

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
University of London

PhD Studentship

ESRC National Centre for Research Methods Node

Three-year PhD Studentship (full-time) commencing January 2012*

(*or as near as that date as possible)

Title: Video-based research in learning and examining forms of transcription

Project details:

We now invite applications for a prestigious studentship funded by the Economic and Social Research Council from candidates who are interested in learning and the use of video in qualitative research.

The +3 studentship will be based at the Institute of Education, University of London (IDE01000). The supervisor will be Dr Diane Mavers. The studentship is one of three ESRC studentships attached to the National Centre for Research Methodologies (NCRM) node 'Multimodal research methodologies for investigating digital learning technologies', directed by Professor Carey Jewitt. (Please see www.ncrm.ac.uk/research for further details.) Nested within this project, it will provide opportunities for engaging with research and training activities associated with the node and the NCRM.

The studentship will focus on methodological issues related to the use of video in observational research and offers two main opportunities in the context of learning:

1) Research into learning

The focus of the study is an aspect of learning. In negotiation with the supervisor, the successful candidate will be invited to select a precise area for investigation: the nursery, the primary classroom or the secondary school, or less formal environments such as the playground, a club, the home or the local community. Independent of the aspect of learning selected for investigation, a requirement of the fellowship is that a multimodal approach be adopted. Multimodality begins from the position that learning, like all social interactions, is constituted in a variety of forms - actions, gaze, body posture and so on, as well as what is said. On the page, writing and image are resources for representation, and these extend to moving image and sound on the screen. Leaving open the precise topic will allow scope for a distinct and independent course of inquiry.

2) Investigation into video recording and forms of transcription

Video recording has become increasingly widespread in social scientific research. Digital camcorders provide a ready means for collecting data and viewing the dynamism of learning activities and associated interactions. The studentship will explore the use of video recordings by a range of researchers in social science (through the literature and interviews with researchers). Different approaches to the use of video throughout the research cycle will be examined, such as using still and roving cameras, as well as who does the recording (e.g. the researcher, parents or children), who views and analyses it (i.e. the participants as well as the researcher) and how (e.g. 'real' time, slow motion and speeded up).

With increasing use of digital camcorders the issue of transcription has become focal. How can footage be re-presented for the purposes of analysis and dissemination? A key feature of the studentship will be to review, evaluate, try out and develop methods of transcribing multimodal interaction for academic, and possibly professional, purposes. The successful candidate will be expected to develop knowledge of a range of digital transcription tools (e.g. *Elan*, *Diver*).

Further Enquiries:

Dr Diane Mavers: d.mavers@ioe.ac.uk and Professor Carey Jewitt: c.jewitt@ioe.ac.uk

Funding Details: Studentships will cover Home/EU tuition fees and pay a stipend (£15,590 for 2011/12) for a period of up to 3 years.

Eligibility: Applicants should hold a minimum of a UK Honours Degree at 2:1 level or equivalent in Social Science or any other relevant subject and a postgraduate research training Master's degree recognised by the ESRC or must demonstrate that the level of training already undertaken is in line with both the generic and subject specific requirements set out in the ESRC Postgraduate Training Guidelines 2011.

How to apply: Eligible candidates should:

1. Apply for MPhil/PhD at the Institute via UKPASS (details below)
2. Include an up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV).
3. A covering letter explaining your interest in the area (max 2 pages A4)
4. Supply a copy of a piece of your own written work. This might be something you have written as coursework, or a publication (for a peer reviewed journal or something more journalistic such as a student newspaper). If jointly written publications are submitted please indicate your role in the writing and percentage of effort.

This should be submitted to doc.enquiries@ioe.ac.uk

Closing date: 4 November 2011

Using UKPASS to apply for MPhil/PhD

If you have not already done so, please make your application for doctoral study via the [PhD apply](#) button on our web site. UKPASS is an online system for postgraduate applications. You will need to register there for an account, which is free of charge. The MPhil/PhD course code for UKPASS is P010801 PhD Education.