



Job Title: Senior Research and Innovation Associate

Grade: 8

Salary: £49,250 to £55,295 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

Department: School of Archaeology and Ancient History

Hours/Contract: Full-time, fixed term contract to 14 July 2027

Reference: 11069

Role Purpose

Lead on the design, delivery and quality of the foodways strand of the larger AHRC funded research project **Many New Worlds**. Significant degree of autonomy is required and the postholder will work closely with the PI and Co-I team in framing the strategy, coordination, analyses, and outputs of the project. Analyse existing and new multi-material assemblages in the Caribbean. Participate in fieldwork, and coordinate and conduct analyses of samples in the UK. Lead on project outputs and work closely with the project team.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research:

- To design and deliver the foodways strand of the research programme to meet key milestones.
- To co-ordinate and undertake analytical work with the project team and collaborator organisations.
- To identify appropriate faunal and botanical samples and assemblages, including in the archaeological archives of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, building on those identified by the project.
- To advance novel analytical approaches to diverse excavated and zoological datasets, including a willingness to explore, propose, and conduct novel and standard techniques as fits the material and project questions.
- To lead in writing up research findings for publication and dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community, and develop ideas and contributions for future grants, or technical outputs.
- To represent the research group by disseminating research/results at national and international conferences and to the broader community.
- To contribute to research outputs for publication as a co-author (journal articles, book chapters, monograph)
- To undertake project management and administrative activities and coach and mentor others in the project in area of professional expertise.

Professional Development:

To engage in work and opportunities that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- To network and represent the work of the research group to further the research project locally and internationally in appropriate networks and public activities including through communication and public engagement activities.
- To share expertise and consult on own specialism locally and internationally.





- To engage positively and proactively in research impact.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- To provide guidance and consultation to other team members, project partners, and collaborators in your area of expertise.
- To support the mentoring and coaching of the project team beyond the University.

Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the project team.
- Establish/maintain positive and critical collaborations and exchange of ideas with other researchers in the School at the University of Leicester.
- Liaise with and foster productive and positive relations with relevant international heritage bodies, government agencies, and individuals.

Planning and Organising

- Plan and organise own research programme in agreement with PI.
- Plan and co-ordinate research, outputs and dissemination with collaborators.
- Plan and organise dissemination of information for specialists and the public.
- Flexibility to accommodate new developments and changing priorities of the research project and project collaborators.
- Ability to travel away from home to the Caribbean and elsewhere for extended periods for fieldwork and collections visits and analysis.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD or significant equivalent/demonstrable experience in archaeological science, zooarchaeology, or an appropriately related discipline*
- Respected international profile and publishing track record as lead author in archaeological science *
- Evidence of expertise and significant experience of working on and across archaeozoological datasets (archaeobotanical expertise will also be considered) *
- Evidence of developing, devising, and advancing methods and theories in the field*
- Experience of research project management *

Desirable

- Knowledge of Caribbean archaeology
- A working knowledge of Spanish language, spoken and academic writing

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Proven analytical/technical problem-solving capability
- Evidence of developing methods and theories to advance field
- Ability to manage and deliver collaborative based research projects





- Commitment to Personal Professional Development in subject expertise
- Ability to contribute to successfully to securing research funding where applicable
- Evidence of working effectively and positively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Evidence of working with, and building relationships, with internal and external stakeholders, including those from other disciplines and non-academic fields or non-standard perspectives
- Excellent communication skills – written* and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information
- Ability to assess resource requirements, secure and organise resources effectively, including budget/financial planning skills
- Skills in managing, motivating and supporting colleagues

****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.

