

<b>Information on Postgraduate Research Scholarship - Ref: GBS-PhD-2223-08</b>			
<b>Faculty:</b>	Business	<b>School:</b>	Business, Operations, & Strategy
<b>Lead Supervisor:</b>	Dr Scott Tindal		
<b>Project Title:</b>	Street-Level Bureaucrats and refugee administration and service provision in the UK.		
<b>Project Description: (500 words)</b>	<p>How the state meets its international obligations to administrate and process claims for asylum<sup>1</sup> has been at the forefront of European politics for over a decade. Within the UK the decades-long entrenchment of neoliberal agendas has fragmented the state's ability to deliver services that were once part of the public sector (Findlay <i>et al.</i>, 2007). This has been exacerbated in the recent decade with the emergence of the populist politics of social division, and the partial privatisation of services for the reception and processing of asylum seekers in the UK. The subsequent systemic failure has resulted in the UK frequently violating domestic and international law regarding human rights-based treatment of claimants. A clear example of this is how the UK Government's recent policy to relocate asylum seekers to Rwanda has been viewed by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR, 2021).</p> <p>Recent UK Governments have exacerbated and exploited anti-immigrant sentiment, and have created policy responses such as the 'hostile environment' and the 'Rwanda relocation' policies. Many refugees in the UK are not given access to vital services such as appropriate accommodation, healthcare, social work, and education. In these instances, 'front line' actors, or 'Street-Level Bureaucrats' (SLBs) (Lipsky, 1980) find themselves having to extend their interventional reach beyond the scope of their mandated duties, and for them to innovate and negotiate support for clients. Examples include schoolteachers assuming the duties of social workers in finding appropriate accommodation and access to healthcare, and the intervention of third sector/NGO actors in compensating for public sector deficiency and curtailment of services through a process of fragmentation and marketisation (Mayblin and James, 2019).</p> <p>We propose a project that seeks to investigate this timely issue using Lipsky's conceptual framework by examining the experiences of SLBs at</p>		

<sup>1</sup> **Asylum seeker** is a term used in the 1948 *UK Declaration of Human Rights* and the 1951 *Refugee Convention on the Status of Refugees* to refer to individuals who seek protection from persecution from the state in which they are a citizen. It is a form of international protection. A **refugee** is a term given to someone who had been granted protection from a host state.

	<p>the front line of refugee reception and service provision. In doing so this project will develop a deeper, more critical, understanding of the institutional milieu of refugee administration and support in the context of austerity, marketisation, and reactionary politics.</p> <p>While the specifics of the research design would be the remit of the doctoral student, we envisage this research being completed through a set of case studies in local authorities in areas where refugees have been received, for example: Kent, London, Glasgow, and Yorkshire. We do not envisage that data would be collected directly from refugees themselves, but rather through key informant interviews with front-line operatives in various service-defined roles within one or more of the aforementioned geographic areas. Recognising the complexity of this issue, we expect the doctoral student to engage in the research literature and advanced training in interviewing techniques and case study research design.</p>
<b>Duration:</b>	3 years, Full-Time Study
<b>Bursary available (subject to satisfactory performance):</b> Year 1: £17,668 (FT); Year 2: In line with UKRI rate; Year 3: In line with UKRI rate	
In addition, the successful candidate will receive a contribution to tuition fees equivalent to the university's 'Home' rate, currently £4,596 (FT), for the duration of their scholarship. International applicants will need to pay the remaining tuition fee for the duration of their scholarship. This fee is subject to an annual increase.	
<b>Person Specification of Essential (E) or Desirable (D) requirements:</b>	
<b>Criteria:</b>	<b>E or D</b>
<b>Education and Training:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1<sup>st</sup> Class or 2<sup>nd</sup> class, First Division (Upper Second Class) honours degree with a minimum average of 60% in all areas of assessment (UK or UK equivalent) in a relevant area to the proposed research project.</li></ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A taught masters or masters by research degree (with an average of 60% for all areas of assessment), or equivalent employment experience (such as research, policy development, or advanced practitioner work).</li></ul>	<b>D</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Education or training in a relevant social science discipline such as anthropology; business studies; geography; management studies; migration studies; organisational studies; politics; social policy; sociology; or their related disciplines.</li></ul>	<b>D</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>For those whose first language is not English and/or if from a country where English is not the majority spoken language (as recognised by the UKBA), a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 (in all elements of the test) or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required, if your programme falls within the faculty of Engineering and Science a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in all</li></ul>	<b>E</b>

elements of the test or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required. Unless the degree above was taught in English <b>and</b> obtained in a majority English speaking country, e.g. UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, etc, as recognised by the UKBA.	
<b>Experience &amp; Skills:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previous experience of undertaking research (e.g. undergraduate or taught master's or a masters by research dissertation)</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of volunteering or working or researching with asylum seekers or refugees.</li> </ul>	<b>D</b>
<b>Personal Attributes:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the fundamental differences between a taught degree and a research degree in terms of approach and personal discipline/motivation</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to, under guidance, complete independent work successfully</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This scholarship may require Academic Technology Approval Scheme approval for the successful candidate if from outside of the EU/EEA</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The scholarship must commence before <b>July 2023</b></li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<b>Closing date for applications:</b>	<b>midnight UTC on 31/03/2023</b>
<b>For further information contact:</b>	Dr Scott Tindal <a href="mailto:S.R.Tindal@greenwich.ac.uk">S.R.Tindal@greenwich.ac.uk</a>
<p><b>Making an application:</b></p> <p>Please read this information before making an application. Information on the application process is available at: <a href="https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process">https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process</a>. Applications need to be made online via this link. <b>No other form of application will be considered.</b></p> <p>All applications <b>must include</b> the following information. <b>Applications not containing these documents will not be considered.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Scholarship Reference Number (Ref: GBS-PhD-2223-08)</b>– included in the personal statement section together with your personal statement as to why you are applying</li> <li><b>a CV including 2 referees *</b></li> <li><b>academic qualification certificates/transcripts and IELTS/English Language certificate</b> if you are an international applicant or if English is not your first language or you are from a country where English is not the majority spoken language as defined by the UK Border Agency *</li> </ul> <p><i>*upload to the qualification section of the application form. Attachments must be a PDF format.</i></p> <p>Before submitting your application, you are encouraged to liaise with the Lead Supervisor on the details above. Submitting a detailed research proposal along with your application will potentially increase the chance of being shortlisted.</p> <p>Posts are open until 31st March but may be filled earlier if a suitable candidate is found.</p>	