SeNSS ESRC-FUNDED COLLABORATIVE STUDENTSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Governmental financial resilience in the Post COVID-19 era: exploring the antecedents, consequences and dynamics of anticipatory and coping capacities in UK Councils

Primary supervisor: Prof Ileana Steccolini
Institution Details: Essex Business School, University of Essex
Collaborative partner: CIPFA: The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting
SeNSS Pathway: Business and Management

Degree structure: either a three-year or four-year PhD programme, or a one year Masters degree, followed by a three-year PhD programme

Project background
Essex University, in partnership with CIPFA, are offering an ESRC SeNSS PhD scholarship on Governmental financial resilience in UK Councils in the post-pandemic.

The PhD scholarship will allow a fully funded PhD student to undertake ground-breaking research on governmental financial resilience, exploring how Local Governments build on their capacities to face financial shocks and difficulties caused by the pandemic, ensuring the maintenance and transformation of local public services in the long-run.

This will provide the student with an important opportunity to grow competences and skills in both quantitative and qualitative methods, applying them in the area of public sector accounting and management. The student will be empowered in his/her path to become an independent researcher by a supportive and experienced supervisory team, being immersed in a thriving and internationally recognised Accounting Group, as well as having access to an international community of scholars working in the area of public management, financial management and accounting.

The scholarship will also provide the student with an important opportunity to develop his/her research working closely with CIPFA experts, with the potential of having access to relevant data and senior profiles operating in the UK public sector, as well as influencing local government policies and practices.

Supervisors: Prof Ileana Steccolini and Dr Pawan Adhikari (Essex Business School, University of Essex) and Jeffrey Matsu (CIPFA)
Training Opportunities
A comprehensive package of training will be agreed in consultation with the supervisors. Elements of training will be provided by the supervisors, University of Essex, and by other providers.

Applicants: essential and/or desirable attributes/skills
A background in management, accounting, finance, public administration or related disciplines and a willingness to engage with practice and policy are required for this type of project.

Studentship Details:
This studentship may be taken as either a 1+3 year award (a one-year MSc followed by a three-year PhD), a +3 award (a three-year PhD) or a +4 award (a four year PhD)
- It may be taken full-time or part-time
- The studentship award covers your university fees, and provides you with a stipend of £15,285 per year. You will also be able to apply for small amounts of additional funding via the SeNSS Research Training Support Grant.

Residential eligibility
To be eligible for a full award you must be a Home or International student who satisfies the criteria below:

To be a home student, you must meet the following criteria:
- Be a UK national (meeting residency requirements), or
- Have settled status, or
- Have pre-settled status (meeting residency requirements), or
- Have indefinite leave to remain or enter.

If you do not meet any of the criteria above, you are classed as an international student.

How to apply for this studentship
In order to be considered for this SeNSS studentship, you must first apply for a place to study University of Essex, noting that you are applying for the collaborative studentship. Please go to University of Essex, How to apply for a PhD for information on how to make your application.

You will then need to make a separate application to SeNSS for this collaborative studentship. Please read the SeNSS Collaborative Studentship Application Guidance Notes before completing our online application form. The Guidance Notes are available at the bottom of the following webpage: Applying for a SeNSS collaborative studentship

Deadline:
The deadline applying to University of Essex for a place is 23:59 GMT on 18 January 2021

The deadline for submitting your application on FluidReview is 12:00 GMT on 01 March 2021

No extensions to this deadline will be permitted.

For further enquiries:
For enquiries related to the studentship topic, please email Prof Ileana Steccolini (ileana.steccolini@essex.ac.uk)

For enquiries related to your eligibility for this studentship, and the application process, please email: pgresearch@essex.ac.uk
About SeNSS
The South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) is a consortium formed of 10 leading UK universities, all of which are engaged in cutting-edge social science research and training. The SeNSS consortium members are:

• City, University of London
• University of East Anglia
• University of Essex (the co-ordinating institution)
• Goldsmiths, University of London
• University of Kent
• University of Reading
• University of Roehampton, London
• Royal Holloway, University of London
• University of Surrey
• University of Sussex

SeNSS offers a world-class inter-disciplinary PhD research and training environment. It is committed to supporting its internationally recognised researchers and to producing the next generation of talented social scientists. SeNSS has been accredited as a prestigious Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the national body which funds research and training in economic and social issues.

We pride ourselves on our rigorous doctoral training programme, making the most of our members’ diverse specialisms and offering our students a wide array of subject-specific as well as advanced training opportunities. SeNSS offers high-calibre supervision, driven by our members’ emphasis on formal training and research culture.

For further information about SeNSS, please visit the SeNSS website