



CANDIDATE SPECIFICATION

Successful projects will be advertised on the Northern Bridge Consortium website to aid recruitment:
<http://www.northernbridge.ac.uk/applyforstudentship/cda/>

Please therefore complete the following Candidate Specification so that advertising can begin as soon as possible following the outcome of the competition:

For further information about this Collaborative Doctoral Award and to submit an application, please contact:

Lead Supervisor (or Alternative Contact):

Dr Francesca Vella

Email:

francesca.vella@northumbria.ac.uk

Applications must be received no later than:

14 February 2025

Applications must take the following format:

Please contact Dr Francesca Vella (francesca.vella@northumbria.ac.uk) to discuss the project at an early stage, and to seek advice on how to submit your application.

To apply, you must complete Northumbria's online [postgraduate application form](#) by the closing date of **14 February 2025**. On the form, under 'Studentship / Partnership Reference' and 'Who is your sponsor / funding body?', please include the code **NBC25/Vella**.

When completing the application form, please include the following:

- 500-word personal statement outlining your academic and/or professional experience, and describing how this has prepared you to undertake this project
- 750-word research proposal based on the advertised project, setting out both what attracts you to it and what your proposed approach to the research will be
- 2-page CV
- contact details of 2 referees
- copy of degree certificates and transcripts of marks (for any completed degrees/qualifications)

If you are invited to an interview, the lead supervisor may ask you to submit additional materials (e.g., a writing sample).

Please note that overseas applicants whose first language is not English will also need to meet [Northumbria University's English Language Requirements](#) in order to take up this position. If you already hold an accepted English language qualification, please submit it together with the application form.

NB: This award **must** be taken up in October 2025 (no deferrals are possible).

Interviews for shortlisted candidates are expected to take place:

w/c 3 March 2025

CANDIDATE CRITERIA

Candidates must also meet the criteria for acceptance on a doctoral programme as set out by the host institution's Postgraduate Admissions Service. The successful candidate will be required to submit a postgraduate application to their host institution following notification that they are to be awarded a conditional CDA studentship, and meet the conditions of the offer of a place on the doctoral programme.

Education and Professional Qualifications	Essential Criteria	Meets Northumbria University's PhD entry requirements. Degree in Music OR equivalent professional experience.
	Desirable Criteria	n/a
Research and Impact Experience and Training	Essential Criteria	Strong project proposal. Willingness to engage with academic and non-academic audiences.
	Desirable Criteria	Experience in conducting historical/archival research in Music. Experience of working with non-academic organisations for the purposes of research/impact.
Professional Practice and Job-related Experience	Essential Criteria	Excellent oral and written communication skills in English. Excellent organisational and time management skills, with the ability to prioritise workload and work to deadlines.
	Desirable Criteria	Some experience or demonstrable interest in opera. Some experience as a performer.
Interpersonal Skills	Essential Criteria	Ability to work independently as well as part of a team.
	Desirable Criteria	n/a
Other Factors	Essential Criteria	Willingness to undertake DBS checks to allow working with children if any school workshops are organised as part of the project.
	Desirable Criteria	n/a