

**Four Full Doctoral Scholarships (with stipend)
In Addiction Psychology and Sport Sciences**

Duration of study: fixed-term, 3-years

Scholarship: includes **stipend** of £15,000 per annum, **tuition fees** at the UK rate and research costs

Closing date for applications: **December 22nd, 2021**

The School of Applied Sciences at London South Bank University (LSBU) invites applications for **FOUR PhD studentships**, to begin in January 2022. Each studentship will cover a stipend of up to £15,000 per annum, tuition fees at the prevailing UK rate and research costs. The studentships will be awarded based on merit for three years of full-time study. EU and international candidates are welcome to apply, but non-UK based students will be required to source funding for covering the gap between home and international tuition fees. LSBU is proud to be an equal opportunities employer and we believe that the strongest performing teams have a lot of difference in them and, therefore for this role we are actively seeking applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnic applicants.

Description of the research environment as well as of the PhD topics and the selection criteria are provided individually for each project. For informal enquiries about the project that you are interested in, and to apply, please use the provided contact email. The applicants are required to download a PhD studentship application form, complete it, and email it together with the documents requested (see below 'How to apply').

DETAILS OF THE FOUR PROJECTS

- Two of the scholarships*** are provided by the School's **Centre for Addictive Behaviours Research**, which plays a vital role in increasing understanding of how addictive behaviours operate, so that they can be modified and managed for the benefit of affected individuals. The centre takes as its starting point an understanding of addictive behaviours from a psychosocial perspective. We emphasise the need to conceptualise such behaviours beyond simplistic biomedical perspectives, to include a series of distinct but related key themes. These themes include: automatic versus reflective 'dual process' models, metacognitive approaches, psychopharmacological approaches, public policy approaches and social identity approaches. We cover both substance-related and behavioural addictions. The successful candidates will be supported by an appropriate supervisory team composed of relevant members of the Centre for Addictive Behaviours Research.

Person Specification

Essential:

- ✓ Undergraduate degree with at least 65% as final grade in a relevant science subject, addiction science, psychology or in a field related to the subject of the project.
- ✓ Ability and experience in collaborating effectively in teams.
- ✓ Ability and experience in prioritising activities and tasks to accomplish goals within the set deadlines.
- ✓ Excellent written, verbal and presentation skills for both specialist and non-specialist audiences (proof of proficiency in English will be required);
- ✓ Excellent interpersonal skills including clear and concise verbal communication and an ability to negotiate compromises and resolve conflict amicably.
- ✓ Excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office and data analytical software.

Desirable:

- ✓ MSc/MRes (at Merit or Distinction level) in sport science/coaching, sociology, psychology or in a field related to the subject of the project.
- ✓ Experience implementing and evaluating training programmes.
- ✓ Experience delivering training sessions.
- ✓ Experience managing teams, especially multidisciplinary and diverse teams.
- ✓ Experience with interviewing technique or in conducting focus groups.
- ✓ Previous experience in working with and analysing qualitative and quantitative data.
- ✓ Understanding of learning theories and measures.

Personal attributes:

- ✓ An ability to work independently and with initiative at a high level of self-motivation.
- ✓ Ability to prioritise tasks to achieve project goals and meet deadlines.
- ✓ Ability to problem-solve, innovate, or adapt.
- ✓ Ability to apply strong interpersonal skills to the building and maintenance of effective working relationships and to written and verbal communication with partners from a variety of professional backgrounds.
- ✓ High level, across-the-board attentiveness to detail.

Contact for informal enquiries: please contact Professor Ian Albery on email: alberyip@lsbu.ac.uk or telephone: +44 (0)20 7815 7935

II. **Further two scholarships** (for details see below) are offered by the School's **Sport and Exercise Science Research Centre**, which undertakes activities that address major scientific priorities and societal challenges related to sport performance, physical activity and health, sport and exercise behaviours and related technological innovations.

II.1. **The first project** aims to develop a methodology to diagnose susceptibility to lateral ankle ligament injury and differentiate normal from ineffective healing. In particular, the research will investigate the use of sonography to assess the biomechanical properties of ligaments in-vivo and then go on to design and validate the methodology. The successful candidate will have a background in biomechanics or engineering and have an interest in programming and image processing. Applicants should have prior laboratory experience and a skillset and motivation to suggest they have what it takes to successfully complete a 3-year period of doctoral training with the outcome being a novel and reliable imaging technique for injury prevention and rehabilitation. The successful candidate will be expected to work autonomously and collaboratively, when required; and furthermore, they will be expected to progress the research in a timely manner and write scientific reports for publication and disseminate their work at conference. There will be opportunities to travel to a collaborating laboratory for the successful candidate. The successful candidate will be supported and supervised by Dr Darren James and Prof Kiros Karamanidis.

Person Specification

Essential:

- ✓ Undergraduate degree with at least 65% as a final grade in a relevant science subject, especially Sport and Exercise Science, Engineering or in a field related to the subject of the project.
- ✓ Prior experience of working in a laboratory environment for a significant period of time.
- ✓ Have a good knowledge of biomechanics and the musculoskeletal system.
- ✓ Excellent written, verbal and presentation skills for both specialist and non-specialist audiences (proof of proficiency in English will be required).
- ✓ Excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office and data analytical software.

Desirable:

- ✓ MSc/MRes (at Merit or Distinction level) in Sport and Exercise Science, Engineering or in a field related to the subject of the project.

- ✓ Previous experience of working with a programming and computing platform such as Matlab or Python.

Personal attributes:

- ✓ An ability to work independently and with initiative at a high level of self-motivation.
- ✓ Ability and experience in collaborating effectively in teams.
- ✓ Excellent interpersonal skills including clear and concise verbal communication and an ability to negotiate compromises and resolve conflict amicably.
- ✓ Ability to prioritise tasks to achieve project goals and meet deadlines.

Contact for informal enquiries: please contact Dr Darren James on email: jamesd6@lsbu.ac.uk

II.2. The second project aims to investigate a cross-cultural training programme for coaches and to evaluate its efficacy. The research candidate will develop, implement, and evaluate a cross-cultural training programme for coaches and assess their cultural intelligence. The candidate will evaluate how coaches apply what they have learned from the training programme to their coaching practice; and will analyse potential cultural intelligence differences between coaches who have attended the cross-cultural training and those who have not. The individual will be required to effectively liaise and collaborate with a multidisciplinary team of people from different professional and cultural backgrounds, write scientific reports for publication and lay-person reports for public dissemination. The successful candidate will be supported by a supervisory team composed of Dr Mário Borges and Dr Rita de Oliveira.

Person Specification

Essential:

- ✓ Undergraduate degree with at least 65% as final grade in a relevant science subject, especially sport science/coaching, sociology, psychology or in a field related to the subject of the project.
- ✓ Ability and experience in collaborating effectively in teams.
- ✓ Ability and experience in prioritising activities and tasks to accomplish goals within the set deadlines.
- ✓ Excellent written, verbal and presentation skills for both specialist and non-specialist audiences (proof of proficiency in English will be required).
- ✓ Excellent interpersonal skills including clear and concise verbal communication and an ability to negotiate compromises and resolve conflict amicably.
- ✓ Excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office and data analytical software.

Desirable:

- ✓ MSc/MRes (at Merit or Distinction level) in sport science/coaching, sociology, psychology or in a field related to the subject of the project.
- ✓ Experience implementing and evaluating training programmes.
- ✓ Experience delivering training sessions.
- ✓ Experience managing teams, especially multidisciplinary and diverse teams.
- ✓ Experience with interviewing technique or in conducting focus groups.
- ✓ Previous experience in working with and analysing qualitative and quantitative data, especially using Maxqda/Nvivo and SPSS.
- ✓ Understanding of learning theories and measures.
- ✓ Experience of working with coaches in a club environment.
- ✓ Interest in cross-cultural training, cultural intelligence, and cultural diversity.

Personal attributes:

- ✓ An ability to work independently and with initiative at a high level of self-motivation.
- ✓ Ability to prioritise tasks to achieve project goals and meet deadlines.
- ✓ Ability to problem-solve, innovate or adapt.
- ✓ Ability to apply strong interpersonal skills to the building and maintenance of effective working relationships and to written and verbal communication with partners from a variety of professional backgrounds.

✓ High level, across-the-board attentiveness to detail.

Contact for informal enquiries: please contact Dr Mário Borges on email: borgesm@lsbu.ac.uk or telephone: +44 (0)20 7815 7935

THE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

London South Bank University

London South Bank University (LSBU) is a dynamic, inner-city University with a diverse multi-cultural population of 25,000 students (10% of whom are international students) and 2000 academic and support staff. LSBU has over 125 years of experience of providing high quality teaching and learning, underpinned by relevant research, and delivered in an environment that is focussed on the needs of its students, the great capital city of London, the UK, and the global marketplaces. The main LSBU campus is located at the heart of London in historic Southwark, only minutes away from the professional, social, and cultural facilities of the capital.

The University is structured into seven Schools: Applied Science (AS), Health and Social Care (HSC), Law and Social Sciences (LSS), Engineering (E), Business (B), Arts and Creative Industries (ACI), and the Built Environment and Architecture (BEA). Teaching and the main administration are conducted at the Southwark Campus for all courses, except the professional courses in nursing, midwifery, health and social care, which are offered at sites at Havering and Great Ormond Street. Each School is led by a School Executive Committee headed by their Dean.

School of Applied Sciences

The School of Applied Sciences at LSBU offers exciting opportunities for education, research, and knowledge transfer activities. Our vision is to be an internationally recognised centre of academic excellence, making a positive impact in the real world.

The School has a thriving community of scholars and students, who are supported by the rich educational environment and committed to academic excellence. Our academics and researchers pass on their knowledge, but also their enthusiasm and experience. A large number of staff are recognised as Senior Fellows of the Higher Education Academy and have won prestigious educational and research awards. Our research work has been recognised by the 2014 Research Excellent Framework (REF) as being world leading or internationally excellent. Our involvement in research and enterprise work also means that our students are taught and mentored by leading scientific and innovation authorities. Our academics and researchers play leading roles in learned societies and professional bodies, edit leading academic journals, and disseminate their research in scholarly conferences around the world. They also work extensively with partners in the industry and the local community, ensuring that our work is meeting the needs and challenges of the real world.

Our undergraduate and postgraduate courses nurture scientific creativity, intellectual rigour, and employability skills. This allows our graduates to pursue careers in their area of competence and to become tomorrow's leaders who can truly make a difference in the world. The School has a Student voice and engagement committee, and students actively contribute to the academic development of our courses. Students are also encouraged and supported to seek internal and external bursaries and to apply for prizes and awards which recognise their competencies.

Centre for Addictive Behaviours Research (CABR)

CABR offers a unique blend of expertise, excellent facilities, and the ability to attract funding in a number of key research areas. CABR was established in recognition of the significant development and maturation of addictive behaviours-related research, training and consultancy at LSBU. CABR conceptualises addictive behaviours through a psychosocial understanding and at its forefront is a position that encompasses alternative understandings based on distinct but related key themes. These include automatic versus reflective 'dual process' understandings (how people's addictive behaviours are influenced by conscious/non-conscious thought), metacognitive approaches (how people's mental control strategies perpetuate behaviours), psychopharmacological approaches (the impact of chemicals on brain and body), public health approaches (how we can use messages to reduce harm) and social identity approaches (how people's self-image derived from their group

membership affects their addictive behaviour). Importantly, we do not restrict our work to those behaviours that involve the ingestion of a drug (e.g., alcohol, nicotine, etc), but recognise commonalities shared with behavioural addictions (e.g., food, gambling, internet and social media use, sex, etc).

Over the past decade we have made strategic appointments to create a body of staff with research/pedagogic interests related to the study of addictive behaviours. CABR involves 15 core staff:

Albery (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=ZRAfLxYAAAAJ&hl=en>),
Spada (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=NydK-ZsAAAAJ>),
Moss (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=63k8RHkAAAAJ>),
Dawkins (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=lo6R1Z4AAAAJ>),
Frings (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=HhNs9ewAAAAJ>),
Vangeli (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=Xxu42dEAAAAJ>),
Rycroft (<https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/about-us/people/people-finder/dr-nicola-rycroft>),
Teodorini (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=Q3uGT4MAAAAAJ>),
Marchant (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=6tGRuTgAAAAJ>),
Tyler (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=KMVMJosAAAAJ>),
Kimber (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=M1wQ8PsAAAAJ>),
Bartlett,
Mearns (https://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?hl=en&user=xTURz0MAAAAAJ&scilu=&scisig=AMD79o_oAAAAAYXkVANmlogFqQkNZ-yYRs56l-vj41UI7&qmla=AJsN-F7D-mL4JwsLlatRkCwsQBC2pOJy8LgYXvcrdEk3XlaCzpx3rVqEHCCbhM-l9ldRKzCgd4FkSAmA8MSIVCauwmlTwRUBMEZvXO7AjQ49upAJyBbEnQ&sciund=12303743546341715795),
Civai (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=mYeDuUIAAAAJ>) and
Morris (<https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=FHUC5jkAAAAJ>).

Sport and Exercise Science Research Centre (SESRC)

SESRC was established in 1994 with the long-term strategic vision to conduct and promote research in Sport and Exercise related Sciences that is scientifically excellent, innovative and rigorous, as well as relevant and impactful on our communities and stakeholders. Since then, SESRC has built a thriving research environment and achieved sustained international recognition as a hub for excellent and impactful fundamental research in Sports and Exercise Sciences. SESRC research quality, volume and intensity achieved consistently high and increased rankings in the Research Assessment Exercises from 1996 onwards (RAE1996; RAE2001; RAE2008). In REF2014 SESRC received a 75% internationally excellent (3*) rating for its *Research Environment* and 90% for *Impact*, with 67% of *outputs* rated at world leading (4*/3*) level. In the REF2021 cycle, our strategic investment in research expertise, PhD scholarships, high-profile collaborations and infrastructure stimulated further increase in the volume, quality and outreach of our research activities.

SESRC offers a unique blend of expertise, excellent facilities, and the ability to attract funding in a number of key research areas. We benefit from both well-established and developing partnerships with research groups across the UK, Europe and worldwide as well as from strong links to the healthcare industry and the sporting community. A problem-solving approach to research allied with the strong engineering support and facilities provided by the University has led to the development of significant intellectual property and new technologies. Examples of successful products that have benefited from product development and testing include nutritional products (e.g., CherryActive®,

Firefly Tonics), footwear technology (e.g., FitFlop™) and health and fitness-promoting equipment (e.g., Revitive®, Flexibar®, FitVibe®, Temulab®).

HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for any of these opportunities, please follow this link: <https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/application-system>

Please email the following documents to the lead supervisor of the respective project:

- the completed application form;
- your current curriculum vitae;
- details of your education (subject, level, institution, date of award), academic transcripts and professional qualifications and distinctions other than degrees;
- a statement setting out your motivation for applying for the post and explaining how your skills, experience and academic knowledge will contribute to the each of the criteria and to the project;
- names and contact information of two referees.

Closing date for applications: December 22nd 2021

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted with an invitation to attend a set of interview and presentation activities. Candidates are requested to respond promptly to such an invitation, indicating their agreement to attend and their availability. The successful candidate will be selected for the scholarship in accordance with the University's postgraduate admissions requirements and must be eligible under the Education (Fees and Awards) Regulations 1997.

<https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/research/research-degrees>