

University of Birmingham shares in £14.6 million AHRC funding for postgraduate study

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The University of Birmingham is one of six Midlands universities to benefit from a multi-million-pound partnership which will create hundreds of new postgraduate studentship opportunities across the region.



The **Midlands Three Cities consortium** (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/index.aspx>), which brings together academic expertise from the Universities of Birmingham and Nottingham, Nottingham Trent University, Birmingham City University, the University of Leicester and De Montfort University, is one of 11 new Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs) announced by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Awarded £14.6 million by the AHRC, the Midlands Three Cities DTP will deliver over 400 postgraduate studentships over three years across a variety of arts and humanities disciplines, including Archaeology, Classics, Cultural and Museum Studies, Drama and Theatre Studies, English Language and Literature, History, Modern Languages, Music, Law, Philosophy and Theology.

The DTP will also offer a package of support for postgraduate students, including working closely with a number of partner organisations to offer exciting placement opportunities. The six institutions will also work together to support joint supervision of students, sharing of resources and further activities such as student events, conferences and the fostering of peer support networks.

Central to the new DTP will be a focus on the development of broader skills for postgraduate students such as partnership working, language skills and experience of working outside academia to enhance their employability. It will encourage students to consider the impact of their research and how it contributes to the wider world right from the start of their postgraduate studies.

The Midlands Three Cities DTP will also devote a portion of the funding to Masters training - aiming to more effectively bridge the gap between BA and PhD.

Professor Michael Whitby, Head of the College of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham, commented: 'The University of Birmingham is proud to be helping to shape a new form of cross-sector collaboration that demonstrates our commitment to the Arts and Humanities and to effective postgraduate training.'

Application forms and guidance notes are available to download from the **Midlands Three Cities website** (<http://www.midlands3cities.ac.uk/midlands-3-cities/funding.aspx>).

Further information on how to apply through the University of Birmingham is now available (</schools/calgs/news/2013/new-year-deadline-for-ahrc-awards.aspx>).

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