# PhD studentship (Full-time)



| Institution             | Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Department              | International Business School Suzhou                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Supervisors             | Principle supervisor: Dr. Nimesh Salike (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) Co-supervisor: Dr. Stephan Pfaffenzeller (University of Liverpool, UK); Co-supervisor: Dr. Willem Thorbecke (Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan)                |
| Application Deadline    | Open until the position is filled                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Funding<br>Availability | Funded PhD project (world-wide students)                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Project Title           | Economic complexity, Product complexity and Sophistication of exports 经济复杂性、产品复杂性和出口复杂度                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Contact                 | Please email <a href="mailto:nimesh.salike@xjtlu.edu.cn">nimesh.salike@xjtlu.edu.cn</a> (principal supervisor's email address) and copy <a href="mailto:doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn">doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn</a> with a subject line of the PhD project title |

### Requirements:

The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in Economics. Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above, or an equivalent qualification, if the first language is not English. This position is open to all qualified candidates irrespective of nationality.

#### Degree:

The student will be awarded a PhD degree from the University of Liverpool (UK) upon successful completion of the program.

## **Funding:**

The PhD studentship is available for three years subject to satisfactory progress by the student. The award covers tuition fees for three years (currently equivalent to RMB 80,000 per annum) and provides a monthly stipend of 3500 RMB as a contribution to living expenses. It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. It is a condition of the award that holders of XJTLU PhD scholarships carry out 300-500 hours of teaching assistance work per year. The scholarship holder is expected to carry out the major part of his or her research at XJTLU in Suzhou, China. However, he or she is eligible for a research study visit to the University of Liverpool of up to three months, if this is required by the project.

### **Project Description:**

The sophistication (complexity) level of the country's exports depends upon its own characteristics of economic complexities. Hidalgo and Hausmann (2009) explains it in terms of economy's capacity to accumulate 'capabilities' in order to produce more diverse and sophisticated products. This in turn has implications on other economic variables. For example, the fluctuation in price of more sophisticated products may be less relative to less sophisticated products. Therefore, complex economies producing sophisticated products would enjoy steady price on its exports and there is a motivation for countries that exports less sophisticated products to climb up the ladder. This project is aimed at analyzing the change in production and export structure of East Asian economies and; see if these economies have changed over time in terms of its complexity and product sophistication. The research would empirically test which economies in the region has enjoyed steady price on its exports.

For more information about doctoral scholarship and PhD programme at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU): Please visit

http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/entry-requirements.html http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/feesscholarships.html

#### **How to Apply:**

Interested applicants are advised to email <a href="mailto:nimesh.salike@xjtlu.edu.cn">nimesh.salike@xjtlu.edu.cn</a> (principal supervisor's email address) the following documents and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two reference letters with company/university letterhead
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Proof of English language proficiency (an IELTS score of above 6.5 or equivalent is required
- Verified school transcripts in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- Verified certificates of education qualifications in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Dr. Nimesh Salike (nimesh.salike@xjtlu.edu.cn), whose personal profile is linked below, <a href="http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/departments/academic-departments/international-business-school-suzhou/staff/nimesh-salike">http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/departments/academic-departments/international-business-school-suzhou/staff/nimesh-salike</a>