

The Ferry Postgraduate Philosophy Scholarship

This scholarship is governed by the Regulations for Ad-Hoc Scholarships except as set out in the conditions that follow.

Mr David Ferry has donated funds for a supplementary scholarship to be held in conjunction with an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA), a University Postgraduate Award (UPA) or equivalent postgraduate research scholarship recognised by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The scholarship is administered in accordance with the following conditions.

Title

1. The scholarship is called the Ferry Postgraduate Philosophy Scholarship.

Purpose

2. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage and assist a meritorious graduate to undertake PhD research in the field of 'Hard Determinism'¹ in the Discipline of Philosophy at The University of Western Australia (the University).

Value

3. The annual value of the scholarship is equivalent to half the stipend of the APA or UPA for each year of study for which the scholarship is awarded.

Eligibility Requirements

4. (1) To be eligible to apply for the scholarship an applicant must -
(a) be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia;
(b) be a graduate of a recognised University;
(c) be eligible to enrol or be enrolled in a PhD degree; and
(d) intend to pursue research into the consequences of 'Hard Determinism' in the discipline of Philosophy within the School of Humanities in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University.
(2) To be eligible to take up the scholarship the student must be enrolled in a PhD and pursue research in Hard Determinism in the discipline of Philosophy within the School of Humanities in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University.

Body responsible for Selection

5. The selection committee for the scholarship comprises –
(a) the Chair of the Discipline Group of Philosophy, as Chair;
(b) two members of the Discipline Group of Philosophy nominated by the Chair of the Discipline Group;
(c) the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences or nominee; and
(d) the Head of the School of Humanities or nominee.

¹ Hard Determinism is the combination of two theses, determinism and incompatibilism. Determinism is the view that every event is determined by prior events and the laws of nature. Incompatibilism is the view that determinism is incompatible with the existence of free-will. The funding for this scholarship is for research into the consequences of hard determinism. *More specifically, the research funded will in some way address the question of how we should, or must, adjust our conception of the world and ourselves if we accept hard determinism.*

The idea that we are beings with the freedom to make and implement certain choices is central to our conception of ourselves. It is central to our conception of ourselves as beings that are rightly held morally responsible for actions and central even to our conception of ourselves as agents at all. How, then, would our conception of ourselves and our social relations need to be changed if hard determinism were true?

Some obvious areas of philosophical investigation for which hard determinism might be expected to have serious consequences are moral philosophy, political philosophy, theories of practical reason and moral psychology. Hard determinism also seems to have consequences for theories of the self, the philosophy of mind, and the philosophy of action. Other potential consequences of hard determinism may lie in epistemology and the philosophy of religion.

Applicants for the scholarship should provide a research proposal of no more than 1000 words. Proposals must be for research into the consequences of hard determinism, and proposals for research in any of the areas mentioned above are particularly welcome.

Selection Criteria

6. (1) The scholarship is awarded by the selection committee to the applicant who, in its opinion, best demonstrates through their application and supporting documentation -

- (a)** academic excellence as evidenced by their academic records;
- (b)** evidence of strong research capability; and
- (c)** their interest in research into the consequences of 'Hard Determinism'

Selection Process

7. (1) Selection of the recipient is made by the selection committee having regard to the applicants' academic records, completed application form and referee reports.

(2) The selection committee may interview short-listed applicants.

Awarding Body

8. The scholarship is awarded by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, on the recommendation of the selection committee.

Duration of Award

9.(1) Subject to 11, the period of tenure is up to three years full-time or equivalent part-time.

(2) The University may approve an extension of up to six months where the award holder formally applies for an extension and the University is satisfied that the grounds for extension are related to their research and beyond the control of the award holder.

(3) Periods of study undertaken towards the degree prior to commencement of the award or undertaken during suspension of the award are deducted from the maximum period of tenure.

Method of Payment

10. The scholarship is paid in fortnightly instalments.

Criteria for Continuation of Scholarship

11. Continuation of the scholarship from year to year is subject to the recipient—

(a) maintaining continuous enrolment at the University as a full-time student, unless otherwise recommended by the selection committee and approved by the Head of the School of Humanities and the Board of the Graduate Research School; and

(b) submitting, through their supervisor and the Head of the School of Humanities, a satisfactory Annual Progress Report to the Board of the Graduate Research School.

Concurrent Awards

12. The scholarship may be held concurrently with other scholarships, providing that the conditions of the other scholarship so permit.

Application Procedure

13. (1) Applicants must submit an online application in the main round of applications for Australian/University Postgraduate Awards by the advertised closing date.

(2) Applicants must simultaneously submit a letter of application directly to the Chair of the Discipline Group of Philosophy with a 1000 word outline of the proposed research project.

Administering Body

14. The scholarship is administered by the Scholarships Office.

Publications

15. Any thesis, dissertation or other publication resulting from research undertaken by the recipient while in receipt of the Ferry Postgraduate Philosophy Scholarship must acknowledge the support of the scholarship and carry the University by-line.

Intellectual Property

16. Intellectual property is governed by the University's Intellectual Property policy available on the University's web site.