

Job Title: Research Associate

Grade: 7

Salary: £39,355 to £45,413 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

Department: History, Politics and International Relations

Hours/Contract: Full-time or job share, fixed term contract for 36 months

Reference: 11575

Role Purpose

To conduct historical research for the major Wellcome Trust Discovery Award, “Prisons, Drugs and Mental Health: an interdisciplinary global study”. Work closely with Professor Clare Anderson (PI) and Dr Kellie Moss (CI) in conducting research on the colonial and post-colonial history of prisons, drugs and mental health in the programme’s six case study sites: Guyana, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Mauritius and Seychelles.

Play a key role in the dissemination of the historical research, in scholarly outputs and through the production of resources for a range of pathways to impact. Support the oversight and management of the programme, and engage in all activities associated with it, including weekly meetings, quarterly workshops, stakeholder workshops, an international conference, and a broader research network.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To create detailed contextual data for each case study site – Guyana, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Mauritius and Seychelles - in collaboration with the whole programme team
- To undertake archival research, primarily in The National Archives at Kew, for these sites, on prisons, drugs and mental health during the British colonial period
- To undertake research on relevant post-colonial records, held in UK repositories and overseas
- To transcribe this material and create strategies for analysis, e.g. spreadsheets of quantitative data and NVivo coding for qualitative material
- To lead in the collection, evaluation and interpretation of the research data, and work autonomously to attain project milestones
- To contribute to the development of the choice of techniques, critiques, approaches, models and methods
- To lead in writing up this material and analysis in contributing to scholarly outputs, as sole and joint author
- To contribute to the programme’s impact strategy, working as required with prison services, government stakeholders and NGOs, to produce policy toolkits and community relevant resources
- To attend and participate in the programme’s Oversight Group and Participant Panel
- To attend and contribute to programme meetings and events: weekly meetings, quarterly workshops, stakeholder workshops and the international conference
- To work with and mentor the training and work of citizen researchers (in the case study sites) and programme network members (working on parallel contexts)
- To represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.





Professional Development

- To identify opportunities for and engage in an agreed programme of training and continuing professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- To network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area
- To assist in the development of collaborations with overseas universities, researchers, community groups and other potential project stakeholders
- To consult effectively on the historical work directly with people external to the University
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research dissemination and impact.

Leadership and Citizenship

- To engage proactively with the research community at Leicester, including research staff and students, in the School of History, Politics and International Relations, College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, Institute for Advanced Studies, and the University more widely
- To pro-actively build networks and collaborations
- To provide mentoring and coaching to other Early Career Researchers and research students.

Internal and External Relationships

Supervision and advice will be provided by CI Dr Kellie Moss, supported by PI Professor Clare Anderson, with other guidance from other programme CIs. The postholder will share in the day-to-day oversight of the project, including liaison with the University of Leicester and external stakeholders.

Planning and Organising

Required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the programme. Assist the PI and Programme Manager with adherence to the programme's plans, including milestones and the delivery of events and outputs, outlined in the case for support.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD in History or related discipline (post-corrections award required prior to start date)*
- Knowledge and experience of British colonial prisons, drugs and/or mental health scholarly literature and archives, in the UK and overseas*
- Experience of decolonized approaches to research, evidenced through scholarly or non-academic outputs*
- Knowledge of the history of prisons, drugs and mental health*
- Delivery of peer-reviewed books, peer-reviewed book chapters and/ or journal articles commensurate with experience and career stage*
- Evidence of enthusiasm for or prior leadership of pathways to impact work.

Desirable

- Previous research on the history of the British Caribbean and/or Mauritius and Seychelles





- Literacy in French and/ or Spanish languages; knowledge of Mauritius and/ or Seychelles Kreol
- Experience of interdisciplinary team research
- Knowledge and understanding of the expectations of externally funded research programmes.

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders
- Evidence of continued development of subject expertise
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research
- Evidence and commitment to Continuous Professional Development for yourself, and encourage commitment to learn and develop in others
- Collegiate member of a research team.

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity





We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

