



**Centre for Criminology and Sociology, Royal Holloway, University of London  
Department of Psychology, University of Surrey  
NHS England: London Region**

**Promoting health and health literacy among diverse prisoner populations**

**Fully-Funded 3-Year PhD Studentship**

Applications are invited for a PhD studentship on 'Enhancing health literacy among diverse prisoner populations'. This is a collaborative project between Royal Holloway University of London, the University of Surrey and NHS England, and has been funded by the ESRC's South East Doctoral Training Centre, Royal Holloway University of London and NHS England: London Region.

The doctoral project will investigate ways in which to promote health and health literacy in prison settings and represents an ambitious quantitative investigation in a population recognised as having considerable mental and physical health needs. Health literacy broadly refers to the cognitive and social skills determining the motivation and ability of individuals to gain access to, understand, and use information in ways that promote and maintain good health. Research will involve generating primary data from a range of prison establishments, drawing on existing datasets and designing and evaluating a brief health promotion intervention.

The successful candidate will be part of vibrant research communities within the Centre for Criminology and Sociology and Department of Psychology at Royal Holloway and the Department of Psychology at Surrey, and have access to the training and other opportunities offered by both institutions and the South East Doctoral Training Centre. S/he will be supervised by Dr Rosie Meek (Royal Holloway University of London), Professor Jane Ogden (University of Surrey) and Dr Alison Frater (NHS England, London Region).

**Funding:**

The 3-year studentship is funded by the ESRC's South East Doctoral Training Centre, Royal Holloway University of London and NHS England. It covers Home/EU tuition fees and a maintenance grant of £17,726 per annum (plus an additional £750 per annum to support fieldwork expenses and research training needs).



### **Entry requirements:**

#### *Essential:*

A first degree (first or upper second class) in Psychology, Criminology or a related subject.

A relevant Masters level degree **or** equivalent research training.

Experience of using quantitative research methods (particularly in scale development)  
Excellent oral and written communication skills.

#### *Desirable:*

Experience of working in Criminal Justice and/or health settings

**Please note that these awards are only available to nationals from the UK and EU and are not open to applicants who are liable to pay academic fees at the international fee rate.** UK applicants will be eligible for a full award. EU applicants are normally eligible for a fees only award unless they can demonstrate residency in the UK for a minimum of three years. Further details of the ESRC's eligibility criteria may be found in their Postgraduate Funding Guide available here:

[http://www.esrc.ac.uk/images/ESRC-Postgraduate-Funding-Guide-DTCs\\_tcm8-14766.pdf](http://www.esrc.ac.uk/images/ESRC-Postgraduate-Funding-Guide-DTCs_tcm8-14766.pdf)

### **Applications:**

Informal enquires can be made to Dr Rosie Meek ([r.meek@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:r.meek@rhul.ac.uk)).

To apply, please send:

1. A covering letter highlighting: (i) Why you are interested in doing a PhD; (ii) Why you are interested in this particular research topic; (iii) Which specific skills and aptitudes you feel you would bring to the project.

2. A copy of your current CV including the names and contact details of two referees

to Rosie Meek by email to [r.meek@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:r.meek@rhul.ac.uk)

Closing date: Noon, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Interviews: Wednesday August 14th

**Start date: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013**