



Nottingham Trent University
Graduate School

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Graduate School
School of Architecture, Design and
the Built Environment –
Fully-funded Studentship

This project is funded through the Centre for Industrial Energy, Materials and Products (CIE-MAP), a £5m research centre in collaboration with the universities of Leeds, Bath and Cardiff. Research students will benefit from access to a broad community of researchers.

This studentship competition is open to applicants who wish to study for a PhD on a full-time basis only. The studentship will pay UK/EU fees (currently set at £4121 for 2016/17 and are revised annually) and provide a maintenance stipend linked to the RCUK rate (this is revised annually and is currently £14,296 for academic year 2016/17) for up to three years. The studentship will be expected to commence in 2016.

Short-lived products and environmental sustainability

Product lifetimes are emerging as a key area of research on the circular economy and climate change mitigation. In a circular economy the frequency of product replacement is as significant as the level of recycling, while product lifetimes also have implications for climate change due to embodied carbon. Environmental sustainability requires that consumers buy fewer short-lived products.

This Scholarship is for a project that will address how long consumer durables last and the implications for environmental and social sustainability.

Proposals on any topic relevant to product lifetimes will be considered.

We are especially keen to hear from applicants with an interest in the incidence of low quality products that are destined for short lifetimes, particularly those sold in a 'budget' range or by 'discount retailers'. Other possible topics include the opportunities for increasing the repair of products and new business models that enable increased product lifetimes.

The successful applicant will be based in a £5m RCUK-funded research centre and work alongside an expanding team of researchers from a range of disciplines who are increasing knowledge and understanding of issues relating to product lifetimes. The team addresses a range of industry sectors including vehicles, electrical and electronic equipment, furniture, carpets, clothing, home improvement, and industrial goods and equipment.

Supervisors: Professor Tim Cooper

Specific qualifications/subject areas required of the applicants for this project:

The candidates for this PhD project should have at least a 2:1 honours degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline.

Contact: t.h.cooper@ntu.ac.uk for informal enquiries.

Application forms can be obtained from the Nottingham Trent University Graduate School gradschool@ntu.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is **5pm Tuesday 6 September 2016**.