

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FACULTY OF SCIENCE, LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

PHD STUDENTSHIP IN SHOULDER / UPPER LIMB RESEARCH

PROJECT SCOPE

Faculty of Science at the Liverpool Hope University has an outstanding commitment to research as indicated by its rich and vibrant postgraduate research environment and vast recent investments in the new state-of-Art facilities within the School of Health Sciences.

As part of its strategic research vision, the School of Health Sciences is offering a PhD Studentship in 'Shoulder/Upper Limb Research'. A recent international Shoulder Rehabilitation Conference hosted by the School on the theme of 'New Discoveries and Future Directions' identified several knowledge gaps and challenges particularly in relation to the methodologies applied for the evaluation of shoulder function, underlying mechanisms in complex shoulder conditions, and availability of information to support the development and implementation of evidence-based rehabilitation protocols. Applications are invited from potential applicants to pursue PhD research in this very exciting and rapidly evolving field.

This call is open to only UK/EU applicants. The exact topic, aims and objectives for this studentship project will be shaped by the successful applicant in coordination with the research supervisory team. Hence, applicants are encouraged to submit a strong research proposal, preferably of an interdisciplinary nature, clearly demonstrating an excellent understanding of the current topics in the field.

We are particularly interested in PhD studentship applications that seek to address:

- Development of new methodologies for the evaluation of Shoulder/Upper Limb function in Health and Diseases
- Underlying mechanisms regarding complex Shoulder/Upper Limb conditions
- Development of evidence-based interventions to support people (or athletes) affected by Shoulder / Upper Limb pathologies
- Optimisation of clinical interventions by means of a Randomised Controlled Trial
- Athletic Shoulder

APPLICANT CRITERIA

The successful applicant will

- Have an excellent understanding of Shoulder/Upper Limb function and biomechanics
- Have adequate skills (willing to further excel) in using biomechanical systems such as EMG, 3D Motion and Force Analysis, and dynamometry
- Have desirable skills in computing and statistics and ideally have previous experience in utilising research software commonly used for signal processing such as Matlab
- Have a Masters degree with Distinction from a UK university (or EU equivalent) OR; a Masters degree with Merit from a UK university including a Distinction grade for the

Dissertation in a relevant subject area (for example Sport and Exercise Science, Allied Health, Clinical Sciences)

- Have an interest in working within a multi-disciplinary, clinical-academic environment and demonstrate a desire to conduct the highest quality research that will impact on the care and rehabilitation of people with Shoulder/Upper Limb pathologies
- Have an established connection with the healthcare organisations or sporting environments (desirable)
- Have excellent written and oral communication skills in English

RESEARCH SUPERVISORS

This PhD studentship will be conducted in the School of Health Sciences, Liverpool Hope University (<http://www.hope.ac.uk/healthsciences/>). The project will be primarily supervised by Professor Omid Khaiyat, further supervisors may be assigned once the exact topic and objectives of the project are finalised.

Prof Omid Khaiyat: alizado@hope.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

Eligible applicants should apply via the Online Application System located on University's postgraduate research web pages at: www.hope.ac.uk/research/postgraduateresearch – please refer to the 'Apply Now' tab.

Expression of Interest is a formal stage of the online application. Applicants are advised to do this at the earliest opportunity as the full application form is not released until this stage of application process is complete. Applicants will be able to upload copies of official academic achievements in undergraduate degree classification and master degree award, plus copies of official transcripts of all degree subjects taken. Please refer to University's Postgraduate Research page www.hope.ac.uk/research/postgraduateresearch for guidelines.

The deadline for full applications is midnight on Wednesday 15th August 2018. When completing online application form, please insert 'PhD Studentship: Upper Limb/Shoulder Research' into Research Type ('I would like to apply for admission to the following') section. Please also submit a 2-page overview or short research proposal including Background, Aims, Objectives, Hypothesis, and Methods of the proposed PhD project directly to the research supervisor: alizado@hope.ac.uk

On the closing of the specified deadline for online application submission, all applications will be reviewed and scrutinised by a panel and interviews will be accordingly scheduled in September 2018 for those shortlisted.

FUNDING NOTES

The studentship is for a Home (UK/EU) student for a period of three years, subject to satisfactory progress. The studentship will only support the payment of tuition/bench fees (currently £4,100 and £2050 per year for fulltime and part-time Home students, respectively).