

PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
School	International Business School of Suzhou
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Dr. Mofei Jia (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Professor Michele Lombardi (UoL)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	The impact of competition of social status on games with strategic complementarities in social networks: theoretical and experimental studies
Contact	Please email mofei.jia@xjtlu.edu.cn (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) with a subject line of the PhD project title. The principal supervisor's profile is linked here: https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/staff-details/staff/mofei-jia

Requirements:

The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in Economics. The candidate should have solid background in mathematics and strong skills in programming.

Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an overall IELTS 7.0 (with a minimum of 6.5 in each component), or overall TOEFL 100 (with a minimum 21 in listening, reading, and writing, and 23 in speaking), 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). It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. 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 up to six months, if this is required by the project.

Project Description:

When individuals are embedded in a network, individual's behavior and aggregated outcome depend on the actions of direct neighbors. In some cases, people actions are mutually enhancing, i.e., displaying positive externalities and strategic complementarities, e.g., spill-over effects for R&D. To improve efficiency and social welfare, how to motivate individuals to exert more efforts in networks has received particular attention. In this project, we introduce status concern into network games with strategic complementary. We first investigate whether this mechanism can improve efficiency and how it affects social network formation theoretically and then use experiments to test the theoretical predictions.

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

<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/entry-requirements/>

<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/fees-and-scholarship>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email mofei.jia@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 formal reference letters
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Certificates of English language qualifications (IELTS or equivalent)
- Full academic 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)
- PDF copy of Master Degree dissertation (or an equivalent writing sample) and examiners reports available