

PhD Studentships

Evaluating Interventions Network, Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR) Department of Applied Social Science, Stirling University

University of Stirling and SCCJR Studentships available at current Research Council Rates

Two three year PhD Studentships are available within the Department of Applied Social Science. The Department is a large inter-disciplinary unit, combining teaching and research interests in Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology, Social Work, Dementia and Housing Studies. The quality of the department's research is reflected in it being awarded 5 in the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise, with the 2008 eagerly awaited.

Crime and justice research interests within the Department are diverse, but include domestic violence, restorative justice, drug misuse and related interventions, alternatives to custody, women and young people in the criminal justice system, child protection and young runaways, community policing, organised crime, sex offenders and treatment, antisocial behaviour, and crime prevention and community safety. Fuller details of current staff interests and work can be found at <http://www.dass-dev.stir.ac.uk/index.php>

The successful candidates will be attached to the Evaluating Interventions Network and their research will be expected to contribute to the Network's aims of developing evaluation methodologies, and feeding evaluation findings both into policy and practice as well as into broader work around theorising and modelling criminal justice processes and impacts. The Evaluating Interventions Network is Stirling University's principal contribution to the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR). SCCJR is a collaboration of five leading Scottish Universities, and its purpose is to develop an infrastructure for criminal justice research within Scotland and to conduct high quality programmes of research which improve the evidence base for Scottish crime reduction and criminal justice policy. As well as the research expertise within the Department, the successful candidates will benefit from the wider expertise and research interests of the centre as a whole. Details of the research networks and interests within SCCJR can be found at <http://www.sccjr.ac.uk/>

The successful candidates will be free to undertake an independent programme of research, or to collaborate with work being undertaken within the context of the Evaluating Interventions Network. They will also be expected to contribute to the activities of the Evaluating Interventions Network through either undertaking research with a substantial evaluation component, or through the focus of their work being on the development or refinement of evaluation methods. Some areas where such a contribution would be valued include (though these are by no means exhaustive):

- Linking small-scale or pilot-based initiatives to mainstream criminal justice processes

- Utilising and developing theory on the back of evaluations
- Developing techniques for estimating the full economic costs and benefits of interventions (including developing models for estimating the costs of mainstreaming interventions and refining approaches for estimating the harms associated with different types of criminal activity)
- Developing innovative approaches to evaluation

How to apply

Applications should be made on the University's standard postgraduate application form, which can be obtained from:

<http://www.external.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/index.php>.

Please include a 1,200 word outline of your proposed area of research and state clearly whether you are applying for a 4 year 1+3 studentship or a 3 year +3 studentship. Part-time study is also available. If you would like to discuss this post informally please contact either Dr Margaret Malloch (01786) 467723, m.s.malloch@stir.ac.uk or Dr Niall Hamilton-Smith (01786) 466435, niall.hamilton-smith@stir.ac.uk Completed forms should be returned to the Graduate Admissions Office, University of Stirling, Stirling, FK9 4LA by 7 March. Short-listed candidates will be invited for interview at the end of March.