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| **J:\StudentSupport\College Office (info for staff)\How to & Templates\New College Logo.pngCollege of Social Sciences (CoSS)**  **PhD Scholarships**  Research Proposal Application Form  **Please complete this research proposal application form and submit it as part of your online application via the** [**Scholarships Application Portal**](http://glasgow.ac.uk/ScholarshipApp) **by *17 February 2025*.**   1. **Applicant details** | | |
| **Applicant name:** |  |
| **Applicant email:** |  |

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| **Please select the** [**school**](https://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/socialsciences/graduateschool/researchopportunities/) **you are applying to:** |
| Please select |

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| **Please select the** [**research opportunity**](https://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/socialsciences/graduateschool/researchopportunities/) **you are applying to:** |
| Please select |

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| **Award Type** |
| Home Student  International Student |
| Full-time  Part-time |

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| **Are you currently enrolled in the first year of a PhD (or equivalent if part-time)?**  Please note, if you are currently in the second year of your PhD, or beyond then you are not eligible to apply for CoSS PhD funding. |
| Yes  No |

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| If yes, please outline the current progress of your PhD, providing an estimate of your progress by September 2025. Your answer should include progress with writing introductory chapters, refining your research proposal and in establishing research networks important to your study. You should also give an indication of the nature of your current funding and the amount of time that you have been able to dedicate to your PhD. (350 words max) |
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| **Provisional Title of PhD Research project:**  Please advise the title of your research project (it is expected that titles might be tentative at this stage). |
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| **Supervisory team:**  Enter the name of your planned supervisors here. (Please note that each applicant should have at least two academic supervisors: you can search for potential supervisors [here](https://www.gla.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/supervisors/).) |
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| **Lay Summary:**  Please provide a lay summary that explains your project to a non-academic audience.  (250 words max) |
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1. **Preparedness to undertake and complete a PhD and to flourish as a result of PhD funding**

**Successfully undertaking a PhD requires not only academic ability but also resourcefulness, commitment and resilience. It involves a range of skills including the ability to communicate complex ideas (about why a research question is of societal and academic importance, why it can be addressed using particular methods and why your findings matter), planning and organisation (including within changing circumstances), working with others (inside and outside of universities) to increase the chances of your research making a difference. You may find it useful to refer to the** [**Researcher Development Framework**](https://www.vitae.ac.uk/vitae-publications/rdf-related/researcher-development-framework-rdf-vitae.pdf/view) **in thinking about this question.**

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| Drawing on your own background (including your life experiences, journey to/through university, work experiences or volunteering) please provide a summary of why you are ready to undertake a PhD now and how you will flourish as a result of PhD funding. You might include, for example, personal challenges that you have overcome or achievements that you are proud of in your work, study or life experiences and how these map onto the skills required to flourish in a PhD programme. Challenges could include, but are not limited to, protected characteristics, socio-economic status and of being first-in-a-generation to university or care-experienced. (400 words max) |
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1. **Contributing to a positive and diverse PhD community**

**CoSS aims to attract and support a positive and diverse PhD community where everyone can reach their full potential; Research and Development (R&D) is a supportive and fulfilling sector to work in; and is seen as a shared endeavour across society rather than only the concern of professional researchers. You may find it useful to refer to the UK Government’s** [**R&D People and Culture Strategy**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004685/r_d-people-culture-strategy.pdf) **when thinking about this question.**

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| Reflecting on your own background and/or proposed approach to PhD study and the opportunities which it will present, how will you support diversity and inclusion in the PhD community? (250 words max) |
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1. **Research Proposal**

The research proposal must be a detailed description of the intended research topic. It will form the basis for assessing the application. The proposal should be written in a clear and concise manner and applicants should be aware that applications will be reviewed by interdisciplinary panels so please make sure that you fully explain disciplinary specific concepts or techniques. **Your research project must be feasible within the funded PhD – CoSS funded students are expected to submit their thesis by the end of the funded period. Feasibility will be considered carefully by reviewers.** The main body of the research proposal (excluding the bibliography) must not exceed 1,500 words.

**Please also note that reviewers of this proposal will include those outwith your discipline.**

The Research Proposal MUST include the following sections:

* Overview – a general introduction that succinctly sets out exactly what the project seeks to explore. This should also include the research question(s) to be addressed and the overall aim of the project.
* Context – situate the research within the relevant literature/s. This should include a brief summary of research already taken in the field, addressing key works and scholars. Specific attention should be paid to problems in the existing literature and ways in which your proposed research challenges/addresses these problems. You should also give an account of the theoretical issues relevant to your research, and whether you intend to test existing theories or develop new ones.
* Methodology – provide a detailed account of the methodology and/or methods that will be used. Specific attention should be paid, where relevant, to any innovative aspects of the proposed methodology.
* An indication of ethical issues associated with this proposal (including those that may impact on formal ethics committee approval and those requiring ongoing consideration in the field/during analysis) and proposed actions to mitigate these.

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1. **Indicative Bibliography**

Enter bibliography here. References within the research proposal should be Harvard Style and the bibliography should reflect this. Please only include references referred to in the research proposal.

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1. **Risk Assessment**

Please set out the aspects of your proposal that are at particular risk of non-implementation and indicate the approaches that you will take to manage such risks to ensure that your timely submission **within the funded period** is not compromised. (250 words max)

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1. **Provisional Timetable**

This section must only include an indicative timeline for your research. Any substantive discussion of your research in this box will not be considered by reviewers. Please note, your timetable should take account of the expectation that your PhD will be submitted at the end of your funded period.

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1. **Please confirm that you have first lodged this proposal as a complete, eligible and on time application to a UKRI funding competition (e.g.** [**SGSSS Student-led Open Competition**](https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/ourresearchenvironment/prs/esrc/esrcstudent-ledprojectstudentships/) **or** [**AHRC Doctoral Scholarship**](https://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/arts/graduateschool/fundingopportunities/doctoralscholarships/)**):**

Lodging your proposal to one of the above competitions is the main eligibility requirement to be considered for the CoSS PhD Scholarships.

*Applicants from the* [*School of Social & Environmental Sustainability*](https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/ses/)*, whose proposed research proposal would usually fall within the competence of the* [*Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)*](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/) *or* [*Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)*](https://www.ukri.org/councils/nerc/)*, are exempt from this requirement.*

**Yes**  **No**

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| If yes, please state here which UKRI Funding Competition(s), and any other funding competitions you have applied to: |
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1. **Declaration & Artificial Intelligence Statement**

The College of Social Sciences emphasises the importance of academic integrity and personal intellect in developing all submissions. While AI tools may support the research and writing process, it is crucial that the funding application is a reflection of the applicant’s own intellectual endeavour and critical thinking.

Misrepresenting AI-generated content as original work is strictly forbidden. Any use of AI must be transparently acknowledged, ensuring that the final submission remains a true and honest representation of the applicant’s own intellectual contributions.

Did you use AI when creating this application?

**Yes**  **No**

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| If yes, please elaborate on how AI was used: |
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| I confirm that this application is my own work, i.e., that the research idea, its proposed approach, and writing are substantially my own, and that I have discussed with my proposed supervisor(s).  Please note, a research proposal – in whole or part – previously submitted through a CoSS supervisor-led competition is not permitted. | |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Signature:**  Please attach an electronic signature |  |
| **Date:** | Click or tap to enter a date. |