

De Montfort University

Graduate School Full Bursary PhD Scholarship

Selling hope? Investigating the UK IVF industry and the case of fertility treatment “add-ons”

**Centre for Reproduction Research
School of Applied Social Sciences, Faculty of Health and Life
Sciences
De Montfort University, Leicester**

COMMENCING OCTOBER 2017

A PhD research scholarship including stipend and tuition fee costs is offered within the new Centre for Reproduction Research in the School of Applied Social Sciences. It is available to UK or EU students who are suitably qualified and have outstanding potential as a researcher.

In offering this scholarship the University aims to further develop its proven research strengths in social studies of human reproduction. It is an excellent opportunity for a candidate of exceptional promise to contribute to a stimulating, world-class research environment.

Given that infertility diagnoses are often uncertain and success with IVF remains relatively low, clinics increasingly offer treatment options to be 'added on' to an IVF cycle in a bid to improve success. Concerns have been raised about the efficacy and marketing of these techniques, in some cases by clinicians and scientists themselves, highlighting a need for public and scientific scrutiny. This includes a need for social science research regarding their ethical, social and economic implications, given that they remain scientifically controversial and/or untested. This study will use qualitative, ethnographic and genealogical methods to investigate how these techniques develop and their uptake or resistance by clinicians, patients and other stakeholders in the context of a highly emotive area of biomedicine.

For a more detailed description of the scholarship, the subject area at DMU and an application pack please visit <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/graduate-school/phd-scholarships.aspx> . Please direct academic queries to Nicky Hudson on +44 (0)116 2078766 or email nhudson@dmu.ac.uk. For administrative queries contact the Graduate School office email: researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk, tel: 0116 250-6309. Completed applications should be returned together with two supporting references and an academic transcript.

Applications are invited from UK or EU students with a Master's degree or good first degree in a relevant subject (First, 2:1 or equivalent). Doctoral scholarships are available for up to three years full-time study commencing in October 2017 consisting of a bursary of £14,296 per annum in addition to waiver of tuition fees.

Please quote ref: HLSFB1

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 31st May, 2017. Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be held by Friday 16th June approximately.