University of Edinburgh – University of Leiden Joint Funded PhD Studentships

Requirements for the research proposal:

The research proposal should be no more than 2,000 words (excluding references). It must include the following sections:

1) Overview: a general introduction to your research topic and explanation of its significance. This should include the aims and the research question(s) to be addressed.

2) Context: situate the research within relevant academic literature(s). This should demonstrate knowledge of existing research in the proposed field of study, and explain how your project relates to it. For example, does your project seek to build on existing scholarship, challenge it, or fill a gap? You should also discuss theoretical issues relevant to your research. For example, what theoretical debates does your research relate to? Which theories will you seek to apply, test or critique in your research?

3) Methodology: provide a detailed account of the methodology that will be used to address your research questions, your sources of data, and an explanation for why these methods are most appropriate for the task.

4) The research proposal should furthermore indicate how the research topic is relating to one or more Collaborative Research Groups of the ASCL. ([https://www.ascleiden.nl/content/collaborative-research-groups](https://www.ascleiden.nl/content/collaborative-research-groups))

Applicants should bear in mind that their proposals will also be evaluated in terms of clarity and presentation, leaving time for proof reading and ensuring that referencing is done to a high academic standard before submitting is strongly recommended.