

University of Birmingham

School of Government and Society

Specialist Doctoral Scholarship

The School of Government and Society is one of the leading UK and International Centres for governance, politics, international development, public management, Russian and European Studies

We are pleased to announce a full time PhD scholarship for the 2019/2020 academic year, commencing 30 September 2019.

Topic of Doctoral Research

The successful applicant's project will focus on Britain's participation in the US-led War in Iraq in 2003. In particular, the project will draw upon the new archive of primary source documents (particularly those unearthed by the Iraq "Chilcot" Inquiry). We would welcome project proposals on decision-making, preventive war, war and bureaucratic politics, the Anglo-American relationship, the war and the Iraqi diaspora community, or the war's implications for International Relations (IR) theory. **The First Supervisor will be Professor Patrick Porter from the Politics and International Studies Department.**

Who is eligible?

The scholarships are available to candidates of the highest academic calibre who wish to conduct doctoral level study on a topic within the research area of **International Studies or International History** in the School. The Scholarship is the equivalent of an ESRC studentship and covers home/EU fees (£4260 p.a.) plus a living allowance of **£ 14777** per annum for three years, subject to satisfactory progress. For applicants outside the EU the scholarship covers fees (**£ 15720**) and provides a contribution of **£ 3317** towards living expenses.

A successful applicant will be expected to have a very good undergraduate degree, minimum of a **first class honours**. They should also hold, or expect to achieve, a very good Masters degree (at a distinction level) in **International Studies or International History**. Their references will attest to qualities of academic achievement and research potential that make the candidate stand out above their peers. They may have already won academic prizes within their home institutions and /or internationally.

Applications will be assessed on (a) the quality of the student's academic achievements and preparedness for doctoral level study; (b) the quality of the research proposal; (c) the potential to contribute to cutting edge research. Guidance on preparing a research proposal is attached. Since we are particularly keen to build on existing areas of research strength, all applicants are strongly advised to contact potential supervisors and to discuss their proposal with them prior to online submission.

How to apply

Potential candidates for the School of Government and Society Doctoral Scholarships must have an offer of a place to study for a PhD. **If you do not already have an offer, you must apply by Friday January 25 2019** and mark your electronic application **School of Government and Society Scholarship – Patrick Porter**. At the same time, you should send a separate **School of Government Scholarship** application form. This form is now available online and can be downloaded here - <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/courses/funding/govsoc-doctoral-scholarships.aspx> - under the section on how to apply.

For more general information about our Doctoral Programme, please see the following link:

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/courses/doctoral-research/index.aspx>