

# LAHP Open Studentship Competition

(PhD start date: October 2021)

Professor Alison Blunt, LAHP Director

Professor Hugh Bowden, LAHP Deputy Director (Training and Cohort Development)

Harsha Balasubramanian, UCL, Anthropology, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Alex Ho, Royal College of Music, Composition, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Isabel Stuart, QMUL, Drama and Theatre Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

## What is LAHP?

- LAHP is a Doctoral Training Partnership co-funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and its eight HEI partners.
- LAHP funds up to 90 PhD studentships in subjects across the Arts & Humanities;
- Of these 10% are *Collaborative Doctoral Awards* involving a cultural or other external partner;
- We will be awarding a MINIMUM number of studentships to *Black and Global Majority students* from this year's open competition – details tbc;
- Up to 30% of LAHP's studentships can be awarded to *international students*.

## International applicants

From October 2021 entry, international students (including EU students) will be eligible for AHRC studentships (including stipend). The AHRC will fund only the Home fee. The difference between the Home and International fee must be found elsewhere, e.g. from an institutional, external funder or student contribution. Students should discuss this further with their prospective supervisors.

LAHP encourages all international applicants to apply to other funding sources that could cover the difference between the Home and International fee.













# LAHP

The LONDON  
ARTS & HUMANITIES  
PARTNERSHIP



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE



Queen Mary  
University of London

ROYAL CENTRAL  
SCHOOL OF SPEECH & DRAMA  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



Royal College of Art  
Postgraduate Art & Design



ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC  
*London*



SCHOOL OF  
ADVANCED STUDY  
UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON



Funded by  
Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

| LAHP Team          |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Prof. Alison Blunt | Director  |
| Prof. Hugh Bowden  | Deputy Director (Training & Cohort Development) |
| Dr Anna Sexton     | Deputy Director (Collaborations & Partnerships) |
| Mispa Same-Essaka  | Manager   |
| Valeria Farruggia  | Senior Support Officer                          |
| Lewis Knapp        | Support Officer                                 |

[www.lahp.ac.uk](http://www.lahp.ac.uk)

[info.lahp@london.ac.uk](mailto:info.lahp@london.ac.uk)



## LAHP welcomes applications:

- across all of LAHP's subject areas and approaches in the arts and humanities, including for inter-disciplinary and practice-based research;
- from those who have recently completed their Masters' programmes and those with relevant professional and/or practitioner experience;
- from those wishing to study on a full- or part-time basis;
- from applicants of all ages and backgrounds.

## *Studentships*

- Funding is for 3 years (3.5 years for CDAs) full-time study (or part-time equivalent), with the possibility of a further 6 months' funding for a placement or extended training;
- The final submission deadline remains the same;
- Students who have already completed one year full-time, or up to three years part-time, PhD study are eligible to apply. Funding will cover the remaining period of their study (i.e. two years full-time, 3-5 years part-time).



## *Training*

LAHP also supports funded students through its training programme which includes:

- Language courses
- Introductions to Archives etc.
- Communication skills, including Public Engagement, Public Speaking
- Writing retreats
- Resilience and Coping with Stress
- Academic and Non-academic career development
- Lectures and Workshops on relevant topics





## *Placements*

LAHP students have the opportunity to go on placements with cultural or other partners which are great opportunities to gain experience in the wider world in areas not directly related to their research project.

## *Other funding opportunities*

For extensions; research and training; impact, engagement and entrepreneurship; student-led activities.



Stephen Hills: placement at the Derek Jarman Lab.

## *Cohort Development*

- LAHP recognizes the importance of PhD students feeling part of a wider community.
- We have a number of events throughout the year to which all LAHP students, and wherever possible their supervisors, are invited.
- These are opportunities to get to meet fellow PhD students across the partnership and learn about each others' research.



## *Student networks*

- Black and Global Majority network
- New student-led networks in development include: LGBTQ+ network; disability network; mental health support group; and networks for carers, mature students, part-time students.





## Our Commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- LAHP has a strong commitment to promoting and supporting equality, diversity and inclusion.
- We are committed to the provision of equality of opportunity for all of our applicants, students and staff.
- We are committed to a community in which all people can learn, work and interact freely without fear of discrimination, prejudice or harassment.
- All applicants, students, staff, supervisors and stakeholders will be treated equitably and will not be accorded less favourable treatment on the grounds of: gender, marital/civil partnership status, sexual orientation, gender re-assignment, race, colour, nationality, ethnicity or national origins, religion or similar philosophical belief, spent criminal conviction, age or disability.

# LAHP | The LONDON ARTS & HUMANITIES PARTNERSHIP



Harsha Balasubramanian, UCL  
Anthropology, 2<sup>nd</sup> year



Rochelle Rose in / salt. / by Selina Thompson Ltd, Royal Court Theatre, May 2019. Photo credit: Johan Persson



Alex Ho, Royal College of Music, Music,  
2<sup>nd</sup> year

Isabel Stuart, Queen Mary University of London, Drama and Theatre  
Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> year



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## Studentship Competition Timeline, 2020/21

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Now</b>              | Application template and guidance available at <a href="http://www.lahp.ac.uk">www.lahp.ac.uk</a>   |
| <b>7 December 2020</b>  | Applications open via the LAHP online portal  |
| <b>5 February 2021</b>  | <b>5pm</b> application deadline. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered. Students must already have applied for a PhD place at a LAHP partner HEI. <b>Applications must include the supervisor statement.</b> |
| <b>Mid-March 2021</b>   | Students must be in receipt of an offer for their chosen PhD programme  |
| <b>April 2021</b>       | LAHP offers to successful candidates<br>Within two weeks of the offer of award – students to accept/decline the offer   |
| <b>1st October 2021</b> | Studentships to begin   |



## What We Are Looking For

Applications will be judged against clear criteria. Scoring will be based on:

- Quality of the Research Proposal (worth 50%)
- Preparedness of the Student (worth 25%)
- Feasibility of Proposed Research (worth 25%)



## What We Are Looking For

### *Quality of the Research Proposal (worth 50%)*

- Significance, originality and clarity of research proposal;
- Underpinning ideas, aims and research questions;
- Research design, methodology and/or sources;
- Suitability of proposal for doctoral research;
- Dissemination and potential impact.

### *Demonstrated by*

- Research proposal; Non-technical summary; Key references;
- Supervisor statement



## What We Are Looking For

### *Preparedness of the Student (worth 25%)*

- Previous academic achievements in relevant subject areas and/or:
- Relevant professional / practitioner experience (particularly for applicants with non-standard academic trajectories);
- Relevant knowledge, skills and/or training for proposed research.

### *Demonstrated by*

- Academic qualifications (awarded and pending); Professional / practitioner experience; Personal statement; Supervisor statement



## What We Are Looking For

### *Feasibility of the Proposed Research (worth 25%)*

- Likely completion within the timeframe;
- Identification of training needs;
- Justification of fieldwork and study visits;
- Synergy with proposed supervisors' research and wider intellectual culture of the department, HEI and LAHP.

### *Demonstrated by*

- Timetable; Additional training needs; Research proposal; Personal statement; Supervisor statement.



Photo credit: Ian Cheng Serpentine Gallery installation view BOB ©2018 Hugo Glendinning. Courtesy of the artist and Serpentine Galleries.

## Before You Apply to LAHP

- Make sure that you are eligible for AHRC funding (subject area; length of time completed if you are a continuing student).
- Make sure that you have applied for a PhD place at one of the LAHP HEI partners
- Make sure that you have discussed your proposal and your LAHP application with your proposed primary supervisor
- Make sure that you and the department you are applying to have identified **TWO** supervisors (whether first and second supervisors or joint supervisors). **NB** LAHP requires the names of **both** supervisors. LAHP supervisors can be at the same or different HEIs.

## How to Apply

A word version of the application form is available on the LAHP website. The online portal for applications will open on **7 December**:

<https://www.lahp.ac.uk/apply-for-a-studentship-2021-22-entry/>

Key information required:

- *Research Proposal*
  - 8000 characters on significance and originality; underpinning ideas, aims and research questions; research design, methodology and/or sources (including practice-led research).
  - Up to 10 key references cited in the proposal.



- *Personal Statement* (4,000 characters)
  - What knowledge, skills and training would you bring to the proposed research?
  - How and why is the proposed research suitable for a LAHP studentship?
  - How would you seek to benefit from, and contribute to, LAHP?
  - How might you want to engage with different audiences and organizations during your research?
- *Supervisor Statement*
  - About both supervisors: relevant research experience, supervisory experience and total number of current students (up to 1000 characters)
  - Quality of the proposed research (up to 2000 characters)
  - Preparedness of the applicant (up to 1000 characters)
  - Feasibility of the proposed research (up to 1000 characters)

## The Competition Process

| Subject Area Group   |  | Disciplinary Cluster                  |                            |  |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Archaeology  |  | A1<br>Histories, Cultures & Heritage  | Studentship<br>Award Panel |  |
| Art History  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Classics   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Cultural & Museum Studies, including cultural geography & area studies |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Ethnography & Anthropology   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| History (medieval and early modern)                                    |  |                                       |                            |  |
| History (modern)   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Development Studies & Political Science & International Studies        |  | A2<br>Thought, Values and Information |                            |  |
| Information & Communications Technology                                |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Law & Legal Studies  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Philosophy   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Theology, Divinity & Religion  |  | B<br>Creative & Performing Arts       |                            |  |
| Design   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Drama & Theatre  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Film Studies   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Media  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Music  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Visual Arts  |  | C<br>Languages & Literature           |                            |  |
| English  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Creative writing   |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Linguistics  |  |                                       |                            |  |
| Modern Languages   |  |                                       |                            |  |

## Final Advice

Competition is very strong (over 500 applications in 2020 for 81 places in the Open Competition)

- Starting thinking about your project as soon as possible;
- Look at the LAHP website to find out more about current PhD research projects;
- Find a potential supervisor as soon as you have a project in mind (following the process appropriate to your HEI);
- Take your time in writing your research proposal and personal statement;
- Read the online guidance when you are completing the application form.



# Any Questions?

# Thank you & good luck!

<https://www.lahp.ac.uk/apply-for-a-studentship/>