



A LONDON DOCTORAL
TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

UBEL ESRC DTP

Interdisciplinary Funding Programme

The UBEL DTP invites applications from pathway leaders, current DTC and DTP studentship award holders and/or their supervisors for funding to support initiatives which promote interdisciplinary/cross-disciplinary/multidisciplinary exchange among DTC/DTP and other doctoral students. Background information and guidelines for making an application are given below.

This is an open funding scheme with **no fixed closing date** for applications – these may be submitted at any point during the coming academic year. Bids from groups of students and/or academics are warmly encouraged.

Background

The ESRC is keen to promote the development of new forms of interdisciplinary exchange and research, both within the social sciences themselves, and between these and the natural sciences and/or arts and humanities.

In order to assist this, the ESRC has made additional funding available to the UBEL DTP to support suitable initiatives. The UBEL DTP has decided to use this funding to set up a scheme for small awards (**normally no more than £3,000**) that will help meet the costs of relevant activities. Awards might be used to fund an interdisciplinary seminar series, a mini conference, a workshop that leads to some formal output such as an online journal submission, or some kind of exchange that enables students to work across disciplines (perhaps involving a Doctoral Training Facility funded by one of the other Research Councils). However, we want to encourage inventive ideas, and have therefore deliberately decided not to impose strict requirements on what purposes funding is sought for, as long as the activity plainly fulfils the goal of promoting knowledge exchange of some form across disciplines, and is not aimed at simply supporting the work of an individual student – there must be wider potential benefit. DTC/DTP students need not be the only beneficiaries, but there must be some DTC/DTP student involvement. **Preference will be given to applications which involve student-led activity.**

Guidelines for applications

Applications should take the form of a statement no longer than **one side of A4** (in 11pt Calibri minimum size), which outlines the proposed initiative in terms of:

1. the nature of the activity involved and how this meets the requirement of interdisciplinary knowledge exchange
2. the students who will be involved, and the benefits they are likely to gain
3. the organisation of the proposed activity and its likely timing (NB the spend must take place within a year of funds being awarded)
4. the likelihood of follow-up activity
5. accurate and justified costings which make clear how the financial support will be used and why it is necessary (NB bids must **not** be for funds to substitute already identified financing **or** to meet partners' costs); bids in excess of £3,000 will be considered, but will require particularly strong justification.

Please submit your application to the DTP Manager (UCL IoE and Partner students) ubel-dtp@ucl.ac.uk, or DTP Manager (UCL students) uclesrcdtc@ucl.ac.uk

UBEL DTP, quoting **Interdisciplinary Fund Application** in the Subject title.

Applications will be considered individually by the members of the DTP Board using the following criteria:

1. how far the activity meets the ESRC requirement for genuine interdisciplinary knowledge exchange
2. the likely benefits to students training and/or their broader development
3. the capacity of the activity to generate identifiable follow-up, especially in terms of research
4. value for money

Decisions will be notified to applicants within one month following submission.

Recipient of this award should prepare a short report of their event to be published on the UBEL DTP website within one week of event completion. Photos are welcome.