

SeNSS ESRC-FUNDED COLLABORATIVE STUDENTSHIP OPPORTUNITY



University of Essex



East Suffolk and North Essex
NHS Foundation Trust

Improving outcomes of chronically ill patients through promotion of effective self-regulation

Primary supervisor: Prof. Sheina Orbell

Institution Details: Department of Psychology, University of Essex

Collaborative partner: [East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust \(ESNEFT\)](#)

SeNSS Pathway: Psychology

Degree structure: either a three-year PhD programme, or a one year Masters degree, followed by a three-year PhD programme

Project background

The research project aims to establish the psychological mechanisms that need to be incorporated into patient care in order to guide patients in self-managing their chronic illness.

It provides an exciting opportunity for a student to advance psychological theory in chronic disease self-regulation and contribute to improved patient care.

Working in collaboration with a consultant in renal medicine the studentship aims to:

- (i) Identify psychological processes of self regulation that are related to clinical outcomes
- (ii) Investigate the role of self-management in explaining the relationship of patient mood to outcomes

You will join a thriving postgraduate research community at the Department of Psychology and will work closely with hospital staff and adult patients with kidney disease. This will provide invaluable experience for a researcher keen to develop a career working within or in collaboration with NHS settings.

Supervisors: [Prof Sheina Orbell](#) and [Dr Veronica Lamarche](#) (Department of Psychology, University of Essex), [Dr.Richard Smith](#) (ESNEFT)

Training Opportunities

A comprehensive package of training will be agreed in consultation with the supervisors. Elements of training will be provided by the supervisors, the University of Essex, and by other providers.

Applicants: essential and/or desirable attributes/skills

The successful student will have a good degree in psychology or closely related discipline, excellent interpersonal skills and enthusiasm for developing strong statistical skills. The student will need to be able to obtain a DBS in order to pursue this project

Studentship Details:

This studentship may be taken as either a 1+3 year award (a one-year MSc followed by a three-year PhD), or a +3 award (a three-year PhD)

- It may be taken full-time
- The studentship award covers your university fees, and provides you with a stipend of £15,009 per year. You will also be able to apply for small amounts of additional funding via the SeNSS Research Training Support Grant.

Residential eligibility

To be eligible for a full award you must be a Home or EU student who satisfies the criteria below:

- You must have settled status in the UK, meaning there are no restrictions on how long you can stay in the UK; AND
- You must have been 'ordinarily resident' in the UK for 3 years prior to 30 September 2020, when the Studentship starts. 'Ordinarily resident' means that you must have been normally residing in the UK (apart from any temporary or occasional absences; AND
- You must not have been residing in the UK wholly or mainly for the purpose of full-time education. However, this criterion does not apply to UK or EU nationals.

Students from EU countries other than the UK are generally eligible for a **fees-only award**. To be eligible for a fees-only award, you must be ordinarily resident in a member state of the EU, in the same way as UK students must be ordinarily resident in the UK.

How to apply for this studentship

In order to be considered for this SeNSS studentship, you must first apply for a place to study University of Essex, noting that you are applying for the collaborative studentship. Please go to [University of Essex, How to apply for a PhD](#) for information on how to make your application.

You will then need to make a separate application to SeNSS for this collaborative studentship. Please read the SeNSS Collaborative Studentship Application Guidance Notes before completing our online application form. The Guidance Notes are available at the bottom of the following webpage: [Applying for a SeNSS collaborative studentship](#)

Deadline:

The deadline applying to University of Essex for a place is **23:59 GMT on 20 January 2020**.

The deadline for submitting your application on FluidReview is **12:00 GMT on 02 March 2020**.

No extensions to this deadline will be permitted.

For further enquiries:

For enquiries related to the studentship topic, please email Prof Sheina Orbell (sorbell@essex.ac.uk)

For enquiries related to your eligibility for this studentship, and the application process, please email: Laura@essex.ac.uk

About SeNSS

The South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) is a consortium formed of 10 leading UK universities, all of which are engaged in cutting-edge social science research and training. The SeNSS consortium members are:

- City, University of London
- University of East Anglia
- University of Essex (the co-ordinating institution)
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- University of Kent
- University of Reading
- University of Roehampton, London
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- University of Surrey
- University of Sussex

SeNSS offers a world-class inter-disciplinary PhD research and training environment. It is committed to supporting its internationally recognised researchers and to producing the next generation of talented social scientists. SeNSS has been accredited as a prestigious Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the national body which funds research and training in economic and social issues.

We pride ourselves on our rigorous doctoral training programme, making the most of our members' diverse specialisms and offering our students a wide array of subject-specific as well as advanced training opportunities. SeNSS offers high-calibre supervision, driven by our members' emphasis on formal training and research culture.

For further information about SeNSS, please visit [the SeNSS website](#)