



Academia, Translated

Academia, Translated is proud to sponsor

The Open Door Scholarship

One fully funded Full thesis review and mock viva, awarded each year to a first-generation doctoral scholar preparing to defend their thesis at a UK institution.

1

place awarded per year

1 May

fixed annual deadline

£1,170

award value, fully funded

My paid services are open to every scholar, regardless of background. The Open Door Scholarship is different: it's reserved specifically for first-generation scholars, because that's where one fully funded place a year can make the most meaningful difference.

“This scholarship exists because I was one of them. My own studies were only possible because someone, somewhere, funded a place for me. You're always going to be a little nervous hitting submit on your thesis and walking into your viva, but you can walk in with clarity, confidence, and preparation that's been properly crafted.”

It's my way of making sure that's true for scholars who need it most, even when they can't pay for it themselves.

Overview & purpose

Each award is one Full thesis review and one Mock viva, the same services offered individually under Clarity and Confidence, fully funded, at no cost to the scholar. It runs in two rounds: round 1 is the thesis review and its written report, and round 2 is the mock viva and its written report. Eligible applications are shortlisted, and shortlisted candidates are invited to a short virtual interview before a final decision is made.

How the award is delivered

The Scholar and the First Laureate each receive a personalised certificate by email as a PDF, with the option to also receive a physical certificate by post.

The door held open

Only one place is awarded each year, but I don't want that to mean the story ends there for everyone else who applies. The First Laureate from each year's interview round is offered a 25% discount on any paid service, whatever stage of the process they're actually at, whether that's a chapter deep-dive now or post-viva corrections later, valid for 12 months after date of award.

Capacity & deadline

- Annual allocation: exactly 1 scholarship place awarded per calendar year
- Submission window: opens 1 February, closing 1 May, 23:59 British Summer Time

Shortlisted candidates are anticipated to be invited to interview by 1 June, with a view to the successful candidate beginning their support by 1 July.

Eligibility

- First-generation scholar: neither parent or guardian completed a university degree. This is the core eligibility requirement. The scholarship is open to first-generation applicants only
- Institution: actively enrolled as a doctoral candidate at a recognised UK higher education institution
- Timeline: actively preparing to submit or defend your PhD thesis within 6 months of the 1 May deadline

How to apply

Send an academic CV and a short cover letter (max. 500 words) covering:

- Your research focus and current UK institution
- Your anticipated thesis submission or defence timeline
- The context of any barriers or challenging circumstances you've faced

Applications open 1 February and close 1 May, 23:59 British Summer Time, each year. I aim to notify those selected for interview within 4 weeks of the closing date.

How to submit:

- Email your CV and cover letter as PDF attachments to academiaintranslated@protonmail.com
- Use the subject line: Open Door Scholarship Application, [Your Full Name]
- You'll receive a confirmation email within 3 working days. If you don't, please follow up, as it may not have arrived

What I weigh in selection

All eligible applicants are first-generation scholars, so selection isn't about narrowing by that alone. I'm looking for original, rigorous research, particularly where it's been achieved with limited institutional support, and a clear, confident command of your own research narrative. Alongside that, these factors count:

- State-educated background
- Low-income or financially disadvantaged background
- Refugee, asylum-seeking, or displaced status
- Significant caring or primary parent responsibilities
- Other serious personal, institutional, or socio-political constraints

You don't need to fit one of these categories to apply. They're additional context that strengthens an application, not a checklist you must tick.

How to stand out

- Be specific about your research. A precise, confident sentence on your contribution reads better than a broad summary of your field.
- Show you're actually at this stage. Applications from scholars close to their viva are easier to act on than very early-stage ones.
- Name your barriers plainly, briefly. One or two honest sentences do more than a long account.
- Keep to the word limit. A tight, well-edited 400-word letter stands out more than a rushed 500-word one.

Terms & conditions

Applying for, and accepting, this scholarship is subject to the full Terms & Conditions published at academiatrashed.co.uk/terms.html, including the scholarship-specific commitments set out there.

This document is correct as of September 2026. Figures and dates occasionally change. For the current version, always check academiatrashed.co.uk/scholarship.html

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