

2010/11 Studentships

(2 Bristol, 1 Cardiff Dental School)

DECIPHer (Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement)

Three studentships are available on a wide range of topics **including your own choice** in the fields of: social sciences, dentistry, medicine, law, economics, health information, public health, geography, statistics, qualitative and quantitative health services research, psychology and sociology.

DECIPHer (Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement) is a UKCRC Public Health Research Centre of Excellence. The Centre is a strategic partnership between the Universities of Cardiff (www.cardiff.ac.uk), Bristol (www.bristol.ac.uk) and Swansea (www.swan.ac.uk), in collaboration with key organisations concerned with public health policy and practice in Wales and the South West of England.

Staff in the DECIPHer Centre undertake methodologically innovative multidisciplinary research with a focus on the development and evaluation of complex interventions and policies to achieve sustainable improvements in the health and well-being of the public, with particular emphasis on children and young people. In collaboration with other Centres in the UK, DECIPHer leads and facilitates research of international excellence, placing emphasis on involving capacity and maximising health

Inequalities, creating new research young people and the public, tackling impact on, and engagement with, policy and practice in the UK and beyond.

FUNDING AND ELIGIBILITY

The studentships include funding for either three (PhD) or four (Master's plus PhD) years for a full maintenance grant (part-ESRC funded, part university) of £13,290 per annum and a Research and Training Support Grant for PhD students of £750 per annum.

The studentships are open to UK and EU candidates. Standard ESRC rules apply.

Applicants are expected to have gained an undergraduate degree at upper second class honours (2:1) or above.

HOW TO APPLY

For full information on DECIPHer studentship opportunities across Cardiff and Bristol universities and for application instructions, please see <http://www.decipher.uk.net/decipherstudentships.pdf> Indicative titles are available but we welcome you to contact us to discuss your specific interests and can be flexible to your interests.

Applications for specific studentships must be submitted via the standard postgraduate application process at the relevant institution.

Start date: flexible.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30th July 2010. Late applications may be considered after this date.

Further information: Contact for informal enquiries or to discuss your own topic Lynnette Thomas on +44 (0)29 20874739 or thomaslm7@cardiff.ac.uk

APPLICATION PROCESS

Closing date for applications: Friday 30th July 2010

You must contact Lynnette Thomas, Director of Operations - DECIPHer on +44 (0)29 20874739 or thomaslm7@cardiff.ac.uk in the first instance to discuss your interest.

A potential supervisor will then be identified to discuss your proposal and application before submission.

All applications should follow the standard application for the institution, department or School and be clearly marked "*DECIPHer studentship*".

All students must submit a two page outline proposal, together with the institution's application form, CV and references.

If successful, you will be invited to be interviewed at the institution of your studentship.

You are also encouraged to read about each of the institutions, schools and departments before making your application.

Interviews will be conducted in **September 2010**.

Cardiff University (one studentship available):

School of Dentistry (<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/dentl>)
<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/dentl/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/index.html>

University of Bristol (two studentships available):

Department of Social Medicine (<http://www.epi.bristol.ac.uk>)
<http://www.epi.bristol.ac.uk/postgrad/pg.htm>

Titles and Supervisors

These titles are indicative of the topics you may be interested in. We encourage you to submit original topics, provided it is in line with public health remit of DECIPHER.

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

School of Dentistry

Dr Simon Moore - mooresc2@cardiff.ac.uk

- Normative group processes in alcohol misuse and violent crime.

Dr Simon Moore - mooresc2@cardiff.ac.uk

Ivor Chestnutt - chestnuttig@cardiff.ac.uk

- The potential role of the dental team in reducing alcohol-related harm.

Professor Barbara Chadwick - chadwickbl@cardiff.ac.uk

Professor Jonathan Shepherd - shepherdjp@cardiff.ac.uk

- Is dental neglect associated with an antisocial lifestyle?

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Department of Social Medicine

Professor Rona Campbell - rona.campbell@bristol.ac.uk

- Using existing epidemiological data sets to explore multiple risk behaviours and resilience in children and young people. (with Yoav Ben-Sholmo)
- Explorations of the relationships between health risk behaviours and educational outcomes. (with Matt Hickman)

Dr Matt Hickman - matthew.hickman@bristol.ac.uk

- Longitudinal analyses of the trajectories of substance use in young people.
- Longitudinal analyses of the relationships between drug use and sexual health.

Department of Social Medicine – cont....

Dr Suzanne Audrey - suzanne.audrey@bristol.ac.uk

- Exploring the opportunities and barriers to ensuring a health promotion environment for looked-after children.
- Exploring the impact of 'universal' health promotion policies on young people from different socio-economic and ethnic groups.
- Exploring protective factors and resilience amongst young people who might be labeled as vulnerable.

Dr Will Hollingworth - william.hollingworth@bristol.ac.uk

- The role of economic evidence in the formulation and implementation of NICE Public Health Guidance.
- Evaluating the impact of childhood obesity interventions on costs and outcomes.

Professor David Gunnell - d.j.gunnell@bristol.ac.uk

- Does self-harm share the same risk factors as substance misuse, smoking and risky sexual behaviour and to what extent do they cluster in adolescence? (with Matt Hickman)
- The impact of the economic recession on young people's mental health and health behaviours. (with Rona Campbell)

Dr Judi Kidger - judi.kidger@bristol.ac.uk

- A qualitative exploration of teenagers' perceptions of depression and self-harm.
- Explorations of school-based interventions to support positive coping strategies.

Department of Exercise, Nutrition and Health Sciences

Dr Ashley Cooper - ashley.cooper@bristol.ac.uk

Dr Angie Page - a.s.page@bristol.ac.uk

- Social and physical environmental influences on physical activity and/or eating behaviours in children.

Dr Russell Jago - russ.jago@bristol.ac.uk

- Examining the factors (social networks, media, health professionals, family, etc.) that influence physical activity and screen-viewing parenting, practices with an emphasis on identifying intervention targets to change children's physical activity and screen-viewing.
- Examining the role of non-school based (i.e. neighbourhood and other community setting) friendship groups on children's physical activity and screen-viewing with an emphasis on identifying structures to facilitate physical activity behaviour change.

Department of Community Based Medicine

Professor Alan Emond - alan.emond@bristol.ac.uk

- Development and evaluation of support technologies to meet the information needs of young people in schools.
- Developing school based health promotion programmes for children and young people with disabilities.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of a key worker for children with complex disabilities.