PHD APPLICATION SERVICE

ELEMENT EIGHT

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

The reason that I am interested in regional inequality is driven by my studies on economics and professional experience in the field of levelling-up policies. My goal is to make a research contribution to both the policy and the academic discourse.

Academic Background

My MSc dissertation at Manchester was on analysing productivity gaps in post-industrial England with the use of spatial econometrics, with an analysis of ONS data. Work on this project has led to my entrenchment in interest in place-based disparities and the acquisition of elevated quantitative skills.

Professional Experience

I was working at the Institute for Regional Futures, where I assessed the regional policies and co-authored reports of the UK government. This stint taught me to process complicated research into practical recommendations, which I will be taking to my PhD.

Research Proposal

The research question I am asking in my PhD is on exploring the reasons behind the inability to reduce regional inequality despite policy measures that are taken by mixing econometrics and case studies. I hope to bring to the levelling-up agenda empirical research and lessons related to policy.

So why a PhD?

I am interested in a program that appreciates interdisciplinary research and policy interaction, including the programs provided by ESRC DTPs. I aspire to an academic-policy profession that links research and practice.