
THE POST

College:	University of Exeter Medical School (Cornwall) http://www.exeter.ac.uk/medicine/
Research unit:	European Centre for Environment and Human Health
Based in:	Truro, Cornwall
Post:	Associate Research Fellow, Evidence Synthesis
Reference No:	P44907
Grade:	E (£24,766 - £27,854)
HERA:	ARF
Reporting To:	Dr Ruth Garside, Senior Lecturer in Evidence Synthesis

The above full time post is available for 6 months (ending no later than November 2013) at the European Centre for Environment and Human Health (www.ecehh.org) in Truro, Cornwall. The Centre is part of the University of Exeter Medical School.

This post is funded with support from the European Regional Development Fund.

Job Description

Reporting to the Senior Lecturer in Evidence Synthesis, the post holder will:

- undertake tasks relating to the design of protocols for systematic reviews in the area of human health and the environment; and
- undertake tasks related to a systematic review on the evidence for Attention Restoration Theory.

Main purpose of the job:

The main purpose of this review is to collaborate closely with colleagues in ECEHH and interested outside agencies to produce relevant systematic review protocols in the area of human health benefits from engagement with the environment and to conduct tasks related to a review and evidence synthesis about the evidence for Attention Restoration Theory.

This will include tasks related to all usual stages of a systematic review such as:

- Drafting protocols for registration.
- Refining search strategies and inclusion exclusion criteria.
- Screening studies for full text retrieval.
- Final study selection and data extraction.
- Study quality appraisal.
- Synthesis and summary of results.
- Report writing.

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study including:
 - Writing up research work for publication;
 - Developing research objectives and proposals for own or joint research;
 - Making presentations at national and international conferences and similar events;
 - 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 new research techniques and methods;
 - Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, developing new research methods and extending the research portfolio;
 - Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
2. 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 contribute to preparing proposals and applications to external bodies for funding.
6. To contribute to the planning of research projects.
7. To use research resources appropriately
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	<p>Sufficient knowledge of the conduct of systematic reviews to undertake the programme of work required.</p> <p>Sufficient understanding of critical appraisal of studies to undertake the programme of work required</p>	<p>Experience of conducting systematic review and evidence syntheses.</p> <p>Evidence of research activity and published research.</p> <p>Evidence of critical appraisal of research studies</p>
Prior Experience	<p>Experience of conducting risk assessments and understanding of health and safety legislation</p> <p>Research experience of health services, public health or other relevant discipline.</p> <p>Experience of using both quantitative and qualitative research methods.</p>	<p>Experience of managing research or other team based projects.</p> <p>Experience of presenting research or other findings to a variety of audiences</p>
Behavioral Characteristics	<p>Excellent written and verbal communication skills.</p> <p>Able to communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature.</p> <p>Able to manage research and administrative activities and to balance the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines.</p> <p>Able to liaise with colleagues and students.</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.</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>	
<u>Circumstances</u>		

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Ruth Garside Senior Lecturer in Evidence Synthesis, telephone (01872 258148) or email R.Garside@exeter.ac.uk.

Additional Information Relating to the Post

Salary

The starting salary will be from £24,766 to £27,854 on Grade E, depending on qualifications and experience.

An increment will be payable on 1 August each year until the top of the scale is reached (subject to being in post for 6 months and satisfactory performance). The scale will be subject to a cost of living review each year.

Hours of work

Hours of work will be 36.5 hours per week (full-time) but staff at this level may be required to work additional hours to meet the requirements of the role.

Annual Leave

The annual leave entitlement for full-time appointments is 41 days per calendar year (pro rata for part-time appointments). For further information see our website <http://www.admin.ex.ac.uk/personnel/leave.shtml>.

Probationary Period

The appointment will normally be subject to a probationary period of one year.

References & Medical Clearance

All appointments are subject to satisfactory reference and medical checks and individuals will be required to complete a medical assessment form before appointment is confirmed. Applicants should note that the University normally contacts referees for short-listed applicants without further advice to applicants. When advising of referees, if they are resident overseas, please ensure you supply fax numbers and/or email addresses enabling us to contact them (if necessary) without delay.

Right to Work in the United Kingdom

If you do not have the right to work in the UK, this appointment will be subject to you obtaining a tier 1 visa.

For further information, see the links to the UK Border Agency and UK Visas websites at <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/working/new/international/>. In particular you are encouraged to undertake a self assessment of your eligibility to work in the UK using the link to www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/pointscalculator.

Terms & Conditions

The Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed on line by visiting <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/staff/employment/conditions/terms/>

Pensions

Membership of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS) is automatic provided that you meet the qualifying criteria for membership. The USS is a contracted-out scheme. USS scheme has two sections: Final Salary and Career Revalued Benefits; which section you will be eligible for will depend on any previous membership of USS. An information leaflet concerning the qualification rules for both the sections is enclosed; more detailed information about the USS scheme structure can be found at www.uss.co.uk. **If you have been in USS before, you are strongly requested to contact the Pay and Benefits Office as soon as you can so that possible membership of the Final Salary benefits section can be investigated.** The University, as your employer, contributes such sums as will be required to maintain the full benefits of the scheme. You may opt out of the scheme; if you wish to do so, you should contact the Pay and Benefits Manager, Mrs Alison Rose (01392 263088/email a.j.rose@exeter.ac.uk) for further information. Further information about Pension Salary Exchange is available from the Human Resources website www.admin.exeter.ac.uk/personnel or from the Pensions Office.

Relocation

You may be able to claim relocation expenses in accordance with the University's Relocation Assistance Scheme. The maximum allowance that you can reclaim under the Relocation Assistance Scheme, if eligible, is 10% of salary.

Short-listing Information

We will acknowledge your application by email. The University of Exeter recognises the time and effort taken to apply for a position and will contact you by email to inform you of results of shortlisting

Application Procedure and Interview Information

The closing date for completed applications is **Wednesday 03 April**.

Data Protection Act (1998)

The information contained within your application is being requested to enable the University to make employment decisions and meet statutory obligations. Any information provided to the University in this context will be treated confidentially and used only by manager(s), member of the University, Human Resources, Superannuation and Payroll during the course of your employment. Where the application relates to a post which is externally funded this information may be passed onto the relevant funding body.