

## **University of Birmingham ESRC Competition 2014/15**

### **Quality Benchmark**

All applications will need to meet these quality benchmarks in order to be considered for funding. Meeting these benchmarks is not a guarantee of success however due to significant competition for available funding.

**Person** - A student of good quality, who is well prepared to undertake the proposed postgraduate study and who can demonstrate a commitment to undertaking postgraduate research.

**Preparation** - For undergraduate applicants a minimum of 2.1 class degree. For +3 awards the applicant must have successfully completed a programme of postgraduate research training in social sciences

**Proposal** - A sound proposal which identifies a clear theoretical or empirical focus, and is capable of being the basis for postgraduate research for PhD.

**Place** - A clear base in the subject area in the identified pathway, and evidence that appropriate qualified supervisors are available to provide supervision. For Interdisciplinary applications, identification of the why the selected subjects are relevant to the proposed research question and how it is proposed to combine these; and evidence that appropriately qualified supervisors in each subject area are available to provide supervision.