



THE OLYMPIC
> STUDIES
CENTRE

PhD Students and Early Career Academics Research Grant Programme

Objectives, rules and guidelines
2021 Award

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The Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) organises an annual grant programme intended for PhD Students and Early Career Academics engaged in scholarly research on the Olympic Movement, its history and ideals, and the impact of the Olympic Games on the various aspects of contemporary society and culture.

1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the programme are as follows:

- Encourage PhD Students and Early Career Academics in their research with a humanities or social sciences perspective on any aspect of the Olympic phenomenon. All projects dealing with the Olympic Movement and/or the Olympic Games will be considered.
- Promote the consultation of the IOC's patrimony by facilitating access to the historical archives, library collections and image archives.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The following researchers are eligible to apply:

- [Postgraduate students enrolled in a PhD degree programme.](#)

Applicants should be preparing a PhD thesis in one or more disciplines within humanities and social sciences perspectives (e.g. anthropology; arts; communications; economics / management; history; law; linguistics; pedagogy; philosophy; political sciences; sociology; and sport, urban, cultural, religious/faith-based or literature studies) and have Olympism, the Olympic Movement or the Olympic Games as one of the research topics. Applications within natural sciences perspectives (e.g. biomechanics, physiology, medicine, neurosciences,...) fall outside the scope of this programme.

It is expected that candidates will submit an application only after the theoretical framework, methodology and literature review relevant to their thesis are already clearly defined.

- [Early career academics](#)

Included in this group are academic staff members and postdoctoral fellows who have completed their doctorate or equivalent terminal degree (including masters, depending on the field) in the past three years (counting from the degree completion year).

Other eligibility criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

- Applicants must be fluent in either French or English.
- Applicants may submit their candidature with the same research subject on only two occasions. However, on the second occasion, they must clearly explain how it has improved and differs from the first proposal.

Previous OSC grant holders are not eligible to apply.

These eligibility criteria will be strictly applied.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted in either French or English, the two official languages of the Olympic Movement.

Completed application files must include the following documents:

- The **official application form** duly completed. The form is available through the [OSC website](#) or from the OSC [upon written request](#). Please note that [instructions for completing the Research Grant Programmes application forms](#) are available on our website.
- **Official proof of registration** as a university doctoral student from the administration of the university (for PhD students) or **an official and actual recognition of employment** (for early career academics) including the academic/research status validated by the applicant's university on the institutional letterhead (*Appendix 1*).
- A **letter of recommendation** written on institutional letterhead, signed, and sent (via the [OSC portal](#) only) by the **applicant's supervisor** (for PhD students) **or referee** (for early career academics). The Selection Committee is particularly interested in the supervisor/referee's assessment of the following points: the scholarly significance of the research project; the methodology and original nature of the study; the impact of the project on the Olympic Movement; the candidate's training, abilities, achievements to date and motivation for the research proposed; and the likelihood that the applicant will complete the project on time.
- If the applicant's research proposal involves interviews, surveys or any other methodologies that involve human subjects, a **certificate stating that the project has been reviewed and approved by the university's ethics committee** (*Appendix 2*).

The deadline for submitting applications, including the appendices and the recommendation letter (which may only be sent via the [OSC portal](#)), is **25 September 2020**.

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that the recommendation letter is received by the OSC on time.

After the deadline, incomplete or new applications will not be accepted. A candidature acceptance confirmation email will be sent at the latest one week after the application is received.

4. GRANT AWARDS

Successful applicants will receive a research grant of a maximum of USD 6,000. The total amount to be awarded will be decided by the Grant Programme Selection Committee after having analysed all the elements of the application.

- **Expenses covered:**

Research expenses directly related and essential to the project as follows:

- National travel (economy class) and living expenses when outside the applicant's place of residence.
- International travel expenses only if linked to the project and clearly justified and/or for those who need to come to consult the OSC's collections in Lausanne.
- Translation costs for relevant research materials.
- Other relevant research expenditure.

Research assistance and transcription costs will normally not be covered, unless sound justification is provided.

Expenses related to the dissemination of the applicants' research results (e.g. open access publication, participation at conferences) are accepted but must not exceed 50 per cent of the total budget identified in the proposal, with an upper limit of USD 1,000.

- **Expenses not covered:**

- Salary and/or fringe benefits, including insurance.
- Tuition and study fees.
- Institutional overheads or institutional support.
- Expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the grant.
- Purchase of technological material (laptop, camera, etc.).

The grant will be awarded to successful applicants according to the following schedule: one half when awarded, one quarter after a mid-term progress report has been submitted and one quarter on receipt of the final research report. This schedule may be adapted on an exceptional basis if most of the expenditure related to the research is planned during the first six months of the project.

5. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The Grant Programme Selection Committee is composed of experts who are world-renowned for their involvement in Olympic studies and of OSC representatives. Decisions are based upon the quality of the application file, the significance and originality of the proposed research, the feasibility of the project and the candidate's ability to carry out the research satisfactorily.

The same criteria will be taken into consideration by the OSC to determine the maximum number of grants available each year.

Applicants will be notified of **the results of their application by the end of December 2020**. For those selected applicants who have requested to consult the OSC collections, the Centre will schedule their research visits between February and December 2021 in consultation with them.

6. PUBLICATIONS AND COMMITMENTS

All grants are conditional upon the signature of the "Research Project Agreement" ("The Agreement") by the successful applicant. The Agreement describes the terms and conditions of the collaboration between The Olympic Studies Centre and the grant holder (and his/her university in the case of Early Career Academics' applications).

All applicants are requested to read the Agreement before submitting an application. In the event of Early Career Academics' application, the candidate must, additionally, inform his/her university about its terms before submitting the application.

- The Agreement between a PhD Student grant holder and The Olympic Studies Centre is available [here](#).
- The Agreement between the University of the Early Career Academic grant holder and The Olympic Studies Centre is available [here](#).

Grant holders undertake to provide the OSC with the following documents (electronic version), in either French or English:

- A **progress report six months after notification of the award**, describing the development of the project (2,000 words maximum) and giving a general overview of the expenses incurred thus far.

- **A final research report before 31 December 2021.** The final report, which may be used by the OSC for publication, will consist of two documents with the following content:
 - **First document:**
 - An abstract (200 words maximum) and a list of key words;
 - An executive summary of the project research results;
 - A 30-50-page (12,000-20,000 words) report including the research subject and objectives; the academic significance of the project; the methodology applied; the key information sources consulted for the project; and the results and conclusions of the research project;
 - The annexes, including any additional information of interest for the project.
 - **Second document:**
 - A financial accounting report for all funds provided by the OSC. This last part must be sent in a separate document (template to be provided by the OSC).

Grant holders will undertake to publish/disseminate their research results within the academic world. They will undertake to ensure that all subsequent publications or productions, using all or part of the results obtained under the auspices of the research grant, will appropriately acknowledge the IOC Olympic Studies Centre and the PhD Students and Early Career Academics Research Grant Programme. In addition, they will share with the OSC any such publications or productions.

7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the 2020 PhD Students Research Grant Programme, the Selection Committee received 41 candidatures and awarded 6 grants. The Selection Committee was composed of OSC representatives, as well as the following experts: Marion KEIM LEES (University of the Western Cape, South Africa), Sigmund LOLAND (Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Norway), Hisashi SANADA (Tsukuba University, Japan), Ana Maria MIRAGAYA (Universidade Estácio de Sá, Brazil), Benoît SEGUIN (University of Ottawa, Canada), Tracy TAYLOR (Victoria University, Australia) and Thierry ZINTZ (Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium).

AWARDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

The full list of research projects funded by The Olympic Studies Centre since the creation of its grant programmes in 1999 is available [here](#). It is organised by theme and with links to the full text versions online when available.

SECRETARIAT

For any additional information concerning the PhD Students and Early Career Academics Research Grant Programme, please contact the OSC [via email](#) or phone (+41 21 621 6611).

To find out more about the activities and collections of **The Olympic Studies Centre**, please consult [our website](#).