

PhD studentship (Full-time)



Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
Department	Department of Urban Planning and Design
Supervisors	Principle supervisor: Dr. Yiwen Wang (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University) Co-supervisor: Prof. Barry Godfrey (University of Liverpool, UK)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	The Reuse of Decommissioned Prisons in the Heritage Industry: Comparative Research in China and UK (文化遗产产业中关于退役监狱的再利用—中国和英国案例比较研究)
Contact	Please email yiwen.wang@xjtlu.edu.cn and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn 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 a subject relevant to the proposed project, such as architecture, history, historic conservation, heritage management or museum studies. The proposed project entails a great deal of work to forge links and work collaboratively with heritage and museum sectors; conduct field studies, collect empirical data in China and the UK; and implement data analysis. A competent candidate should therefore possess good communication skills and understandings of qualitative research methods and have abilities to conduct research independently. 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 proposed project takes a comparative approach to examine ethical, commercial, and academic issues in the re-use of former prisons by the heritage industry. It focuses on transformation and trans-institutionalization of defunct prisons and considers prison reuse from an interdisciplinary perspective – history, criminology and architecture. In particular, it raises questions on how tourism sector's commodification of heritage may have reshaped our accepted norms for the present use of the past; and how contemporary societies' perception of prisons – and subsequently discernments of historical prisoners and crimes – may have been re-conceptualized by the new use. Investigation into different societies' attitudes toward the reuse of prison structures and sites will further broaden our understanding about cultural nuances in perception and variance in ability to transcend the stigma of the past use. The research findings will provide a guide for heritage-experts as to how buildings once used for punishment and incarceration can now be re-purposed for the leisure and education sector, bringing new understandings to the public about their architectural and social pasts.

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.html>
<http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/phd/feescholarships.html>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email yiwen.wang@xjtlu.edu.cn the following documents and copy doctoralstudies@xjtlu.edu.cn (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two reference letters
- 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. Yiwen Wang (yiwen.wang@xjtlu.edu.cn).

The personal profile of the project supervisors are linked below: Dr. Wang <http://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/departments/academic-departments/urban-planning-and-design/staff/yiwen-wang>; Prof Godfrey <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/sociology-social-policy-and-criminology/staff/barry-godfrey/>