

**Job Title:** Technician (for project 'CongoPeat')

**Grade:** 5

**Salary:** £22,417 to £26,715 per annum (pro-rata)

**Department:** Geography, Geology and the Environment

**Hours/Contract:** Part-time (0.5 fte) fixed term contract to 30 September 2022

**Job Family:** Technical and Experimental

**Reference:** 2305

## Role Purpose

You will prepare samples for geochemical analysis. Procedures will include freeze drying, solvent extracting, milling and weighing of samples on a microbalance.

### Main Duties and Responsibilities

#### Prepare and carry out a range of standard techniques which includes:

- Assisting in the preparation of peat core and other biological samples prior to analysis
- Setup routine isotope and organic geochemical analyses (specifically of leaf wax *n*-alkanes) using established protocols.
- Collecting samples from Leeds and delivering to relevant locations

### Internal and External Relationships

To receive instruction from, and work in close contact with, the research technician and line managers to plan and deliver specific laboratory, analytical and organizational tasks on a daily basis.  
To develop laboratory and computer skills for the efficient development and analysis of materials.

### Planning and Organising

Clarify daily work requirement with research technician and line managers to identify and resolve any immediate problems.  
Plan workload in conjunction with the requirements of the project to ensure efficient use of laboratory and computer facilities.  
Perform activities to appropriate time and quality requirements, following established procedures.  
Plan and prioritize work for the week or weeks ahead to deliver scheduled services.

### Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

#### Essential

- Relevant technical experience in a similar role\*
- Knowledge of the relevant techniques required for this role (those listed in principal accountabilities)\*

#### Desirable

- A Bachelor's degree in a Science subject (good honours standard) \*
- Experience of working within a research team or of undertaking independent research.
- Knowledge of geochemistry and or stable isotopes.



- Experience of working with a range of laboratory analytical techniques, in particular Accelerated Solvent Extraction (ASE).

### Skills, Abilities and Competencies

#### Essential

- Effective oral and written skills in order to communicate effectively
- Good organisation skills
- Ability to plan own laboratory activities to agreed deadlines
- Good interpersonal skills
- Ability to work both in a team and independently and to interact well with other scientists and contacts internal and external to the University engaged in this project.

***\*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.

### VITAL

The University encourages all staff to live our [VITAL values](#) which are:

**Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.**

### Equality and Diversity

We believe that equality, 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 equality 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 equality, diversity and inclusion.

