, and that provides details of a clear rationale, research questions and potential methods and includes up to ten relevant references. This is to enable us to evaluate your ability to develop a coherent and well-argued research proposal.
3. **A full CV.**
4. **An example of your recent written work** (an essay or similar).

When you have submitted your application please also send an email quoting your application number to Kate Wright, k.wright@lancaster.ac.uk. Kate can be contacted by email or on tel. 01524 510842 if you have any questions or queries.