



## 1 Advertisement

**Post Title: Postdoctoral Researcher**

**School/department:** School of Global Studies / Department of Anthropology

**Hours:** Full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1 FTE

Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

**Location:** Brighton, United Kingdom

**Contract:** fixed term until 31 January 2024

**Reference:** 10501

**Salary:** starting at £35,333 to £42,155 per annum, pro rata if part time

**Placed on:** 19 December 2022

**Closing date:** 30 January 2023. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

**Expected interview date:** ASAP

**Expected start date:** ASAP

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Sussex is a research-led department with an international reputation. We are advertising for one 1-year post doctoral fellow position to support Professor Magnus Marsden's work with Dr Moradian, Director General of the Afghanistan Institute of Strategic Studies. AISS is a leading think tank and research institution that was based in Afghanistan until August 2021. As a result of the current political climate in Afghanistan, AISS is temporarily relocating to the UK. The University of Sussex has received funding from Research England to facilitate AISS' transition to the UK.

The fixed term position is open to a scholar of Afghanistan working in the fields of the social sciences and/or humanities. Expertise and interest in research on one or more of the following are particularly desirable: Afghanistan's political economy, the role of religion in society and politics in Afghanistan, Afghanistan's place in its wider region, and the study of the country's diasporas. The post doctoral scholar will split their time between research, writing, supporting scholars from Afghanistan now based in the UK and beyond, developing new research activities, and helping in helping in the coordination of the collective activities of AISS and the School of Global Studies.

Applicants will have experience of conducting research on Afghanistan and will hold a PhD in a relevant social science or humanities discipline (for example, anthropology, geography, IR, history, law, economics and development , and political science)

It is anticipated that this challenging post will be extremely rewarding and offer the post holder the opportunity to work within a leading UK University and a vibrant and creative institution whose work addresses some of the most pressing issues facing Afghanistan and its wider region today. The post holder will also have the opportunity to interact with scholars at a research centre that is internationally renowned for its focus on connectivity in Asia, the Sussex Asia Centre.

The successful candidate will be highly efficient and well-organised, with excellent communication and problem-solving skills, and be comfortable and confident taking initiative and working proactively to balance a varied and demanding workload.

Please contact Professor Magnus Marsden ([m.marsden@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:m.marsden@sussex.ac.uk)) or Davood

Moradian ([d.moradian@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:d.moradian@sussex.ac.uk)) for informal enquiries.

*Please note that this position may be subject to [ATAS clearance](#) if you require visa sponsorship.*

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

*The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.*

## **2. The School / Division**

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/global/>

## **3. Job Description**

Job Description for the post of: Post Doctoral Researcher

**Department: Anthropology**

**Section/Unit/School: School of Global Studies**

**Location: ARTS C**

**Grade: 7**

**Responsible to:** Professor Magnus Marsden

- To conduct research on Afghanistan with a specific interest in one or more of the following themes: political economy; religion's role in politics and society, Afghanistan's place in regional dynamics; Afghanistan's diasporas. The post doctoral scholar will also support the coordination of the collective activities of AISS and the School of Global Studies.
- Key Responsibilities:
  - To conduct intensive research on the dynamics of present day Afghanistan and/or its diasporas
  - Write articles intended for publication leading scholarly journals
  - Write policy reports on issues relating to the project
  - Organise workshops and events (online and in-person) designed to support scholars and researchers from Afghanistan
  - Develop new research agendas and funding bids
  - Acting as a liaising point with AISS partner institutions
- This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or the level of responsibility entailed.

## **4. Person Specification**

- Essential Criteria
  - PhD in a relevant social science or humanities subject

- Knowledge of languages spoken in Afghanistan (e.g. Persian, Pashto, Uzbeki)
- Ability to work proactively with minimal supervision
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to deal with a wide range of people including building rapport
- A high degree of IT literacy, with experience of Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and remote working technologies
- The ability to prioritise work to meet deadlines in a busy work environment
- A proactive approach to problem solving