

Dear Colleagues

The Centre for Urban Research on Austerity (CURA) invites expressions of interest from outstanding prospective PhD students who would like to apply with us for an AHRC Midland 4 Cities PhD Scholarship. We welcome applications from students with innovative, interdisciplinary and internationally relevant research ideas, which intersect area-based and urban studies, humanities, arts and culture. Potential themes include but are not limited to arts and urban politics, urban cultures, the creative and social value of cities and urban political-economic narratives.

Prospective applicants are invited to submit an outline proposal of up to **1,000 words**, explaining how it fits with CURA and the M4C programme. Successful candidates will be invited to develop a full application. The outline proposal should include the following:

- An overview of project and research questions
- An explanation of intellectual positioning, originality and relevance for both M4C and CURA
- Your likely research methodology and methods
- Details of your major achievements to date
- A brief explanation of why you want to study with CURA and your preferred supervisor(s)

Further information about the Midlands 4 Cities Doctoral Training Programme, including eligibility and timelines, can be found at <https://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/midlands4cities-dtp/m4c.aspx>. Potential applicants should endeavour to attend the M4C application writing workshop on **Saturday 6th November at 13:00**. Please register for the event at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/midlands4cities-application-writing-workshop-leicester-tickets-180748111467>.

The outline proposal should then be submitted, with a CV, to CURA's Institute Head of Research Students, Dr Mercè Cortina Oriol at [merce.cortina-oriol@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:merce.cortina-oriol@dmu.ac.uk) no later than **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November**. For more information about CURA and our research priority areas, see <https://cura.our.dmu.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/09/CURA-Brochure-Published-September-2020.pdf>. CURA is one of the M4C's research communities for urban politics and cultures. Other relevant centres and institutions can be located at <https://www.midlands4cities.ac.uk/find-a-supervisor/>.

Please email Dr Mercè Cortina Oriol with any queries.

Yours sincerely

**Professor Jonathan S. Davies** MA DPhil

Director - Centre for Urban Research on Austerity