1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Assistant
School/department: University of Sussex Business School / Department of Management
Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 36.5 hours per week. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).
Contract: fixed term for two months from date of appointment
Reference: 2579
Salary: starting at £30,046 and rising to £33,797 per annum
Placed on: 22 October 2019
Closing date: 11 November 2019. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.
Expected Interview date: 21 November 2019
Expected start date: 1 February 2020

We are seeking to recruit a Post-Doctoral Research Assistant (PDRA) to join Dr Dimitra Petrakaki and Dr Petros Chamakiotis in a research project funded by BA/Leverhulme Small Grant Scheme on ‘Exploring the role of digital health platforms in improving clinical work and healthcare delivery in developing countries: The case of MedicineAfrica’. The project team will work together with MedicineAfrica, a digital platform delivering online education in post-conflict states with poorly resourced healthcare education and systems (primarily in Africa and the Middle East).

The post is fixed term on a full-time basis for a period of two months, February and March 2020. It involves qualitative data collection (i.e. interviews, observations) in Somaliland and analysis of primary/secondary data, as needed. The PDRA is expected to have experience with qualitative methods in social science. Familiarity with global health, digital health, sociology of health and illness is desirable. The PDRA will be expected to travel to Somaliland for 2-3 weeks in February/March following initial briefing and training.

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

The University of Sussex Business School is a unique research focused business school, which takes a strong policy-directed view on business practices while also developing the underlying core disciplines. The School is exceptionally well placed to provide leadership in the development and dissemination of sustainable business and management practice, informed by sound economic logic.

Teaching and research
The University of Sussex Business School includes five departments: SPRU (Science Policy Research Unit); Economics; Marketing and Strategy; Management; Accounting and Finance. Over 78% of research output is rated as world leading and DHLE statistics bear out the importance we place on student employability with excellent graduate outcomes for Business School students. With such excellent foundations the University of Sussex Business School offers something distinctive and special to the future of business and management research and education in the UK and beyond.

For further information please see the following: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/aboutus/schoolsdepartments/University of Sussex Business School/

3. Job Description

Job Title: Research Assistant
Grade: Grade 6
School: University of Sussex Business School
Location: Jubilee Building
Responsible to: Principal Investigator: Dr. Dimitra Petrakaki
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University.

Role description: Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To observe and assist with individual and/or collaborative research activity and contribute to the production of research outputs for publications.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

1.1 With support from the Principal Investigator, develop research objectives and contribute to the planning of the research project.

1.2 Conduct research activity under supervision of the Principal Investigator, and in collaboration with others.

1.3 Assist with the analysis and interpretation of research findings and contribute to discussions on conclusions and outcomes.
1.4 Contribute to the writing of reports and other dissemination activities under the supervision of experienced researchers.

1.5 Contribute to the preparation of research ethics and data management strategies, under guidance from the Principal Investigator to ensure compliance with ethical approval and data protection legislation.

1.6 Present information on research progress and outcomes to relevant bodies under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.

1.7 Plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme.

1.8 Learn about the publication process and contribute to research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate.

1.9 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support

2.1 Assist in the supervision of student projects and provide guidance to those assisting in the research.

3. Contribution to School & University

3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.

3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

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 level of responsibility entailed.

**INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- Under the supervision of the Principal Investigator, conduct experiments/research to assist with project aims, with emphasis on training.

- Undertake research by preparing, setting up, conducting and recording the outcomes.

- Manage and analyse data, and prepare written reports and summaries.

- Maintain and store project files and equipment as per health and safety and data regulations.
As part of career development, contribute to the preparation of journal articles based on the research with support from the Principal Investigator.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to degree level, or other equivalent qualification, or relevant level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).

2. Good presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with colleagues and external audiences.

3. Ability to work independently (under supervision by the Principal Investigator), and as part of a team.

4. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.

5. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

6. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

7. Excellent IT skills.

8. Ability to follow guidance of team leaders.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. PhD degree (or near completion) in social sciences (e.g. sociology of health, STS, global health, development studies, information systems, anthropology etc.)

2. Strong social sciences qualitative training at doctoral level

3. Experience of conducting research interviews

4. Experience of analysing qualitative data using thematic analysis techniques

5. Experience of independent research, data collection and analysis.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Knowledge of NVivo software

2. Familiarity with digital health, global health studies or medical sociology