The NIHSS has 5 Programmes which address a broad array of research themes. These are

i. The Catalytic Projects Research Programme - which aims to promote, support and strengthen coherent research projects which aim to catalyse and open up new avenues of Humanities and Social Science (HSS) scholarship, while assisting in the establishment of a network of researchers across universities in South Africa and the Global South.

ii. The Humanities Hubs Programme – which aims to promote and preserve South Africa’s heritage by transforming heritage sites into interactive and inclusive public knowledge spaces as envisioned in the Humanities and Social Sciences Charter. The Humanities Hubs are spaces where community-based knowledge as well as scientific and academic knowledge interact in promoting interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research, supporting local community participation in knowledge production, and preserving our archives for future research.

iii. The South African Humanities Deans Scholarship funds PhD students (not thematic prescription unless indicated in the Call)

iv. The African Pathways Programme funds PhD students (not thematic prescription unless indicated in the Call)

v. The Professional Associations Programme which funds the activities of these groupings

The catalytic projects programme is more specific and calls for proposals in the following thematic areas:

- Economic Development and Alternatives
- Pre and post-colonial histories and theories
- Histories of Labour Migration in Southern Africa
- Histories and Legacies of Liberation Struggle
- Political Economy
- Environment and Ecological Alternatives
- Art History
- Visual and Performing Arts
- African Music and Musicology
- Urban and Rural linkages, spaces, and experiences
- Digital Humanities and Social Sciences
- Higher Education, Teaching and Learning

I recommend that the students show you the specific call to which they are responding.

Kind regards,

Kgomotso