AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership (CDP) studentship

British State Provision of Prosthetic Limbs and the Two World Wars

**Start date:** 1st October 2020

**Application Deadline:** Friday, 26th June 2020

*Interviews will take place on 20th July 2020, either in person or via video conferencing, depending on circumstances.*

The University of Leeds and The National Archives (TNA) are pleased to announce the availability of a fully funded Collaborative doctoral studentship from October 2020 under the AHRC’s [Collaborative Doctoral Partnership (CDP) Scheme](https://www.ahrhc.ac.uk/). This PhD will explore the provision of prosthetic limbs by the British State to disabled ex-servicemen of the two world wars.

This principal supervisors for this project will be by Dr Jessica Meyer, University of Leeds and Dr Laura Robson-Mainwaring, The National Archives. The successful applicant will spend time at both institutions, as well as participating in the wider cohort of CDP funded students across the UK.

**Project Overview**

The PhD student will explore how the experiences of British limbless ex-serviceman of the two world wars both shaped, and were shaped by, politics, social relations and the economy. Key themes might include the interactions between the State, prosthetic limb manufacturers and individual servicemen, and how these changed over time. We particularly welcome applications that address such issues as the agency of disabled individuals; the production and distribution of medical technologies, and the developing significance of disability issues on economic and social policy.

**Potential research questions include:**

- What opportunities for prosthetic assistance, rehabilitative care and institutional support were available to British limbless ex-servicemen? How did limbless ex-servicemen understand and respond to these opportunities?
- How far could disabled men influence the processes by which decisions about their care was made? What strategies were available to them in their interactions with State provision?
- To what extent were amputees' experiences of using (or rejecting) prostheses incorporated into the development of more refined/specialist artificial replacements, particularly as health needs changed over time?

**Details of Award**

CDP doctoral training grants fund full-time studentships for 45 months (3.75 years) or part-time equivalent. The studentship has the possibility of being extended for an additional 3 months to provide professional development opportunities, or up to 3 months of funding may be used to pay for the costs the student might incur in taking up professional development opportunities.
The award pays tuition fees up to the value of the full-time home/EU UKRI rate for PhD degrees. Research Councils UK Indicative Fee Level for 2020/21 is £4,407.

The award pays full maintenance for UK citizens and residents only. The National Minimum Doctoral Stipend for 2020/21 is £15,285, plus a CDP maintenance payment of £600 a year and a partial London weighting of £1000/year.

Further details can be found on the UKRI website

https://www.ukri.org/skills/funding-for-research-training/

The student is eligible to receive an additional travel and related expenses grant during the course of the project courtesy of The National Archives worth up to £1000 per year for 3.75 years (45 months).

The project can be undertaken on a full-time or part-time basis.

Eligibility

- This studentship is open to UK/EU students who meet the residency requirements set out in the UKRI Conditions of Research Council Training Grants: https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/

- We want to encourage the widest range of potential students to study for a CDP studentship and are committed to welcoming students from different backgrounds to apply.

- Applicants should ideally have or expect to receive a relevant Masters-level qualification, or be able to demonstrate equivalent experience in a professional setting. Suitable disciplines are flexible, but might include History or Conservation Studies.

- Applicants must be able to demonstrate an interest in the archives sector and potential and enthusiasm for developing skills more widely in related areas.

- As a collaborative award, students will be expected to spend time at both the University of Leeds and The National Archives.

NB. All applicants must meet the AHRC’s academic criteria and residency requirements. See:

https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/

Project details and how to apply

For more information and how to apply see https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/history-research-degrees/doc/apply-7 Please note that applicants for this studentship may submit a shorter statement of intent, rather than a detailed research proposal. Please contact Dr Jessica Meyer (j.k.meyer@leeds.ac.uk) for more information.

The successful candidate will be eligible to participate in CDP Cohort Development events. All new CDP students will be expected to attend the CDP Student Launch Event on Monday 21st September 2020 at the British Museum.