

**ESRC White Rose DTC Network Studentships**

Session 2012-2013 - Closing Date – 17 February 2012

Further information on the application procedure can be found at: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/rsa/postgraduate_scholarships/esrc-info

Project Title	Policing Social Disorder and Urban Unrest			
Network	<u>Beyond the Riots: Sustainable Social Order, Urban Governance and Disorderly Elites</u>			
Principal Supervisor	<i>Name</i>	Professor Adam Crawford	<i>School University</i>	Law Leeds
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Project Description

In the context of an economic downturn, austerity measures, growing social inequalities and a crisis in authority, recent events in England have highlighted the importance and challenges facing the policing of urban unrest. These include domestic and in some instances transnational forms of political mobilisation, as well as 'riots' across England in 2001 and 2011. These events point to the challenges of maintaining security and reducing disorder in unequal societies, whilst also protecting justice and citizens' rights to assembly and free speech. These events can also be understood in the light of the history and organisation of the police, including developments in technology which permit enhanced surveillance of citizens and new ways of using force (e.g. tasers), as well as the deployment of new crime control techniques (e.g. 'kettling'). Policing some forms of protest, in particular those taking place on private property (e.g. airports) implicate a range of diverse actors within and beyond the public police, including local authorities, private businesses and voluntary sector organisations. It is also increasingly acknowledged that regulation is more likely to foster compliance and be deemed legitimate by the policed where it is responsive to the conditions in which policing arises and the capacities of the policed for self-regulation, and involves cooperation/coproduction.

Objectives

1. To assess and conceptualise the key varieties of urban unrest in England and Wales and/or one other jurisdiction and their sources in terms of structural and organisational processes.
2. To explore and conceptualise the key varieties of police responses to urban unrest in England and Wales and analyse the extent to which they prevent or provoke future conflict, are deemed legitimate and foster behavioural compliance on the part of the policed.
3. To critically examine and compare contrasting styles of policing responses to unrest within and possibly beyond England and Wales (i.e. drawing comparisons with other jurisdictions).
4. To relate the policing of social order and urban unrest to the theme of building sustainable security in contemporary societies in ways that support justice, fairness and equality.

Research questions include: Why did some cities remain immune to the urban unrest in August 2011, even those with a recent history of rioting? What is the role of the police, if any, in contributing to this stability and what other factors were at work? What methods and strategies are used in the prevention and policing of urban unrest and social disorder and what roles are played by diverse (formal/informal) policing agents?

Entry Requirements

An undergraduate degree at the level of at least 2(1) honours.
An appropriate social sciences Masters (either completed or to be completed before the studentship commences)

All candidates are required to set out in their application a proposed research outline which engages with the research themes and questions highlighted in the project description and advances the wider aims of the network.

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Bibliography/References

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