



**HARTPURY**  
UNIVERSITY CENTRE

**Title:** Doctoral Studentship (PhD)

**Application Closing Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018

**Location:** University Centre Hartpury, Gloucestershire.

**Stipend:** £13,000 per annum

**Contract Type:** Full Time (3 years)

**Area of Research:**

**Investigating zoo visitor-animal interactive encounters**

The aim of this studentship is to investigate the characteristics of zoo visitor-animal interactions (VAI) during interactive encounters at the zoo. We aim to explore the impact of these interactive encounters on both zoo visitors and animals, by comparing the consequences of VAI for our study species, which will be managed, with different levels of interaction (including interactive encounters). We will set out to measure animal behaviour, welfare, health and conservation potential; and human attitude, knowledge and empathy, as well as perceptions of welfare and conservation. In addition, where possible, we will directly measure the 'delayed' impact of zoo visitor-animal interaction on both animal and visitor i.e. after the interaction.

For more information and for an initial discussion please contact [victoria.melfi@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:victoria.melfi@hartpury.ac.uk)

**Description of studentship:**

Hartpury is pleased to be offering three fully funded studentship to start on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018. This studentship will be based in the Animal Welfare Research Arena at University Centre, Hartpury. This is a unique and exciting opportunity to become part of new Postgraduate Community in an idyllic rural setting, with world leading facilities undertaking impactful and cutting-edge practice-based and industry related research. University of the West of England is the awarding body for this degree.

Studentships comprise tuition fees at home / EU rates and a stipend of GBP 13k per year tenable for 3 years. Alongside their research projects, successful candidates will be asked (as a condition of their stipend) to deliver up to 7 hours per week teaching or research support within the Department in which the PhD is hosted.

**PhD Studentship Selection Criteria:**

The following criteria will be taken into account when considering applications:

- The strength of your professional and academic profile, as demonstrated through previous study and/or professional experience
- The quality, invention and viability of ideas relating to the research project you are applying for
- The contribution you are able to make to the Hartpury research community and your host department, in terms of both research and teaching

Candidates should also be aware of the following:

The normal expectation is that applicants will hold at least a 2:1 or a Masters qualification from a UK university or a degree of comparable standing from a university outside the UK. The

candidate's degree relevant to the studentship should demonstrate their potential for practice-led research or alternative evidence of research aptitude.

Applicants whose first language is not English require a recognised English language qualification. The minimum entry requirement is GCSE English at grade C or above or IELTS score 7.0 or TOEFL score 600 (or demonstrable equivalent).

### **Applying for a PhD studentship**

To apply for a PhD studentship you must send the following documents to [Human.Resources@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:Human.Resources@hartpury.ac.uk):

- A curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages)
- A covering letter outlining your suitability for the studentship
- A recent piece of critical writing you have completed (max 3000 words)
- If English is not your first language, certification of English language qualification

Applications that do not arrive by Midnight (UK time) on 27<sup>th</sup> August will not be considered.

If your application is selected. You will be invited for interview on 6<sup>th</sup> September. All applicants must ensure their availability on this date.

### **Key dates**

27<sup>th</sup> August 2018: Deadline for submission of applications

31<sup>st</sup> August 2018: Interview invitations sent to shortlisted candidates\*

6<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Interviews at Hartpury

10<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Studentships announced

14<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Deadline for accepting studentship

1<sup>st</sup> October 2018: Studentship begins

\* Please note that by submitting an application you are confirming your availability to interview on 6<sup>th</sup> September

**We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks along with other relevant employment checks.**

Hartpury values a diverse workforce and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

