

## Project proposal template Graduate School studentships March 2015

<i>Project title</i>	Developing meaningful prevention, intervention and harm-reduction strategies for young people to assist with health-conscious decision about drugs		
<i>First Supervisor</i>	Professor <input type="text" value="▼"/>	<input type="text" value="Andrea Petroczi"/>	
<i>Second Supervisor</i>	<input type="text" value="Prof Declan Naughton"/>		
<i>School</i>	<input type="text" value="Life Sciences"/> <input type="text" value="▼"/>		
<i>Other member of supervisory team (no more than three KU supervisors in total)</i>	<input type="text" value="Glenn Taylor"/>		
<i>Specific requirements beyond 2:1 degree</i>	<input type="text" value="First class honours undergraduate degree in psychology/health psychology;"/> <input type="text" value="▲"/> <input type="text" value="Masters degree in cognate areas and demonstrated strength or experience in"/> <input type="text" value="▼"/>		

**Project summary  
(max 4,000 characters)**

Current drug trends show that the old dichotomy between a relatively small number of problematic drug users, and a larger number of recreational and experimental users is breaking down and being replaced by a more graduated and complex situation. The array of drugs used has expanded from the traditional triad of alcohol - tobacco - illegal drugs to include new emerging legal substances, appearance-enhancing supplements and substances (including anabolic steroids), cognitive enhancers, misuse of over-the-counter medications and excess consumption of highly caffeinated energy drinks. This project is planned as a follow-up study, building on our research which explores the patterns, motives and reasons of substance use among adolescents and young adults to provide a robust evidence base for targeted prevention, intervention and harm-reduction. The aim of this project is to develop and evaluate ecologically valid and acceptable ways to build resilience and empower adolescents and young adults to make health-conscious decisions about substance use.

