

CRESR is delighted to be advertising for a 1+3 or +3 ESRC White Rose DTP Studentship on Green Jobs: the low carbon economy and labour market disadvantage. Further information below – please do pass on to anyone you think might be interested.

Are you interested in the potential to address climate change and unemployment through new environmental jobs? As governments respond to climate emergency there is scope to address labour market disadvantage and unemployment through the creation of new green jobs. Talk of green new deals is moving from theory to practice. This PhD gives students the opportunity to be at the forefront of work on the employment impacts of decarbonisation in a collaborative project with Sheffield City Region.

This fully funded ESRC PhD studentship as part of the ESRC White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership asks to what extent can urban investment in 'green jobs' create employment for those facing labour market disadvantage? It will explore how low carbon and environmental (or 'green') initiatives impact on urban labour markets, and potential to use this investment to address labour market disadvantage. Conceptually the PhD will develop understanding of employment dimensions of urban just transitions, including the relationship/tensions between just transitions and the notion of 'inclusive growth' in urban scholarship and policy.

This PhD proposal starts from the premise that green jobs will be the largest source of new job creation in the UK and internationally over the next 10-20 years and that many of these jobs will be well-suited to supporting pathways to employment. Jobs will also be lost in carbon-intensive sectors and it is important that the employment potential of new green jobs is maximised to offset job losses from decarbonisation and automation.

The PhD is needed because there is no existing research on urban responses for socially just urban environmental transitions regarding skills and employment for those in a position of labour market disadvantage. This research addresses an important gap in existing knowledge, improving theoretical and empirical understanding of urban investment decision-making and its impacts from the perspective of labour market disadvantage.

Using Sheffield City Region as a case study, the PhD will: (1) produce policy-relevant empirical material on understanding employment possibilities of 'green' initiatives; (2) provide new conceptualisation of the employment and skills landscape for green jobs; and (3) further develop the concept of just transition, generating new intellectual pathways between the concepts of 'just transition' and 'inclusive growth'.

This is an exciting opportunity to undertake innovative research into the opportunities, challenges and tensions of seeking to design and deliver major new policies and strategies in cities.

Successful applications will have a keen interest in one or more of the following areas: environmentalism, climate policy, economic development, labour markets or employability. Applications are welcomed from the full range of social science disciplines but also from science and engineering if applicants have relevant knowledge and skills. The research will mainly involve qualitative research but familiarity with mixed methods will be useful. These interests might have been developed, for example, through recent undergraduate or Master's study, or through a related policy or practice role.

More information can be found here here:

<https://www.findaphd.com/phds/project/green-jobs-the-low-carbon-economy-and-labour-market-disadvantage/?p118877>

For more information on eligibility for, and terms and conditions of, ESRC studentships, please see <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/skills-and-careers/studentships/prospective-students/>

Applicants must email a postgraduate application form <https://www.shu.ac.uk/study-here/how-to-apply/postgraduate/application-form>

to fdsresearch@shu.ac.uk by 12 noon on 6th March.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact a member of the proposed supervisory team for an informal discussion prior to completing their application: Dr Will Eadson (w.eadson@shu.ac.uk) or Dr Richard Crisp (r.crisp@shu.ac.uk).