Vice-Chancellor’s PhD Scholarships

**Afropolitan London: Worlding Blackness and Diasporic Urban Imaginaries**

## School of Art, Architecture and Design

What might London’s future learn from the expression and experience of African metropolitan life? The successful candidate will draw upon the curatorial theme of the 2023 Venice Biennale to read Africa as a ‘laboratory of the future’, exploring intercultural cosmopolitanism and subjectivity in relation to creative placemaking in London. Emergent forms of Black and diasporic identity will be examined through the critical lens of Afropolitanism.

A multi-dimensional approach will be deployed to consider relationships between city spaces and emotional geographies of belonging. Afropolitan tendencies in art, architecture and design will be investigated in case studies that range in scale from domestic environments to shared settings for collective life. The project entails visiting several African cities and collaborating with London’s Africa Centre. It will encourage the adoption of design-based, visual arts, or architectural practice research methods to spatialise urban imaginaries, charting new pathways towards ‘worlding’ the city yet to come.

For further information or to arrange an informal conversation about applying, please contact Prof. Matthew Barac: [m.barac@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:m.barac@londonmet.ac.uk)