School: Law, Politics and Sociology
Department: Sociology
Post title: Research Fellow
Full time, Fixed term for 2 years
Salary range: starting at £32,004 and rising to £38,183 per annum
Expected interview date: 2 March 2017

The Department of Sociology, within the School of Law, Politics and Sociology, at the University of Sussex is seeking to appoint a Research Fellow for a two year contract to work on a Leverhulme Trust funded project entitled ‘Race, racialisation and the death penalty in England and Wales, 1900-65’. You will work with the primary investigator (Dr Lizzie Seal) in order to conduct archival research on race and the death penalty in twentieth-century England and Wales. This is a two year, interdisciplinary project funded by the Leverhulme Trust (RPG-2016-352) drawing on history and criminology. You will lead the collection of archival data. Your role will also involve research design, data analysis, literature reviews and dissemination activities, alongside general day-to-day project management.

For informal queries, contact Dr Lizzie Seal, Senior Lecturer in Criminology, e.c.seal@sussex.ac.uk

Closing date for applications: 17 February 2017

For full details and how to apply see www.sussex.ac.uk/jobs

The University of Sussex is committed to equality of opportunity
2. Senior leadership and management

The Vice-Chancellor (Professor Adam Tickell) is the senior academic officer and, as Chief Executive, is responsible to the University Council for management of the University. He is supported by an executive group which includes the three Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Registrar and Secretary, the Director of Finance and the Director of Human Resources. The Heads of the Schools of Studies at Sussex report to the Pro-Vice-Chancellors.

The Registrar and Secretary heads the Professional Services of the University. In addition, under the University Statutes, the Registrar and Secretary is Secretary to the University Council. The Director of Finance reports to the Vice-Chancellor. The Director of ITS reports to the Registrar and Secretary, and the Librarian reports to one of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors.

3. The Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology at the University of Sussex is an expanding research-intensive department committed to high-quality teaching and collegiality. We see sociology as a discipline that explains major trends in society and as a distinctive and critical way of thinking about the social world. The Department has a strong research culture with research clusters in criminology and transgression; gender politics and society; culture, migration and identity; health, medicine and care; social theory and political sociology. Members of the department are committed to the advancement of sociology as an interdisciplinary and globally oriented social science.

We also have a high commitment to supporting our students in their intellectual progress through all levels of our degrees, recognising the challenges of studying at university level, and valuing their contribution to our endeavours as a department. The Department offers a set of well-established comprehensive undergraduate degrees in sociology (single and joint honours) as well as postgraduate taught courses and doctoral studies. We have recently expanded our Criminology provision with two new degrees in Criminology and Criminology and Sociology, both of which started in September 2014.

The Department was ranked 10th in the UK in the 2015 Guardian Good University Guide for the quality of its teaching, and 11th in the REF after adjustment for research intensity. We are in the top 150 sociology departments in the world in the QS world rankings for 2014 and in the top quartile in the most recent Complete University Guide.

The Sussex Centre for Gender Studies, housed in Sociology, is a vibrant community of scholars engaged in cutting-edge research on gender issues across disciplines such as Sociology, Criminology, Law, Politics, Anthropology, Education, Media Studies and English Literature. Our work on topics such as ‘lad culture’ and gendered hate crime has won awards for its social impact, and we have close relationships with community groups in the areas of gendered/sexual violence, sex workers’ rights, and LGBT equality.
CORE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Research Fellow in Historical Criminology
Grade: Research Fellow I, Grade 7
School: Law, Politics and Sociology
Location: Sociology
Responsible to: Principal Investigator, Lizzie Seal, through to Head of School, Andrew Sanders
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University.

Role description: Research Fellow I is an early career-grade research position. 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 engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.

2. To contribute to School teaching activities.
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise
   1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
   1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
   1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
   1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School’s REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
   1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.
   1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
   1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
   1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support
   2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.
   2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.
   2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

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**

4.1 Undertake searches of electronic newspaper archives to identify cases of Black and other Minority Ethnic individuals sentenced to death in England and Wales, 1900-65 and develop and maintain a database of these.

4.2 Carry out research from case files held in the National Archives and in regional police archives (which may require being away overnight).

4.3 Store and analyse data using qualitative analysis software NVIVO.

4.4 Review relevant historical and criminological literature.

4.5 Maintain project website and blog, and contribute to other wider dissemination activities.

4.6 Give conference papers to disseminate findings from the project

4.7 Co-author academic journal articles with the principal investigator.

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

- A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
- Other forms of externally recognised professional practice of creative output of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
- Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
- Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.
PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

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

2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.

3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.

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

6. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

7. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

8. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. PhD or equivalent in relevant subject area such as history, criminology or socio-legal studies.

2. Experience of searching for, collecting and analysing archival data.

3. Willingness and ability to conduct an extensive, interdisciplinary literature review.

4. Ability to travel to the National Archives and to regional archives.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.