

PHD SCHOLARSHIP IN CLIMATE CHANGE ECOLOGY AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

Project: European birds as a model system for predicting epidemiology of epizootic disease

Supervisor: Prof Ian Owens, Department of Life Sciences

The Grantham Institute for Climate Change at Imperial College London is funding a series of PhD studentships in climate-related research ranging from understanding the likelihood of sudden, catastrophic climate events to the impact on disease within ecosystems. One of these studentships is to test the effect that changes in migration routes may have on the spread of disease, using European birds as a model system. The student will make extensive use of GIS databases and analyses and will be mainly based in the Ecology and Evolution Group at Imperial College's Silwood Park Campus, which is approximately 20 miles South West of London, but would also have strong links to other research groups interested in climate change and disease. Silwood Park has a very strong reputation for research in ecology and evolution and is home to a large group of researchers, including approximately 200 postgraduate students.

The specific aims of the project will be to:

1. Digitally map the migratory routes of European birds.
2. Construct environmental models of migratory distributions.
3. Use climate models to predict changes in migratory routes.
4. Predict the effect of climate change on bird-borne disease.

The project would suit either a biologist interested in the effects of climate change or a physical scientist wishing to move into the climate impacts research area. Links to the relevant climate expertise are available through the Grantham Institute.

Applications and further information

Applications for PhDs at Imperial College must be completed online (see link below). Once you have submitted your application, please email the Grantham Institute directly (granthamphd@imperial.ac.uk) so that we can process your application. For further information please see the following websites or contact the Campus Administrator at Silwood Park, Mrs Diana Anderson (d.anderson@imperial.ac.uk).

Imperial College application process:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/pgprospectus/howtoapply/applicationforms>

Grantham Institute:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/climatechange>

Ecology and Evolution Group at Silwood Park:

<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/biology/research/ecologyandevolution>