

<u>Information on Postgraduate Research Scholarship - Ref: VCS-FLAS-03-22</u>	
Faculty:	FLAS
Department:	School of Design
Lead Supervisor:	Dr Hannah Lammin
Project Title:	Data visualisation in practice: articulating spatial forms of knowledge
Project Description:	<p>While quantitative analysts widely acknowledge that the creation of data sets involves selection and interpretation, less critical attention has been paid to how the graphical display of data shapes understanding. Visualizations of data are neither neutral nor transparent – they entail the translation of numerical data into spatial forms which can be apprehended as images, thus morphing information which may be non-linear and multi-dimensional into forms which are determined by the parameters of the human senses. Moreover, these processes of visual interpretation are imbued with a range of assumptions and cultural biases which require further scrutiny, because they contain codes and hierarchies inherited from the history of visual culture –for example, presuppositions about what constitutes a “scientific image” based on Western notions of objectivity (Johanna Drucker, 2020). This raises the question of whether visualisation practices could be decolonised to democratise knowledge production and communication. We invite proposals for practice-led research projects that would contribute to critical understanding of data visualization practices by excavating the assumptions, articulating how knowledge is transformed in the translation from numerical to visual formats, and exploring the potentials of using data visualizations to engage diverse audiences in current problematics.</p> <p>The candidate will contribute to the growth in practice-led digital media research in the School of Design and will have access to the purpose-built media facilities in our Stockwell Street building and will be supported by a supervisory team expertise in media theory, digital humanities, and creative practice-research. Articulating spatial forms of knowledge data visualizations are an essential means of communicating knowledge in the contemporary world.</p> <p>Research proposals should identify a specific area of knowledge production where data visualisation has potential social, cultural, or environmental impact; define a target audience to communicate with; and outline a practice-led methodology to test the effects of articulating information visually.</p>
Duration:	3 years, Full-Time Study or 6 years, Part-Time Study
Bursary available (subject to satisfactory performance):	
Year 1: £16,062 (FT) or pro-rata (PT) 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) or pro-rata (PT), for the duration of their scholarship. International applicants will need to pay the remainder tuition fee for the duration of their scholarship.

This fee is subject to an annual increase.

Person Specification of Essential (E) or Desirable (D) requirements:

Criteria:	E or D
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Education and Training:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Class or 2nd class, First Division (Upper Second Class) honours degree or a taught master's 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 	E
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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 and obtained in a majority English speaking country, e.g. UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, etc, as recognised by the UKBA. 	E
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Experience & Skills:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous experience of undertaking research (e.g. undergraduate or taught master's dissertation) 	E
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of conducting practice-led research 	D
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A background in digital media, digital humanities, visual communications, visual culture, science communication, data analytics or related fields. 	D
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Personal Attributes:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands the fundamental differences between a taught degree and a research degree in terms of approach and personal discipline/motivation 	E
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to, under guidance, complete independent work successfully 	E
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Other Requirements:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This scholarship may require Academic Technology Approval Scheme approval for the successful candidate if from outside of the EU/EEA 	E
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scholarship will commence in January 2023 	E
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Closing date for applications:	16 September 2022
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For further information contact:	Hannah Lammin (Hannah.Lammin@gre.ac.uk)
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Making an application:

Please read this information before making an application. Information on the application process is available at: <https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process>. Applications need to be made online via this link. **No other form of application will be considered.**

All applications **must include** the following information. **Applications not containing these documents will not be considered.**

- **Scholarship Reference Number (VCS-FLAS-03-22)**– included in the personal statement section together with your personal statement as to why you are applying
- **a research proposal related to the stated research topic** * [Applying for a PhD | What is a Research Proposal - YouTube](#)
- **a CV including 2 referees** *
- **academic qualification certificates/transcripts and IELTS/English Language certificate 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** *

**upload to the qualification section of the application form. Attachments must be a PDF format.*

Before submitting your application, you are encouraged to liaise with the Lead Supervisor on the details above.