



**ESRC DTC Collaborative Studentship:
Warwick Business School and Alliance Best Practice Ltd**

The Strategy and International Business Group, in collaboration with [Alliance Best Practice Ltd](#) are delighted to announce a fully funded PhD bursary under the [ESRC collaborative studentship programme](#).

The ESRC Doctoral Training Centre at the University of Warwick, one of 21 such centres in the UK, embodies the university's commitment to producing the next generation of leaders in social science research. It is internationally renowned for its research excellence. Our ESRC studentships cover fees and maintenance stipend and extensive support for research training, as well as research activity support grants. It is available only to applicants who meet the ESRC's residency requirements, details of which can be viewed at: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/esrcdtc/studywithus/eligibility/

The project

Supervised by Professors [Nigel Driffield](#) and [Keith Glaister](#), as well as Mike Nevin of Alliance Best Practice Limited, this represents an outstanding opportunity to carry out research in the area of strategic alliances, evaluating the success factors in strategic alliances, and the barriers to continued success.

This project has been designed as a genuine collaboration, the student will be encouraged to spend time at Alliance Best Practice, and with their clients, as well as being given access to a unique database of over 600 firms, which includes data on the factors promoting the success or otherwise of their alliances.

This project would therefore suit someone who wishes to develop a career in academia, or the private sector. The data will facilitate a number of alternative research methodologies, both qualitative and quantitative, and the unique data set offers the opportunity for the academic research to be published in high quality journals, as well as leading to a doctorate of the highest standard.

The ideal candidate

The position is open to anyone who fulfils the [eligibility requirements for ESRC funding](#), with a background in business, management or a related discipline such as Economics. It would be particularly suited to someone with an interest in International Business, and an interest in quantitative work would be an advantage.

Application process

Applications must be made online by **2nd May 2016 at the latest**. The online application form can be accessed at: <http://go.warwick.ac.uk/pgapply>

Candidates are invited to set out a short proposal (2 pages) that addresses the proposed research topic, framed by relevant literature, and with an outline of the proposed research design and its potential

practical and theoretical contribution. A full proposal will be shaped further with direction and guidance from the supervisors once the successful candidate joins the programme.

Please state clearly on the form that you are applying for this project and under the section 'Finance: How would you finance yourself at Warwick?' please select 'Studentship' and quote: '**ESRC DTC Collaborative Studentship: Alliance Best Practice**' under Name of Award, and also email Professor Nigel Driffield (Nigel.driffield@wbs.ac.uk) to let him know that you have applied so we can identify your application.

For further information on the research project please contact Professor Driffield or Professor Glaister.

For queries relating to the Doctoral Programme application procedure, please contact:
phdadmissions@wbs.ac.uk

For applicants who already have applied for entrance to the WBS Doctoral Programme:

If you already hold an offer of a place at WBS, please email phdadmissions@wbs.ac.uk, by **2nd May** at the latest, to let us know that you wish to be considered for this studentship.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview at a date to be confirmed.