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# **School of Social and Political Sciences PhD Position Opportunity Expressions of Interest are called for a PhD Scholarship: A Night Shift: Planning and Designing Night-time Economies for Workers in Australian Cities**

We need to talk about the night. If cities are now recognised as engines of an increasingly ‘24/7’ economy, little attention is paid to what happens in urban centres at night and even less so to those workers who keep cities functioning afterhours and support a $134bn Australian night-time economy. The Night Shift project will deliver this necessary shift to night-time thinking in urban planning, design and policy. Working directly with local councils and industry experts and bridging humanities and social sciences across Arts and the Built Environment, the project engages with night shifts and night-time economies in Australian cities, investigating the conditions, contributions, voices and spaces that characterise night-time work. The project will experiment with transferrable action-oriented, design-inspired and policy-ready methodologies and will build ‘night literacy’ in cities and urban research.

Two policy- and industry- engaged doctoral Graduate Researchers will be an integral part of the Night Shift research team. The position advertised here is housed in the Faculty of Arts and in the new Melbourne Centre for Cities at the University of Melbourne.

The multidisciplinary Night Shift project will allow an emerging scholar to research first-hand doctoral research on how cities operate at night-time and how the experiences of night shift workers take place after dark. The doctoral candidate will engage with the *conditions* (the affective atmospheres of commuting and workplace spaces) and *spaces* inhabited by night shift workers in Australian cities from a comparative perspective. It calls on a curious and internationally minded researcher to unpack the nightscapes, design and governance of night shift work.

The successful applicant will join the vibrant community of the Melbourne Centre for Cities, with the opportunity to take part in the Centre’s Early Career Academics program, which provides valuable training for academic and practice careers. A key career development component will be an opportunity to undertake **a placement at Arup**, an international firm focused on the built environment with extensive night-time expertise.

The candidate will be supervised by the Centre Deputy Director and Centre Director, Professors Alison Young (Arts) and Michele Acuto (Architecture, Building and Planning), along with a selected secondary supervisor from the Faculty of Arts, and a mentor within Arup.

**Eligibility**

Experience and demonstrated skills in conducting sound social scientific (qualitative or quantitative) research are essential, as is a keen focus on urban issues, and the willingness to work in a dynamic research group. An academic background in urban studies, geography, planning or the humanities is desirable but other cities-oriented experience in relevant humanities or social science disciplines will be considered.

Applicants for this scholarship must be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia or New Zealand and meet the Faculty of Arts’ entry requirements for graduate research degrees. Please refer to: <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-philosophy-arts/>

**Preferred commencement date for successful candidate**

Mid-June - 1st July 2022.

**Scholarship and duration**

The scholarship benefits include:

* Full fee remission for up to 4 years
* Stipend in line with the [Graduate Research Scholarship](https://scholarships.unimelb.edu.au/awards/graduate-research-scholarships) value of $32,400 per annum pro rata (2022 full time study rate) for up to 3.5 years is provided through Professor Young‘s Australian Research Council Discovery project Grant (DP220101078).
* Other allowances: Project support for fieldwork costs and activities and conferencing, plus standard fieldwork (up to $3600) and conference support from the Faculty of Arts by application.

The scholarship is conditional upon acceptance into the Doctor of Philosophy - Arts (DR-PHILART) Program.

**How to Apply**

Please submit the expressions of interest form, along with your supporting documents as a single PDF document to Prof Alison Young ([ayoung@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:ayoung@unimelb.edu.au)) by 25 April 2022.

Supporting documents:

1. A 2-3 page research proposal (including how you interpret the project’s research problem, examples of key literature, and any methods/approaches you might wish to use),
2. An up-to-date CV (3 pages maximum),
3. Academic transcripts from your previous degree(s), and
4. A sample of writing.

Only shortlisted applicants will be notified and interviewed. If successful, you are also required to submit an online application for a University of Melbourne Graduate Research Degree and scholarship.

For enquiries and further information, please contact Professor Alison Young [ayoung@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:ayoung@unimelb.edu.au)