



Empire, Migration and Belonging Scholarship

The Empire, Migration and Belonging research project group are awarding a fully-funded collaborative doctoral scholarship based within Oxford University's Department of Education.

The Empire, Migration and Belonging research project, a collaboration between University of Oxford and UCL, is primarily focussed on supporting school teachers with their teaching of the complex topics of empire, migration and belonging. We believe this is best achieved when informed by academic scholarship, empirical research and a practical understanding of classroom experience. The key aims of the project are to offer a nuanced picture of the debates related to the themes and illuminate how these debates play out with teachers and young people in order to better understand the professional development needs of teachers.

As part of the wider project, we want to develop new voices and engage with underrepresented communities with lived experience of legacies related to the themes of empire, migration and belonging. A linked desire of the project is to enable the sustainability of the work beyond the initial three-year scope of the project by engaging more broadly with a diverse range of stakeholders. We also recognise that these issues are live at Oxford as the University tries to understand and address the University's role in British colonial history. A snapshot of the Education department's historic ties with Great Britain's colonial past can be found here:-[Department of Education | Oxford and Colonialism](#).

The student will work closely with the Empire, Migration and Belonging research project group. Their principal role will be to produce an original research study which explores a critical dimension of a key aspect of issues related to Empire, Migration and Belonging in schools. We are looking for research proposals that will contribute to either the empirical work with pupils or teachers.

The student will be supervised by Dr Jason Todd as well as receiving support and guidance from Dr Alice Pettigrew (Principal Investigator). They will need to be in a position to spend time in the second year undertaking fieldwork as part of the broader project – the relevant locations are yet to be finalised, but will be based in and around English schools. An additional supervisor will be named following application based on the focus and/or approach of the work being proposed.

The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the themes of empire, migration and belonging as they relate to the English education system and to explain how this will inform and benefit their research. Knowledge of social research methods relevant to education settings is also essential.

The scholarship will fund tuition fees at the Home rate plus a maintenance allowance equivalent to the UKRI doctoral stipend (currently £15, 609 pa) for up to three years.

The Empire, Migration and Belonging project, in partnership with UCL, is kindly supported by Pears Foundation.

How to apply

To apply for the scholarship you must submit an application to study for a DPhil in Education at the University of Oxford by Friday, 21st January 2022. Please note that the while the final deadline is 7th January this ad hoc studentship is a what is known as a post-closure studentships. This method can only be used after the course is closed (so in this case that would mean from 10 January – the first working day after the route course closes).

Applications will be assessed as part of the applicant pool for the Department of Education. On the application form, please indicate at the appropriate section that you wish to be considered for the 'Empire, Migration and Belonging Scholarship' and also list Dr Jason Todd as the 'Proposed Supervisor'.

Your research proposal (c. 2000 words) should follow all the guidelines on the university admissions page

DPhil in Education | University of Oxford

plus:

- An explanation of how your understanding of the scholarship themes, of empire, migration and belonging, will inform and benefit your research;
- A link to one or more of the research strands of the Empire, Migration and Belonging project.

Strand A: The discursive contexts of Empire, Migration and Belonging

Strand B: Empirical research with teachers

Strand C: Empirical research with students

Strand D: Analysis of textbooks (and associated classroom resources)

Queries about the studentship should be addressed to: jason.todd@education.ox.ac.uk.