

PhD Career Development Programme 2015-16

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page features several overlapping, curved lines in shades of blue, red, orange, and green, creating a sense of movement and depth.

lse.ac.uk/careers

Introduction

Welcome from LSE Careers

I would like to extend a warm welcome from LSE Careers. We have many years' experience of working with PhD students from all departments and offer a substantial programme of career development for PhD students looking to develop their career in academic or in other employment sectors.

On the next few pages you'll find a guide to the various specialist events, seminars and talks occurring over the year. You'll also find details of one-to-one help, where jobs are advertised and where you can find careers information suitable for during and after your PhD. I hope you find the range of alumni stories interesting and useful too.

Make the most of your time at LSE. Many students stay in touch with each other after they leave, the professional network you develop while you are here will form the basis of your future working life.

Catherine Reynolds, Careers Consultant for PhD students and research staff

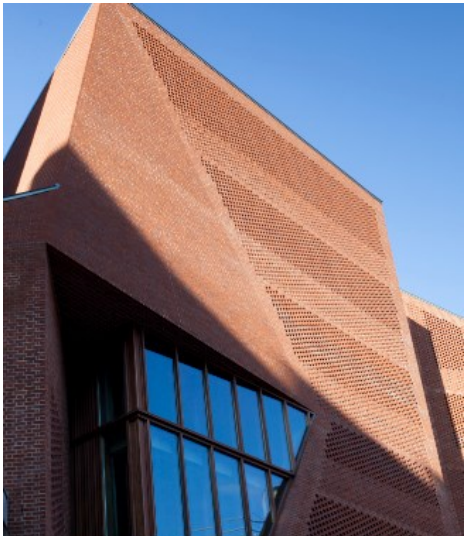


Welcome from the PhD Academy

One of our objectives in the PhD Academy is to enable all our students to develop rewarding and exciting careers. We know that over 98 per cent of our PhD graduates find a position within six months of graduating, in university departments, research institutions, NGOs, government departments, the public sector and the commercial sector. Many PhD students find the network of contacts they make while at LSE, and the help provided by LSE Careers to be invaluable.

Whether it is attending a careers event in the PhD Academy on the fourth floor of the library, talking with a careers consultant at one of our dedicated surgeries for PhD students, arranging a practice interview, or simply consulting some of the information sources online or in the Careers Resource Centre, there are plenty of ways to build your career and create opportunities. This brochure describes some of the careers services appropriate for PhD students. We hope you find it helpful.

Professor Linda Mulcahy, Director of the PhD Academy and ESRC Doctoral Training Centre, LSE



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Highlights:

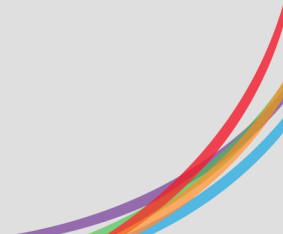
- Specialist PhD careers seminars
- A broad range of careers events across all employment sectors



@lsecareers



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Getting started

LSE Careers runs an extensive programme of career events and one-to-one appointments as well as advertising hundreds of jobs and volunteering opportunities on CareerHub, our online career management system. It can be a bit overwhelming to know where to start, but if you begin with the basics, the rest is relatively easy!

The basics

- ♦ [CareerHub](#): This is where you'll find jobs and volunteering opportunities, careers events (including seminars, fairs, employer presentations) and booking for appointments with careers consultants. You can also sign up for the [specialist PhD](#) and the [general](#) LSE Careers blog.
- ♦ First time on CareerHub? Log in with your LSE username and password and then go to the "Preferences" section to let us know what you are interested in. This will ensure you receive the most relevant information about jobs and events.
- ♦ [LSE Careers website](#): This is where you'll find lots of useful advice about CVs, application forms and interviews as well as sector-specific advice and information. If you are looking to return home to your home country after LSE, there is lots of international information too.
- ♦ LSE Careers Resource Centre: We are on Floor 5 of the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre. Come and visit us to ask questions and collect resources and information. We are open Monday to Friday, 9:30am-5pm with late openings until 8pm on Thursdays.

One-to-one appointments

PhD careers appointments are for 30 minutes and are available every week. Just log in to [CareerHub](#) and book online.

Jobs

We post 100s of job opportunities on CareerHub. This includes full-time, part-time and internship positions. Many PhD students find opportunities here. You'll also find specialist websites such as Devex, Devnet, Eldis, Charity Job, Bond and ReliefWeb very useful.

Volunteering

Visit the [LSE Volunteer Centre](#) website for more information about volunteering.

Not sure what to do?

We have an online resources to help you decide what's important to you and make effective career decisions. [Career Builder](#) can help you decide what's important to you and make effective career decisions. You can also use the personality profiling tool on [Profiling for Success](#).

Specialist vacancy resources

We have licences for policy, human rights, political and ethical [job sites](#).



LSE Careers Resource Centre, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre

During your PhD

You will be looking for ways to build your skills and experience by:

- ◆ developing research skills, presenting your work and contributing to the academic field
- ◆ attending and speaking at conferences, preparing papers for publication
- ◆ engaging with the public outside academia, blogging, media work, speaking at events
- ◆ providing service by organising conferences, editing journals, giving research assistance
- ◆ teaching undergraduates and masters students, marking work, developing courses

You will also prepare for your next career move by:

- ◆ building your network of contacts
- ◆ understanding the organisations who might recruit you
- ◆ signing up for job alerts from specialist websites and monitoring vacancies
- ◆ preparing alternative ways to present yourself and your work for different contexts

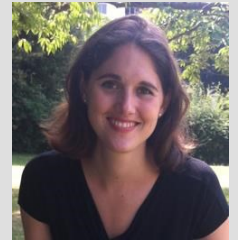
But don't be overwhelmed!

One-to-one career discussions can help set your priorities and plan your time efficiently. You are welcome to attend the wide range of lunchtime seminars on all aspects of careers, as well as the specialist PhD events. Our core programme of events is open to all students and sessions are booked on CareerHub. We advertise employer presentations both on and off campus. 30 minute appointments are available every week which you can book online through CareerHub.

Alumni story

**Dr. Caroline Varin, PhD
International Relations, 2012**

**Lecturer
Regent's
University;
Associate
Fellow,
Global South
Unit LSE**



I am currently a lecturer in Security and International Organisations at Regent's University London, and also work with the Global South Unit at the LSE where I organise the annual CAF-LSE conference. My PhD thesis was entitled 'Mercenaries and the State', supervised by Professor Christopher Coker.

After graduating with my PhD, I worked six months with a private security company, then left to pursue a career in academia. I first worked part-time for two universities before getting a full-time position. My research focuses on war and security, especially non-state actors; I published my first book last year, based on my thesis, and am publishing a second book in 2016 on Boko Haram. I love the flexibility to have several jobs at once: I teach, research, travel, write, explore. I am excited by students who still believe they can change things and have the energy to make their mark on the world.

I hope to stay in academia for a while, then perhaps use my research skills to support government work.



PhD career progression

LSE PhD graduates move into a wide range of interesting initial roles and organisations. Graduate destination data is searchable by department on the [LSE Careers website](#). [Vitae.ac.uk](#) also provides national data and an interesting range of [PhD careers stories](#). Some recent examples of recent destinations from LSE PhDs include:

In academia

Roles

LSE Fellow; Teaching Fellow; Research Fellow; Research Assistant; Research Officer; Post-doctoral Research Fellow; Assistant Professor.

Organisations

London School of Economics; Max Plank Institute; Cass Business School; University of Oxford; SOAS; Princeton University; Durham University.

Outside academia

Roles

Advocacy Manager; Research Manager; Project Manager; Associate; Civil Servant; Consultant; Diplomat; Economist; Editorial Manager; Grants Facilitator; Programme Manager; Special Adviser; Researcher; Policy Adviser; Quantitative Analyst; Research Analyst; Statistician; Strategist; Social Researcher, Writer.

Organisations

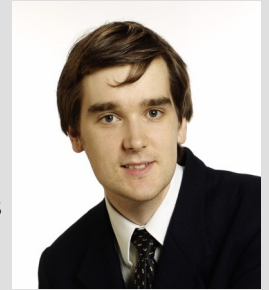
Bank of England; Barclays Bank; Citigroup; European Central Bank; European Commission; Government departments; International Monetary Fund; Morgan Stanley; Overseas Development Institute; OECD; PWC; Women's Foundation; Social Market Foundation; Work Foundation; World Bank.

Alumni story

Matthew Partridge, PhD Economic History, 2011

Senior Writer, MoneyWeek

I really enjoyed my time at the LSE; and won an ESRC studentship to do my masters and PhD here. I was impressed by the expertise of the department.



Originally, I was interested in becoming an academic economist. However, studying at a university very close (physically and intellectually) to the City of London opened my eyes to the world of finance I have always been interested in journalism. I edited the Sports section of the student newspaper at LSE, winning awards for my columns.

At MoneyWeek I write for the print magazine and the website. I write cover stories, emails for the daily "Money Morning" and a fortnightly column on entrepreneurs.

I like following current financial affairs. I have a supportive team, including an excellent editor. Working for a weekly publication allows time to manage my workflow. I was hired because of my PhD and my knowledge of Economic History which is useful when I'm looking at issues such as the future of the single currency.



Seminars and events 2015-16

This is a selection of seminars and events this year, and those listed in bold are exclusively for PhD Students and researchers:

- ◆ **Supporting yourself financially through a PhD (11 November)**
- ◆ **CVs for outside academia (27 November); CVs for jobs in academia (5 February)**
- ◆ International Organisations Day (14 November) - a chance to hear from major UN organisations, development banks and other agencies
- ◆ Politics and Public Policy Panel (8 October)
- ◆ **Preparing for an academic career (14 October)**
- ◆ **Understanding the UK academic job market (30 October)**
- ◆ **Using your research skills outside academia: panel event (30 October)**
- ◆ **Interview skills for jobs outside academia (15 February)**
- ◆ **Academic interview skills (4 March)**
- ◆ **Research fellowships - finding and applying (14 March)**
- ◆ Meet an Alum (every Thursday evening during term time)
- ◆ Careers fairs: Public Sector and Policy Careers Event; Consultancy; Banking and Finance; Marketing, Media and Communications Fair; Experienced Hire (Michaelmas Term)

We advertise employer presentations both on and off campus (ongoing). All events are listed on [CareerHub](#) and should be booked in advance.

Alumni story

Alex Leveringhaus, PhD
Government, 2011

Post-doctoral
research
fellow,
University of
Oxford,
Institute for
Ethics



I have held two research fellowships since graduating, one in Germany, and one in the UK. Academia is a very competitive sector but an LSE PhD is highly regarded and has helped me to apply for academic positions. Since I graduated, I have really developed as a researcher, I am very happy to be where I am now.

I work on a research project focusing on the ethical and legal impacts of emerging targeting systems. It allows me to integrate my philosophical work with more policy orientated work and I have really enjoyed working with policy makers. I like working in an emerging area of research, it's a great opportunity to make a contribution to a new field.

I plan to either continue as a researcher, or to become a lecturer. LSE is one of the best universities in Europe for political theory and political philosophy and I had rigorous academic training here. This has helped me immensely as a researcher. Working as a Graduate Teaching Assistant was very helpful. Teaching is one of the great joys of academic life, and LSE gave me the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills.



Careers appointments and vacancies

One-to-one help

We offer 30 minute appointments every week. Log on to [CareerHub](#) and book online up to one month in advance. Use appointments to review your career, develop your ideas, assess your plans or for feedback on your approach, written applications or interview preparation.

Jobs

There are numerous part-time job vacancies and internships listed on [CareerHub](#). If you are an ESRC funded student, also look at [ESRC placements](#) in government, policy and public service.

Early in your PhD these will generate income and help to build evidence of skills and experience. Part-time jobs include research roles, academic administration, internships, teaching and tutoring amongst many others. We can help you network with employers, organisations and alumni and support your speculative applications to organisations.

Later in your PhD, familiarise yourself with the requirements for roles advertised on academic and other specialist job sites. There are lists of these on our webpage for UK, European and international labour markets. There are also some relevant job vacancies listed on CareerHub.

Volunteering

We have our own [LSE Volunteer Centre](#) and can help you find a volunteering placement at a charity or not-for-profit organisation. We offer a range of opportunities whether you have one hour or two days a week to spare or are looking for a one-off opportunity.

Alumni story

Joe Hoover, PhD International Relations, 2011

Lecturer in International Politics, City University, London

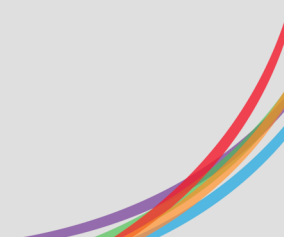


My career has progressed as I planned and better than I had hoped. Permanent jobs in academia are relatively scarce and I was fortunate to find a permanent post in London in my area of expertise.

My current job is focused on teaching, research and administration. I am the programme director for an MA programme on International Politics and Human Rights. I have developed several new courses and teach regularly.

My other primary job is conducting original academic research. Both of these tasks require extensive specialist knowledge and well-developed critical and analytical skills.

My time at the LSE has been very helpful; in part this reflects the quality of the education I received, but it also reflects the quality of the people with whom I formed professional relationships. The reputation of LSE has been an advantage in the job market.





Alumni story

Alison Johnston, PhD in European Studies, 2011

**Assistant Professor
in Political
Science, Oregon
State University**



I was fortunate to enter this tenure track position immediately after completing my degree. My research experience, teaching roles and the publishing record I produced at LSE was a huge help to attaining the position. The European Institute undertook a variety of initiatives to help graduate students publish in peer-reviewed journals.

Opportunities for teaching undergraduates in departments outside my own (namely in the economics department) gave me an interdisciplinary edge in teaching. I love what I do, I get to do research that I find interesting and important, I teach subjects that I love, and Oregon State provides a lot of research support for my endeavours.

An important feature of my experience at LSE was that faculty were supported participation in their own research. I would advise current PhDs to take advantage of the opportunities and get started early. If you want to enter academia, you'll need all the research experience AND outputs you can get. Also, enjoy London; this is not entirely apparent but you have more time to relax during your Ph.D. than you do once you enter a tenure track position with a ticking tenure clock!

Other events and training

Key events

- ◆ LSE Research Festival - a celebration of social science research (May)
- ◆ Shout! - engage people effectively with research using innovative communication (June)
- ◆ Professional development for PhDs - training throughout the year in PhD Academy
- ◆ PGCert HE and other training opportunities - run by the Teaching and Learning Centre
- ◆ Research methodology - courses run throughout the year and some online
- ◆ Information literacy courses - run by the Library, and include online presence

Opportunities to grow your network (without networking!)

- ◆ Visiting scholar
- ◆ Internship, consultant or research assistant roles
- ◆ Conference organiser, presenter, speaker
- ◆ Funding for travel, studentship, or other awards
- ◆ Journal Reviewer; Editor
- ◆ Staff/Student Liaison

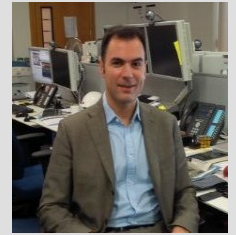


Alumni story

Fabio Pinna, PhD Economics, 2014

Associate,
Deutsche Bank

During my PhD I gained a range of experience and earned some useful income working part-time as a research assistant, a teaching assistant and in a commercial setting at LP Group, Asset Management.



Your professional identity

Professional identity is not a stable entity, how you see yourself and how others see you changes and during the PhD you are likely to experience significant changes. The beliefs or opinions you have of yourself will influence other people and you have some control over how others perceive you. Before preparing to present yourself to colleagues and potential employers it helpful to consider your strengths and to have some different ways to describe yourself and your work. It is never too early to work on your professional reputation!

As well as a researcher, think of yourself as a:

- ◆ Team worker and project manager
- ◆ Communicator and writer

Develop an interesting portfolio of experiences during your PhD and we can help you connect these with your life beyond LSE.

Develop a web presence

- ◆ Present yourself online - training is offered by Information Management and Technology's Copyright and Digital Literacy Advisor, Jane Secker
- ◆ Use LinkedIn - create an interesting and up to date profile

Ask for feedback

- ◆ Use a one-to-one appointment with LSE Careers to review your professional identity at any stage of your PhD.

I also published articles in business journals as well as contributing to academic articles. All this meant managing my time carefully, setting priorities and being well organised but it put me in a very good position to apply for permanent roles in the Banking sector towards the end of my PhD. My research investigated banking, credit and consumer behaviour and contributed to the understanding of consumer decision making.

Together with my experience of work, my research skills, numeracy and problem solving approach were recognised in the selection process by Deutsche Bank and I was recruited to start work immediately after my PhD. Now I work as an Associate in a team to manage €14 billion of assets globally.

Our approach involves using coding and computing of big data as well as our human assessment of risks and opportunities. The combination of my PhD from LSE and my working experiences have helped me achieve this.



Careers resources

We have [specialist resources](#) to support PhD career progression. Our website includes:

- ◆ [Academic careers](#) information and advice, including getting teaching experience, US academic careers, post docs, sample CVs, covering letters, research statements and proposals.
- ◆ [Careers outside academia](#) information including lists of job web sites, example CVs and covering letters, and advice on applying for jobs and internships.
- ◆ [Employment sectors](#) resources to help you explore sectors beyond academia. You are also welcome at our events to help you understand the wider labour market.
- ◆ [International careers](#): ask about [Going Global](#) too for a fantastic range of international resources.

Summer careers appointments

We are open throughout the summer for one-to-one appointments. If you are not in the UK and would like to speak to us please book a Skype or telephone appointment. You also have access to LSE Careers service for up to five years after you graduate.

Having worked with LSE Careers recently, 2015 PhD graduates have said about their career success:

“I got the job! Thank you so much for all your help with my job pack and with the mock interview. It all really helped! Not only did it boost my performance, but some of your questions and suggestions really helped me to focus on the key messages in my thesis. This job is so perfect for me - I can't believe they are actually going to pay me to do it.”

“I am very happy to share that I now have a full-time, permanent job and I am starting in September! I cannot express how grateful I am for all your help and support, thank you very much! It was extremely helpful, and this time I managed to give answers exactly the way you've suggested.”

Make the most of LSE Careers service during your time here. Good luck with you career here at LSE and beyond!

Catherine Reynolds
c.reynolds1@lse.ac.uk

