



‘Teaching innovation in 21st century UK higher education: motivations, staff/student perceptions, advantages and challenges’
PhD studentship, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, Surrey, TW20 0EX <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/home.aspx>

Fully-funded full-time three-year studentship (full Home/EU fees plus stipend of £14,296 annually and costs of research travel). Available in the School of Management for January 2018 start.

Further particulars

The University has recently created a new senior role of Vice Principal Teaching Innovation and the successful candidate will work closely with the VP and the Royal Holloway Teaching Innovation group. The project would involve conducting two case studies of universities, exploring student and staff perspectives on the advantages and drawbacks of teaching innovation, probably using a mixed methods approach but with a stronger emphasis on qualitative methods (interviews and focus groups). There would be scope for negotiating the finer details of the project, though not the case study element. The successful applicant would be based in the School of Management and supervised by the Vice-Principal for Teaching Innovation, Professor Rosemary Deem. Applicants should have a 2.1 or First in their Bachelors degree and ideally a merit or distinction in a Masters degree in Sociology, Education or Management (the last named preferably with an emphasis on organisations). The successful candidate would have full access to research methods training, researcher development and other research student activities.

How to apply

Please note that this studentship is *only* open to EU and UK applicants, *not* international students. Applicants should send a 1-2 page CV including details of qualifications and any relevant experience, plus the names of two academic referees and a 1-2 page letter of application and send both (envelope or email heading marked 'Teaching Innovation PhD studentship') by post or electronically to:

Jo Barrs, School of Management, Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey,
TW20 0EX Email Joanne.Barrs@rhul.ac.uk

Closing date for applications November 10th 2017.

Interviews will be held on 23rd November.

The project

The successful candidate will work on a comparison of Royal Holloway and another UK university (the latter preferably one with a significant record in teaching innovation and a gold award in TEF 2), developing two institutional case studies by:

1. Exploring the views of both academics and students at both institutions towards teaching innovation, drawing on both student and staff surveys and selected interviews across different disciplines (for academics) and focus groups (for students).
2. Analysing and comparing the institutional climates and cultures of and organisational strategies about, teaching innovation in two institutions through interviews, documentary analysis and participant observation.
3. Examining what motivates those academics who engage in teaching innovation, what forms of departmental and institutional support they value and what can go wrong, using interviews and focus groups
4. Investigating how National Student Survey, Postgraduate Taught Student Experience survey, the Teaching Excellence Framework and the Competition and Markets Authority are affecting institutional and individual approaches to teaching innovation in the UK, using policy and documentary analysis.

There will be some scope to vary aspects of the project or to add an element to suit the strengths of the successful applicant.

Bibliography

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