

# Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentships in Japanese Studies

## Application deadline: 28 February 2019

As part of the five-year programme designed to support the study of Japan in the UK at postgraduate level which the Nippon Foundation and the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation re-launched in 2018, East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds invites applications from suitably qualified candidates who wish to pursue a MA (taught or by research) or a PhD in Japanese Studies starting October 2019.

The studentships are open to students of any nationality. Non-UK nationals applying for Masters studentships are eligible only if they are settled in the UK or have been ordinarily resident for at least three years immediately preceding the start of their Masters course. This **does not** apply to PhD studentship candidates.

The Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentships are worth £10,000 and they are tenable for one year only; it is possible, however, to reapply the following year up to a maximum of three years (for those studying for a PhD) or four years (for students pursuing MA and then PhD). The studentships can be held together with other partial funding, but not with a full scholarship (fees and maintenance) by other UK or international funding bodies. Any aspect of Japanese studies will be considered. If the nominated candidate(s) is pursuing a Masters degree, it must be either in the area of Japanese studies or in a discipline subject where the primary focus is on Japan. In the latter case, the major coursework/modules will be on Japan and nominated candidates will be planning to write their final masters thesis on Japan.

In the case of a PhD, it is expected that the candidates' dissertations will focus on Japan. Prior knowledge of the Japanese language is not a condition.

Applicants wishing to be considered for these studentships should apply for a place to study (MA or PhD) at the University of Leeds no later than **28 February 2019**. They should note on the application form that they are applying for the Sasakawa Japanese Studies Postgraduate Studentship. Prospective applicants need to provide a **personal statement** and a **detailed CV by the same deadline**. The personal statement should be written in Arial point 11, single- spaced, and should not exceed two pages of A4.

Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their applications **early to mid-May 2019**.

Applicants should include the following:

- reasons for application: please suggest reasons why you are a suitable candidate for the studentships;
- extent of funding from other sources: the funding/scholarships you are in competition for, or have secured already;
- research to be undertaken: research interests, extent to which the research is Japan-related, anticipated dissertation title and a 300 word research proposal (for students already enrolled in a PhD course, a progress report on your project);
- future academic or career plans;
- any other relevant information in support of your application.

Please e-mail your personal statement and CV to **Dr Irena Hayter** ([i.hayter@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:i.hayter@leeds.ac.uk)) by **28 February 2019**.

Information about the MA/MRes/ programmes in East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds and instructions how to apply are available here:

<https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/east-asian-studies-2>

For the MAR and PhD, we strongly advise you to contact a prospective supervisor and discuss your application with them before submitting it.

<https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/languages-research-degrees>