

School of Music, Humanities and Media

PhD Studentship in Musicology/Analysis: Tracking the Creative Process

Project: Fluid Corpus Manipulation

Start date: 24 Sept 2018

Duration: 3.5 years (42 months)

Salary: £14,990, with yearly increments

Funding: European Research Council - Horizon 2020 - (agreement 725899)

The University of Huddersfield invites applications for a fully-funded PhD studentship in the field of musicology and analysis to join the 'Fluid Corpus Manipulation' team for three and a half years. The project is funded by the European Research Council, through its prestigious Consolidator Grants programme.

The successful candidate will work on an ethnographic and analytic project that tracks and documents the creative process of six to ten digitally fluent composers as they integrate a new toolset into their techno-creative practice. This research will be supervised by Dr Frédéric Dufeu and Dr Owen Green.

The focus of the Fluid Corpus Manipulation project is to help techno-fluent composers explore high-level manipulations of large sound banks by providing access to recent advances in signal decomposition and machine learning within their creative workflow. The project team will create and disseminate cutting-edge software toolboxes for the leading environments used by this community of practice-based researchers. The PhD research will provide the project with important insights about how composers relate to their technological tools.

The ideal PhD candidate is an empirically-inclined (ethno)musicologist, interested in:

- tracking creative processes in contemporary musical practices
- relationships between technology and creativity
- electronic and computer music.

A certain degree of technical understanding will be needed, and an historical awareness of electronic music practices is desirable.

The principal criterion for award of the studentship will be the potential of the proposal to make an original and significant contribution to the research of the FluCoMa project. The studentship provides 100% of tuition fees and an indexed annual stipend starting at £14,990. Additional funding is available to support study-related costs.

Candidates must have a first-class or good upper-second undergraduate degree and be expected to perform at or around Distinction level in a Master's degree.

Candidates with other qualifications may be considered if they can demonstrate that relevant professional practice or work experience has equipped them with equivalent academic and research skills.

Application Process

Applicants should complete the University of Huddersfield Postgraduate Application Form (<https://research.hud.ac.uk/research-degrees/how-to-apply/>) including two references and also submit a Research Proposal (maximum 500 words) detailing how their training, experience and ideas would contribute to the FluCoMa project, and more specifically on the research on the creative process of the techno-fluent composers. The following issues should be addressed in the proposal:

- your perspective on the proposed PhD research question and how this relates to the FluCoMa project
- your reasons and purposes for undertaking this project
- your preparation and previous experience
- the approach to be taken and how this would integrate with the aims and objective of FluCoMa
- your training needs
- your ability and willingness to work as part of a team

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2018, and interviews of the shortlisted candidates are expected to take place at the beginning of February, with an intended start date of late September 2018. Enquiries may be addressed to Professor Pierre Alexandre Tremblay (p.a.tremblay@hud.ac.uk)

For more information about the research environment relevant to this studentship, visit <https://research.hud.ac.uk/institutes-centres/cerenem/>. For more details on the FluCoMa project, visit <http://www.flucoma.org/>