



Scottish  
Graduate  
School of  
Social  
Science



University of  
St Andrews



## ESRC PhD Studentship in Demography / Quantitative Geography / Social Statistics

We invite applications from qualified and highly motivated students for an ESRC PhD Studentship in Demography / Quantitative Geography / Social Statistics. The PhD studentship is based at the University of St Andrews and is funded by the ESRC Scottish Graduate School of Social Science (within the Health, Families, Relationships and Demographic Change pathway). The scholarship includes an Advanced Quantitative Method (AQM) enhanced stipend. The PhD student will work on a project "*Residential Context and Childbearing: Application of a Spatial Multilevel Multiprocess Hazard Model to Study Contextual Determinants of Fertility*". The project will investigate childbearing patterns by residential context in Britain. The objectives are to explain spatial variation in fertility and to develop a spatial multilevel event-history model to measure the effect of living environment on individuals' childbearing behaviour (for further details, please see <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/gsd/opportunities/pg/phdfunding/>). The PhD student will be supervised by Prof. Hill Kulu, Dr. Katherine Keenan and Dr. Jed Long.

The ESRC scholarship covers tuition fees (£4,195 in the 2017/18 academic year), a yearly stipend of £14,553 per year (in the 2017/18 academic year, subject to increase annually according to the ESRC rules and regulations), and a research training support grant (RTSG) of £750 per year. Further, the AQM award comes with additional stipend payment of £3,000 per year. The scholarship is open to UK and EU students. EU students who do not fulfil the ESRC's residence eligibility criteria will be entitled to a Fees Only award (please check the ESRC's residential guidelines which can be accessed at <http://www.socsciscotland.ac.uk/studentships/eligibility>).

Students with a first class or an upper secondary undergraduate or master's degree in any area of social or environmental sciences including statistics, applied mathematics and computer science who are interested in this opportunity must complete and submit an online application by **13th April 2018** at the following link: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate/research/>. Please apply to the "School of Geography and Sustainable Development" and to the programme "PhD Geography (Science)". Please include a covering letter outlining your interest in the topic and in applying advanced quantitative methods in social science research. Please also indicate whether you apply for a +3 or 1+3 studentship. Students without a research master's degree will have the opportunity to take a one-year master's course in research methodology. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed in the week commencing 16th April 2018; Skype interviews are possible.

The successful applicant will become a member of the Population and Health Research Group (PHRG) at the School of Geography and Sustainable Development. The PHRG research covers a wide range of population topics including the analysis of family and fertility dynamics; life course choices; migration and new mobilities; ethnicity and minority populations; health, well-being and mortality; and population inequalities. The group combines expertise in advanced techniques of demographic, longitudinal and spatial analysis. For further details about the research group, please see: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/gsd/research/phrg/>; <https://populationandhealth.wordpress.com/>. The group is part of the ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC) (<http://www.cpc.ac.uk/>) and hosts the Census and Administrative Data Longitudinal Studies (CALLS) Hub (<http://calls.ac.uk/>).

This is an excellent opportunity for a highly motivated PhD student to work in an international team of researchers on a cutting-edge population topic applying advanced quantitative methodology and statistical modelling. The studentship starts in October 2018.

For informal inquiries, please contact Prof. Hill Kulu (Hill.Kulu@st-andrews.ac.uk). Please include 'ESRC SGSSS PhD studentship' in the subject line of your email.