The University of Adelaide is seeking four Ph.D. students in the fields of mineralogy, geochemistry and isotope geoscience to work within the project 'Trace elements in iron oxides: deportment, distribution and application in ore genesis, geochronology, exploration and mineral processing'. This project is interdisciplinary research initiative hosted by the University of Adelaide (School of Chemical Engineering and the Institute of Mineral and Energy Resources) and features close collaboration with the minerals industry.

The primary goals of the project are to determine patterns of trace element distribution in iron-oxide-copper-gold, banded iron formation, and other Fe-oxide-bearing mineral systems in South Australia. All PhD projects will involve microanalysis on LA-ICP-MS, electron microprobe, FIB-SEM and TEM platforms as well as numerical modelling for data interpretation. One PhD project will specifically aim at fabricating an Fe-oxide standard for application of new U-Pb geochronometers, and will also involve SHRIMP and ID-TIMS work at external institutions.

Candidates will need to demonstrate motivation in the fields of research and show a commitment to working within a larger research team and to the publication and presentation of results. Applicants should have a strong background in earth science, chemistry or materials science, and skills to work in a World-class laboratory environment.

The successful applicants should be in a position to start their research in late 2015 or early 2016. The Adelaide Graduate Centre (http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/) can advise prospective candidates about postgraduate study at the University of Adelaide and the grade and language proficiency requirements for entry into the University of Adelaide graduate programme.

Although scholarships are available within the project, all prospective candidates will be expected to apply for competitive Australian and University postgraduate research scholarships. International students are encouraged to apply.

Information about applications for admission and scholarships including deadlines can be found online here. All persons wishing to apply for these postgraduate positions should apply online and include curriculum vitae, academic transcripts, contact details for at least two referees, and a statement of research interests (with publication list where applicable). The positions will remain open until filled.

Please contact Dr. Cristiana Ciobanu for further information about individual PhD projects, applicant suitability, terms and conditions (Cristiana.ciobanu@adelaide.edu.au; +61 (0)8 8313 1273).