

**PhD studentship (Full-time)**



Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
Department	Business School
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Associate Professor George Liu (XJTLU, Business School) Co-supervisor: Professor Hossam Ismail (XJTLU, Business School) Co-supervisor: Professor Andrew Lyons (UoL, Management School)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	Chinese title: 可循环包装商业模式中的优化问题 English title: Optimization for Returnable Packaging Business
Subject Areas	<i>Applied Mathematics</i> <i>Data Analysis</i> <i>Information Science</i> <i>Operational Research</i> <i>Statistics</i> <i>Business &amp; Management</i>
Contact	Please email Guoquan.Liu@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) with a subject line of the PhD project title

**Requirements:**

Academic qualification: The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in Applied Math (Operations Research), Computer Engineering, Software Engineering, Management Science, Industrial Engineering etc.

*The candidate should have strong mathematical modeling and coding skills.*

Language qualification: Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above, 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 5,000 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 or research 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:**

This research project will develop an **optimization model and algorithms for Returnable Packaging to minimize the operations costs**; and correspondingly design and develop an **optimization platform** for the returnable packaging business to facilitate the daily operation decision making.

For more information about doctoral scholarships and PhD programmes at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), please go to <https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/> and Click **Study with Us**.

**How to Apply:**

Interested applicants are advised to email Guoquan.Liu@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) the following documents for initial review and assessment (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 6.5 or above)
- 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 Professor George Liu (Guoquan.Liu@xjtlu.edu.cn), whose personal profile is linked below,

[George Liu's Profile](#)