



University of
St Andrews



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

St Andrews–Max Planck PhD Studentship in Population Health

We invite applications from qualified and highly motivated students for a **3.5-year St Andrews–Max Planck PhD studentship in Population Health**. The PhD studentship is funded by the University of St Andrews and the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR). The PhD student will be working on **social, temporal and/or spatial aspects of infectious diseases (e.g. Covid-19) using individual-level register or survey data and applying advanced quantitative methods**. The project will be part of International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science (IMPRS-PHDS) <https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de/>. The PhD student will be supervised by the following team: Prof. Hill Kulu (St Andrews), Prof. Mikko Myrskylä (MPIDR) and Dr. Katherine Keenan (St Andrews).

In the first two years (more precisely 1.75), the successful applicant will be working at the University of St Andrews. They will become a member of the Population and Health Research Group at the School of Geography and Sustainable Development (SGSD), which combines expertise in advanced techniques of demographic, longitudinal and spatial analysis. For further details about the research group, please see: <https://populationandhealth.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/>.

In the third and fourth year, they will be working in the Laboratory of Population Health at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, one of the leading centres for demographic research in the world. Please see:

https://www.demogr.mpg.de/en/laboratories/population_health_3922/

During the period in the UK, the St Andrews–Max Planck PhD studentship will cover: 1) A maintenance grant of £15,285 per year (in the 2020/21 academic year, subject to increase annually according to the ESRC rules and regulations); 2) A research training support grant (RTSG) of £750 per year; and 3) Tuition fee to the amount of a standard fee for UK/EU students (£4,407 in the 2020/21 academic year). During the period in Germany, the PhD student will be paid according to the MPIDR rules and regulations. This includes: 1) A contract amounting to a gross salary of about €25,000 per year; and 2) Financial support for travel, research training, and data acquisition.

Students with an excellent master's degree (distinction or merit in the UK) or the equivalent national qualification in any area of social and health sciences including statistics and applied mathematics who are interested in this opportunity must submit an application **by 30th June**. Please see the advice on applying for research degree programmes at: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/apply/postgraduate/research/>. Please apply to the programme "PhD Geography (Science)". Please include a covering letter outlining your interest in population health and infectious diseases research and in applying advanced quantitative methods in social and health science research. You are also asked to submit a brief research proposal on population health in one or several countries, which outlines the rationale and context for the proposed study, and data and methods to be used. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed on 6th July. The University of St Andrews and the Max Planck Society strive for equal opportunities. Applications of any background are welcome.

This is an excellent opportunity for a highly motivated PhD student to work in an international team of researchers on a cutting-edge social and health science topic and applying advanced quantitative methods and statistical modelling. The student is expected to use the opportunity of preparing a PhD thesis as a collection of research articles according to the PGR regulations of the University of St Andrews. The studentship is available from **27th September 2020** or thereafter.

For informal inquiries, please contact Prof. Hill Kulu (Hill.Kulu@st-andrews.ac.uk), Prof. Mikko Myrskylä (sekmyrskylä@demogr.mpg.de) and Dr. Katherine Keenan (Katherine.Keenan@st-andrews.ac.uk). Please include 'St Andrews–Max Planck PhD studentship' in the subject line of your email.