

PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
School	School of Advanced Technology
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Dr Yue Li (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Professor Hai-Ning Liang (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr Lingyun Yu (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr Han-Mei Chen (UoL)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	Experiential Learning in Virtual Museums 虚拟博物馆中的体验式学习
Contact	Please email yue.li@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/departments/academic-departments/computer-science-and-software-engineering/staff/yue-li

Requirements:

The candidate should have a first class or upper second class honours degree, or a master's degree (or equivalent qualification), in **Computer Science, Human-Computer Interaction, Industrial Design, Education, Museum Studies** or a closely related area (supporting documents are needed to show relevant project experience).

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). 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:

Museums are actively digitizing collections to store, distribute and share them with more audiences. The adoption of interactive technologies is promoting the spread of culture by developing creative narratives to support education and entertainment. Virtual museum (VM) is an extension of physical museums that presents content in digital forms, such as photographs of museum archives. Current extended reality (XR) technologies afford the creation of interactive cultural heritage learning experience with 3D assets. This project aims to obtain an in-depth understanding of users' experiential learning in VMs. This is an interdisciplinary project that sits at the intersection of **human-computer interaction (HCI), cultural heritage (CH) and education**. The research will develop novel interaction techniques for virtual museum navigation and object interaction, and contribute to the understanding of learning mechanism in VR using combined theoretical and computational approach.

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/doctoral/entry-requirement-phd/>

<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/doctoral/postgraduate-research-scholarships>

How to Apply:

Interested applicants are advised to email **yue.li@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, with supporting documents showing relevant project experience
- A research proposal of 2 or 3 pages addressing the topic described above
- Full academic transcripts in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- One formal reference letter

Optional for the initial review:

- PDF copy of Master Degree dissertation (or an equivalent writing sample) and examiners reports available
- Certificates of English language qualifications (IELTS or equivalent)
- Verified certificates of education qualifications in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- More reference letters