



PhD Studentship

**PhD in Experimental Psychology,
evaluating Impact Based Weather
Warnings in Southeast Asia (supervisor
Adam Harris)**

Qualification type: PhD

Location: London

Funding for: UK Students, EU Students, OS students

3-year stipend: starting at £20,622 per annum

Hours: Full time

Closes: 4th March 2024

Start: 1st April 2024 (or asap thereafter)

Supervisor

Prof Adam Harris

Second Supervisors

Dr Henrik Singmann, Dr Sarah Jenkins

Triangulation Of Warning And Response Data evaluations (TOWARD) in Southeast Asia

Applications are invited for a fully funded PhD studentship in the Department of Experimental Psychology, under the supervision of Prof. Adam Harris and Dr Henrik Singmann.

This project is funded by a grant from the UK Met Office's Weather for Science & Service Partnership (WCSSP), Southeast Asia [\[link\]](#) to psychologists at both UCL and the University of Leeds (Dr Sarah Jenkins). As a collaborative team, we will be working with weather scientists in Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, the Philippines, and the UK to lead global understanding of the utility of Impact Based Weather Warnings (IBWs). Specifically, we aim to understand what responses are taken in response to IBWs, and to quantify the avoided losses that can be attributable to IBWs. The project will employ a variety of methods including: quantitative experimental methods, qualitative survey methods, as well as instrumental regression techniques to analyse natural experiments.

IBWs are issued based on an understanding of the potential *impacts* associated with an extreme weather event, rather than simply the intensity of

the event itself (e.g., the amount of rainfall). It is assumed that IBWs provide clearer guidance for protective actions to be taken and, ultimately, will save lives and reduce economic costs. This assumption remains, however, under tested, and the current project aims to address that gap.

The successful applicant will require: 1) excellent organisational and interpersonal skills, so as to work effectively with partners across the four partner countries; 2) Excellent quantitative skills; 3) Experience in experimental design. In addition, experience with qualitative research methods would be desirable. Candidates must be willing and able to travel to Southeast Asia for workshops and research visits, as well as being willing to organize early morning online meetings with in-region partners from time to time. Candidates from a variety of academic backgrounds (including psychology & economics) are strongly encouraged to apply.

By completing a PhD in UCL's Department of Experimental Psychology, you will be joining a vibrant and exciting research community. In addition to regular supervisory meetings, there are a variety of inter-lab group meetings, seminars, social, and training opportunities available. The successful candidate will be expected to regularly participate in in-person meetings at UCL.

Any questions pertaining to the role should be directed to Prof. Adam Harris (adam.harris@ucl.ac.uk) in the first instance.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential or Desirable
Qualifications, experience and knowledge	
1 st class or upper second class degree in relevant subject	E
Experience with experimental design and quantitative data analysis	E
Master's degree in relevant discipline	D
Experience working with qualitative methods	D
Skills and abilities	
Ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing, with students, academic and professional staff at all levels	E
Ability to be flexible and to respond to changing priorities in a busy environment	E
Excellent quantitative skills	E
Ability to work independently for short periods and as part of a team, recognising when advice / input needs to be sought	E
A high level of accuracy and a keen attention to detail	E
Ability to work collaboratively in an interdisciplinary and international context	E
Personal attributes	
Commitment to academic research	E
A strong interest in working on topics related to weather risk and disaster risk reduction	E
Excellent people skills and the ability to build good relationships with colleagues and external partners	E
Willingness to travel domestically and internationally	E
Willingness to host online meetings at times to suit collaborators in different time zones (no earlier than 7 am, and more usually 8 or 9 am).	E
Able to actively follow and promote UCL policies, including Equal Opportunities and Safety;	E

How to apply

Informal enquiries, if you have something to ask, may be addressed to Prof. Adam Harris (adam.harris@ucl.ac.uk).

To apply, please contact Antonietta Esposito (a.esposito@ucl.ac.uk) directly with the following:

- A CV
- A covering letter (no more than two pages) clearly outlining how you fulfil the requirements of the studentship, and why you are interested in it.
- 2 academic references (please include written pdf references with your application).