|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **YSGOL GRADDEDIGION GWYDDORAU CYMDEITHASOL CYMRU**  **WELSH GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**  **STUDENTSHIP APPLICATION FORM**  This WGSSS Application Form for ESRC doctoral studentship awards focuses on your proposed programme of research and your potential for doctoral-level research. The form asks you for a range of information, and you should complete all of the fields that apply to your individual circumstances.  This form must be completed by you as the applicant. However, we encourage you to discuss your application with your supervisor and allow enough time to develop a robust proposal and programme of research.  It is vital that you take into account the deadlines for the application process, which are detailed on the [WGSSS website](https://wgsss.ac.uk/studentships/). Please also be aware that individual universities often have internal deadlines for applications, so do seek guidance from the pathway or school department you are applying to and make sure that you allow plenty of time to complete the application.  You can only be nominated by one WGSSS Pathway for a WGSSS Studentship.  You can only submit one General Studentship project proposal to the WGSSS.  Please ensure that you observe the word limits for each field, as set out in the form. WGSSS reserves the right to reject over-length applications outright.  Please visit the [WGSSS website studentships page](https://wgsss.ac.uk/studentships/) for further information. | | |
| Studentship  Type | Choose an item. | |
| **Section 1 – Applicant Details** | | |
| Title |  | |
| First Name |  | |
| Last Name |  | |
| Preferred Name |  | |
| Personal Email |  | |
| WGSSS Pathway | Choose an item. | |
| WGSSS Institution | Choose an item. | |
| In line with WGSSS’s EDI Strategy and commitment to addressing underrepresentation in its student cohorts, and by way of ‘positive action’ permitted under the Equality Act 2010, an additional applicant per pathway may be entered into the **General Studentship Competition** provided that at least one of those is:   * Black British * Asian British * minority ethnic British * mixed-race British. | | |
| Please check this box if you identify as coming within one of the above categories | | |
| **Section 2 – Eligibility** | | |
| All international students are eligible for a full WGSSS award consisting of a maintenance stipend and payment of tuition fees at the UK research organisation rate.  Applicants must satisfy UKRI studentship eligibility requirements. For further details see the [UKRI website.](https://www.ukri.org/our-work/developing-people-and-skills/find-studentships-and-doctoral-training/get-a-studentship-to-fund-your-doctorate/)  Please indicate below whether you are classed as a Home or International student. If you are unsure please first contact the admissions team in the university you are applying to. | | |
| Home Student  International Student | | |
| If a student already holds an award from or is otherwise financially supported by, another  organisation (including receipt of prior PhD funding from a UKRI Research Council) and the ESRC considers that award, or other forms of support, to be sufficient to cover maintenance and/or tuition fees, the student will not be eligible for an award from the ESRC. | | |
| I confirm that I am eligible for an ESRC studentship | | |
| Students are expected to have qualifications or experience **equivalent to** a first or upper second class bachelors degree or masters degree from a UK institution.  Please check the box below to indicate whether you have qualifications or experience that meet our minimum requirements. If you are unsure please first contact the admissions team in the university you are applying to. | | |
| I confirm that I have qualifications or experience equivalent to a first or upper-second-class bachelors degree or masters degree from a UK institution | | |
| **WELSH LANGUAGE** – to be completed by students applying for the WGSSS and Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol co-funded studentship. | | |
| All applicants applying to the WGSSS and Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol co-funded studentship are required to complete the PhD through the medium of Welsh.  Applicants must have competence in Welsh equivalent to the C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.  Please include in the box below any relevant Welsh qualifications or qualifications completed through the medium of Welsh or provide any other evidence of competency in Welsh (e.g. first-language Welsh-speaker, but brought up and educated outside of Wales) (100 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| **Section 3 - Supervisors** | | |
| Before submitting your WGSSS application, you must secure agreement from a supervisor based in one of our [15 pathways](https://wgsss.ac.uk/pathway/) who is willing to supervise your WGSSS studentship.  For Collaborative studentships please add the name(s) of the supervisors listed on the advert. | | |
| Name of lead supervisor | | Name of co-supervisor (if known) |
|  | |  |
| Institution | | Institution |
|  | |  |
| Email address | | Email address |
|  | |  |
| **Section 4 – About the Project** | | |
| Proposed PhD Title | | |
|  | | |
| Provide a short overview of the project. This should include the aims and purpose of the research. (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Please provide a brief overview of the academic literature relevant to your field  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Outline the project’s research design. Include detail about the research method/s you will use, and how the proposed research design will enable you to address the research problem and/or research questions detailed above.  (300 words max). | | |
|  | | |
| Please provide details of the contribution that your project will make to academic knowledge. (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Please specify if the project requires any [Difficult Language Training (DLT)](https://wgsss.ac.uk/research-and-training-funds/difficult-language-training/) and provide the language and length of study referring to the DLT guidance.  (150 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Please specify if the project requires any [Overseas Fieldwork](https://wgsss.ac.uk/research-and-training-funds/overseas-fieldwork-expenses/) and provide the destination and duration.  (150 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Bibliographic References | | |
|  | | |
| **Section 5 – Personal Statement** | | |
| Set out your reasons and motivation for applying to study at your chosen University and Pathway.  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Please detail your understanding and expectations of doctoral study.  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Provide details of your academic interests generally, and particularly of those relating to your proposed research.  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Drawing on your own background (including your life experiences, journey to/through university, work experiences, or volunteering) please provide a summary of why you are ready to undertake a PhD now and how you will flourish as a result of PhD funding.  You might include, for example, personal challenges that you have overcome or achievements that you are proud of in your work, study, or life experiences and how these map onto the skills required to flourish in a PhD programme and make a positive contribution to WGSSS.  Challenges could include, but are not limited to, protected characteristics, socio-economic status, being a prospective first-generation student, or care- experienced.  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| Reflecting on your own background and/or proposed approach to PhD study and the opportunities which it will present, how will you support diversity and inclusion in the PhD community?  (300 words max) | | |
|  | | |
| **Section 6 - ESRC EDI Data Collection** | | |
| WGSSS is required to report on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion data to the ESRC, the government research council that funds WGSSS. Before you submit your application, please complete the [linked WGSSS EDI Data Form.](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=MEu3vWiVVki9vwZ1l3j8vBSPZmHWMPdDgb4TLhPqMwlUQkZNRVJUTEsyTjdIMkNYVEMyOU5ZQ1RJQiQlQCN0PWcu)  Applicant data to be collected includes information on the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010: sex, age, disability, race, and sexual orientation. This data will be held confidentially and reported anonymously to the ESRC. This data will be held separately from your application and is collected for statistical reporting to the ESRC only. | | |
| Please check this box to confirm that you have completed the WGSSS EDI Data form | | |
| **END OF FORM**  Thank you for taking the time to complete the WGSSS Studentship Application Form.  Along with the WGSSS Student Application form, we also require the following documents to support your application:   * Academic CV * 2 Academic or Professional References * Degree certificates and transcripts   Please attach the above documents and the WGSSS Studentship Application form to your university application as a **single document by the application deadline.**  **Failure to do so may impede or prevent consideration of your application.** | | |