

## THE POST

<b>College:</b>	<b>Humanities (<a href="http://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/">http://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/</a>)</b>
<b>Post:</b>	<b>Associate Research Fellow</b>
<b>Reference No:</b>	<b>P45185</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>Reporting To:</b>	<b>James Mark</b>
<b>Responsible For:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

The above full-time post is available 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 in the College of Humanities.

### Job Description

#### **Main purpose of the job and how to apply:**

Three Associate Research Fellows are required to work on a major Leverhulme Trust-funded project on the way in which the collapse of state socialism in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union has come to be understood both globally and in the region which experienced these changes. They will each carry out their own research leading to a monograph of international standing, or equivalent; lead the development of a broader thematic area connected to their own research through hosting workshops/ a conference and producing appropriate publications (such as a thematic journal issue or edited volume); and work on collaborative outputs – such as the project's website, collective writing, policy engagement, and a museum exhibition - where appropriate. Applications are welcome not only from scholars of eastern Europe or the former Soviet Union, but also those interested in the representations and impact of this historical shift across the world.

Applicants should outline a major research project with a level of ambition commensurate with a funded five-year project:

First, a 'project outline' should describe the object of study, its importance, the research context, methodology and sources to be used, and proposed outputs (max. 1000 words). Second, the applicant should outline the broader thematic area in which their research project will be situated, explain its significance, and suggest how they could support the development of scholarship in this area through collaboration/ workshops etc. (max. 500 words). Third, the applicant should provide a timetable of work for the five year period (maximum one side A4). Applicants should also submit a full academic CV. Candidates will be assessed on the basis of their research proposal, their academic track record, their suitability for collaborative work, and the fit of their project within the wider team.

The project should address one or more of the themes below. Applicants should note that the examples of projects given are merely indicative.

1. How have social, cultural, intellectual or political groups who experienced the collapse of state socialism and post-socialism in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union made sense of their experiences? Projects might address, for example, the changing ways in which workers have understood these changes; how political movements across different countries have built identities and practices in relation to particular understandings of 'the fall' and transition; or the representation of this historical change in eastern European literature, theatre or film. Projects might historicise the growth of the liberal 'collapse and transition' paradigm, and examine the critics of this worldview who work with other chronologies or understandings of historical change.

Comparative, transnational and transcultural projects are encouraged, especially those that address the relationships between local, national and global forms of knowledge.

2. How have post-socialist states in eastern Europe represented the collapse of state socialism and what came after? Applicants might, for example, compare the approaches of different post-socialist states in education, culture or law; explore the tensions between global and local understandings of these events; or examine how central-eastern European understandings of the fall of dictatorship draw upon, or compare with, other regions' attempts to make sense of similar democratisation processes (e.g. in Latin America, southern Africa or southern Europe).
3. How has this collapse of state socialism been made sense of, and represented, in the politics, society or culture in any other part of the world? How have these understandings shaped or impacted upon the societies, cultures or politics of that area? How have these 'outsider' or global understandings of state socialism's collapse and aftermath impacted on eastern Europe? Applicants might, for example, consider the uses of 'victory over Communism' in north American political culture, the representation of European state socialism's fall in the global South, the role of external actors in producing or critiquing the liberal '1989/transition' paradigm, or the importance of a liberal reading of state socialism's collapse in forging a modern European identity.
4. Other innovative projects connected with the representation and historicisation of European state socialism's fall – whether in Eastern Europe or globally - are welcomed.

#### **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 be offered the opportunity to contribute to teaching and to be involved in the assessment of student knowledge, where appropriate.
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.
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.

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**

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD or equivalent in a field related to their proposed research topic.	
Skills and Understanding	Sufficient knowledge in the discipline, and of research methods and techniques to carry out their research programme. Excellent command of English and other languages necessary for the realisation of their project.	Evidence of research activity and published research.
Prior Experience	Background in a discipline appropriate to the proposed research project.	Experience of undergraduate teaching
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 different demands and deadlines. Able to work with colleagues to produce collaborative work. Able to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks for the exchange of information and collaboration. Able to identify potential sources of funding. Actively participate as a member of a research team Engage in continuous professional development. Understand equal opportunity issues as they may impact on areas of research content	

### **Informal Enquiries**

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting James Mark, Professor of History, by email [j.a.mark@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.mark@exeter.ac.uk) or telephone (00-44-(0)1392 724295).

### **Additional Information Relating to the Post**

#### **Salary**

Salary will be circa £25,504 to £26,576 per annum on Grade E subject to knowledge, skills 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 the University successfully obtaining a Certificate of Sponsorship under the UK's Points Based System for migrant workers and to you obtaining Entry Clearance/Leave to Remain.

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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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 **3 July 2013**. We expect to hold interviews in Exeter the last two weeks of July.

### **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.

