



School of Computing, Engineering, and the Built Environment Edinburgh Napier University

PHD STUDENT PROJECT

Funding and application details

Funding status: Self funded students only

Application instructions:

Detailed instructions are available at <https://blogs.napier.ac.uk/scebe-research/available-phd-student-projects/>

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Director of Studies (see details below) to discuss the project and their suitability for it.

Project details

Supervisory Team:

- DIRECTOR OF STUDY: Dr Cletus Moobela (Email: C.Moobela@napier.ac.uk)
- 2ND SUPERVISOR: Dr Temidayo Osunsanmi

Subject Group: Built environment

Research Areas: Built Environment, Urban Planning, Econometrics

Project Title: Spatial Housing Market Spillovers in the UK

Project description:

The housing market is undoubtedly an important contributor to both the UK economy and people's quality of life and well-being. Changes in house prices can affect many stakeholders in the market, including homeowners. However, the dynamics of housing markets can be difficult to predict, which hampers effective decision making. One of the contributing factors to the complexities of housing markets comes from spatial spillovers, i.e., the extent to which particular housing markets are affected by the dynamics in housing markets of another region or spatial location. Mapping and quantifying the importance of these spatial housing market spillovers as well as the effects of selected event shocks on house prices should reveal important causal factors that would aid decision-makers and

practitioners in terms of devising interventionist mechanisms. Spillovers in housing markets have been researched elsewhere (US, Australia, etc.) but not quite so in the UK housing markets, and none of the previous studies have used spatial mapping tools.

Research proposals are invited that will focus on regional / spatial housing market spillovers in the UK. It is expected that study will be aided by the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) software tools, such as Maptitude, to provide visual and quantitative analyses of historic house prices in selected regions. The study is expected to not only extend knowledge boundaries but equally be of practical benefit to a diversity of stakeholders, including policymakers, regulators, and practitioners. With such knowledge resources, policymakers / regulators could control the long-term influencing factors in the UK housing markets. Equally, planning authorities could devise and discern predictive patterns of land use in their decision-making with regard to housing markets.

References:

Candidate characteristics

Education:

A first-class honours degree, or a distinction at master level, or equivalent achievements in A built environment related subject, including geography, urban planning, real estate, urban studies, among others.

Subject knowledge:

- Housing markets

Essential attributes:

- Ability to conduct independent research.
- Good analytical skills.
- Good problem-solving skills.
- Knowledge of research methods and tools.
- Good written and oral communication skills.

Desirable attributes:

- Appreciation of GIS and / or other mapping tools