**PhD Research Scholarship Opportunity at National University of Singapore**

**Family Dynamics in the Development and Maintenance of Behavioural Addiction**

With an ideal start date of August, 2017, **ONE** Research Scholarship (RS) is available at the National University of Singapore (NUS) for prospective PhD students interested in completing research on Family Dynamics in Behavioural Addiction. Successful applicants will complete their degree in the Department of Psychology. The deadline for receipt of the application package is **31 March 2017**.

The RS details can be found [here](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/research/scholarship/sch-rsh.html). The end-date of the RS award will be the fourth year of study and it will cover tuition fees and provide a monthly stipend. The scholarship is targeted for applicants who have training and skills in the following areas and will continue to focus on these topics in their PhD programmes:

* an NUS Honours degree (at least Distinction/Second Class Upper Division) or equivalent (e.g., a four-year Bachelors degree with an average grade above B) in psychology and an interest in developmental, social, and health psychology
* a good command of qualitative and quantitative statistical skills

The PhD thesis work should be an independent project which fits broadly into the overall research project on “**Family Dynamics in the Development and Maintenance of Behavioural Addiction in Singapore Youth**” (Principal Investigator: Prof Catherine Tang, Department of Psychology, Centre for Family and Population Research)

Behavioural addiction refers to an excessive and pathological involvement in activities that expose the individuals to mood altering stimuli in order to produce pleasure and relieve pain. It incorporates the “classic” addiction symptoms similar to alcohol and drug addiction, and is associated with various adverse physical and mental conditions. This study will adopt a family-based approach to guide the understanding of the associations between family dynamics in the development and maintenance of various types of behavioural addiction in Singapore youth.

**Department of Psychology and the Centre for Family & Population Research**

The [NUS Psychology](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/psy/index.html) programme was first introduced during the 1986-87 academic year and is the oldest psychology programme in Singapore. Since its inception, the psychology programme has attracted a strong response from students in the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences at NUS. At present, the Department of Psychology has 33 full-time and 14 adjunct teaching staff. The Department offers a full undergraduate programme, including an honours course, as well as Masters and Ph.D. programmes. All major areas of psychology are taught and researched.

Department of Psychology: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/psy/>

The [NUS Centre for Family and Population Research](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/cfpr/index.html) was established in April, 2014 as a Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences research centre. It is dedicated to the scientific advancement of research and training to understand the trends, determinants, and consequences of family and population changes, particularly in Asia. The Centre aims to bridge basic academic research with public policies that affect family’s well-being. The Centre’s research adopts a multi-disciplinary, life course, and international comparative approach.

Centre for Family & Population Research: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/cfpr/index.html>

**Application Procedure**

Graduate research students in the Department of Psychology follow a semi-structured programme that involves a taught component in the first one to two years of registration. The programme allows a PhD student to acquire and develop to a high standard both subject-specific and transferable skills, thus enabling a student to access a broad range of future employment opportunities – in business, industry, consultancy, education, research etc.

Applicants must be university graduates with at least an upper second class honours degree or equivalent and at the time of the RS award. Applications from candidates who also already hold a graduate degree (e.g. Masters) are particularly welcome. There is no restriction on the nationality of applicants.

Applications should be submitted using the attached application form latest **by 31 March 2017** to:

Attention: The Administrator (Graduate RSH Studies)  
**Department of Psychology**Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences   
National University of Singapore   
#02-07, Block AS4, 9 Arts Link   
Singapore 117570



All applicants must write separately to the PI (Prof Catherine Tang: tang.catherine@nus.edu.sg) to indicate an interest in the project **by 31 March 2017**.