



THE POST

College: College of Life and Environmental Sciences <http://lifesciences.exeter.ac.uk/>

Post: Associate Research Fellow

Reference No: P44044

Grade: E

HERA: ARF

Reporting To: Dr. Nick Gill

Responsible For: Conducting literature reviews, participating in and sometimes leading reading groups, carrying out ethnographic work at a UK court and keeping a research diary, interviewing key informants about the processes of asylum appeal adjudication, and completing structured proformas at a UK court involving the observation of a minimum of 125 cases.

The above full-time post is available from January 2013 on an 18th month fixed term basis, in the School of Geography, College of Life and Environmental Sciences.

Job Description

The College wishes to recruit an Associate Research Fellow to support the work of Dr. Nick Gill. This unique ESRC funded post is available from 7th January 2013 until 6th July 2014. The successful applicant will become part of a dynamic research team based at Exeter University (Streatham campus) with links to legal scholars at both Plymouth University and University College London. They will work at Exeter University for some of the post, conducting literature reviews and drafting both academic and non-academic outputs. They will also conduct a 3-month ethnography of an immigration court in the UK and another 6-month detailed observation of a different court in the UK, living away from Exeter for a total of 9 months out of the 18 month post.

Main purpose of the job:

To support the work of Dr. Nick Gill in investigating disparities in asylum appeal success rates at different immigration courts around the UK

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study including:
 - Conducting literature reviews,
 - Participating in and sometimes leading reading groups,
 - Keeping a research diary,
 - Interviewing key informants about the processes of asylum appeal adjudication
 - Independently conducting ethnographic work and participant observation of courts around the UK
 - Writing up research work for publication;
 - Dealing with problems which may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines;
 - Analysing and interpreting the results of own research and generating original ideas based on outcomes;
 - Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, developing new research methods and extending the research portfolio;
 - Using new research techniques and methods;
 - Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.

- Developing research objectives and proposals for own or joint research if required;
 - Making presentations at national and international conferences and similar events if required;
2. To contribute to teaching and to be involved in the assessment of student knowledge including assisting in the supervision of student projects and in the development of student research skills, if required.
 3. To work in collaboration with colleagues as appropriate to the field of study including:
 - Contributing to collaborative decision making within the research group;
 - Contributing to the production of collaborative research reports and publications.
 - Preparing papers and presenting information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g. steering groups.
 4. To communicate complex information, orally, in writing and electronically.
 5. To prepare proposals and applications to external bodies, e.g. for funding. permissions and contractual purposes
 6. To contribute to the planning of research projects.
 7. To use research resources, laboratories and workshops as appropriate and to take responsibility for conducting risk assessments, reducing hazards and for the health and safety of others.
 8. To monitor research budgets as appropriate, if required.
 9. To engage in continuous professional development and to be responsible for continually updating knowledge and understanding in field of study or specialism and for developing skills.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

Person Specification

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD or equivalent in a related field of study.	
Skills and Understanding	Sufficient knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.	Evidence of research activity and published research. Basic statistical literacy.
Prior Experience	Experience of carrying out qualitative research including ethnography and/or participant observation. Experience of conducting risk assessments and understanding of health and safety legislation, if required.	Experience of undergraduate teaching. Experience of managing websites. Research background in legal geography and/or forced migration.
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature. Able to manage research and administrative activities and to balance the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines. Able to liaise with colleagues and	

	<p>students if required.</p> <p>Able to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks for the exchange of information and collaboration.</p> <p>Able to identify potential sources of funding if required.</p> <p>Actively participate as a member of a research team</p> <p>Engage in continuous professional development.</p> <p>Understand equal opportunity issues as they may impact on areas of research content</p>	
Circumstances		

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Nick Gill, senior lecturer in human geography, telephone (01392 723333) or email n.m.gill@exeter.ac.uk .