

3-Year Full-Time PhD Studentship in spatial data analysis of health geographies at the Space Syntax Lab, Bartlett School of Architecture

Applications are invited for a **3-year PhD Studentship on *The built environment and adolescent mental health*** starting September 2023 on the [Architectural Space & Computation MPhil/PhD programme](#) in the Bartlett School of Architecture. The studentship comprises UK standard postgraduate full-time student fees for 3 years, plus a maintenance stipend (current rate for 2022/23: £17,668). The deadline for application is Friday 16th January at 4pm. Interviews will take place in late January.

Subject Area

We are seeking a candidate with strong spatial data analytical skills, who is interested in researching how the spatial layout of the built environment shapes mental health in adolescents.

The candidate will be supported in developing a broad characterisation of Bradford's spatial geography, in order to analyse the relationship between mental health and factors such as access to green space, proximity to local high streets, or social connectivity. Access to data on the health of children in Bradford will be provided by the [Born in Bradford project](#). The research will contribute to the development of built environment indicators for the [Connected Bradford project](#), which links up routine health, social and educational data on over 530,000 Bradford residents

Applicants will be co-supervised by a team led by [Professor Laura Vaughan](#) at the Space Syntax Lab, UCL Bartlett School of Architecture, with [Professor Rosie McEachan](#), Director of the [Born in Bradford cohort study](#), and visiting Professor at UCL, alongside UCL experts in spatial data science and mental health inequalities.

See information on our doctoral school [here](#). Please also visit the [UCL Postgraduate Application and Entry page](#) for general information on the application process.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the requirements for home fee status.¹ Candidates must hold (or be close to completion) a relevant master's degree (subjects such as GIS, space syntax, geography). Familiarity with health geographies is an advantage, as is experience with the coding languages: R, Python, or PostGIS. For procedural enquiries regarding the studentship, please contact Drew Pessoa <mailto:d.pessoa@ucl.ac.uk>.

How to Apply (do please read these instructions carefully!)

1. Applicants must **email Professor Laura Vaughan** at l.vaughan@ucl.ac.uk to discuss formulation of the research proposal as early as possible in the process. Do outline your CV, including UK eligibility, in your email. Please write "Built Environment and Mental Health PhD Studentship" in the subject line.
2. **Application for the studentship by Friday 16th January at 4pm:** email a 2-page CV and 2000-2500 words (+ references) research proposal on the health geography of Bradford (see similar study: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(18\)30119-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(18)30119-0)). The proposed methods must incorporate use of the Born in Bradford dataset (<https://borninbradford.github.io/datadict/bib/>).
3. **Application for MPhil/PhD studies by Friday 16th January at 4pm.:** Applicants must also complete the online application for PhD studies at [UCL Postgraduate Application and Entry page](#). Please enter "Built Environment and Mental Health PhD Studentship" in the "Additional Funding Information" section in your application form. You should ensure your references and transcripts are in place so your application can be considered in time. You may reuse your studentship application's statement and CV for the application for studies.

¹ Generally, individuals must be resident and 'settled' in the UK on 'the first day of the first academic year' of their course to be eligible for home student status. With some exceptions, they must also have been 'ordinarily resident' in the UK for the three years before that date. The three-year residency rule applies to UK nationals who have been living abroad. If you are not sure about your fee status please see the link below. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/eligibility-for-home-fee-status-and-student-support-in-england/>.