

THE POST

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

Post: Associate Research Fellow

Reference No: R45795

Grade: E

Reporting To: Dr Sean Carter

The above full-time post is available from July 1st 2015 (or as soon as possible thereafter), for a period of 9 months in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences. Applications for part-time work (until 10/5/16 at 0.8) will be considered.

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

The post holder will assist in the completion of fieldwork, data analysis and dissemination activities associated with an ESRC-funded research project entitled 'Ludic Geopolitics: Children's Play, War Toys and Re-enchantment with the British Military'. Led by the University of Portsmouth, this project is in collaboration with the University of Exeter, Royal Holloway University of London, and the V & A Museum of Childhood (MoC).

The post holder will be based in the Geography department at the University of Exeter, and will principally work with Dr Sean Carter. They will contribute to the analysis of geopolitical climates spanning the history of the British 'action figure' toy (broadly 1960s to the present day), conduct research interviews, undertake museum-based research with the MoC's travelling 'War Games' exhibition, contribute to the analysis and writing up of a range of textual and visual sources relating to the project, and take a lead in communicating the project findings to wider audiences through the creation of a project website, and making regular contributions to the blog and twitter feeds. Working with the rest of the project team (Dr Tara Woodyer, Portsmouth, Prof Klaus Dodds, Royal Holloway, and a Research Fellow based in Portsmouth), the post-holder will contribute to project meetings, data analysis, event organisation, presentations and drafting of journal articles and user reports.

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 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.

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 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.
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	Completed/Submitted PhD or equivalent in a related field of study.	
Skills and Understanding	Sufficient knowledge in one or more of the following disciplines: Human Geography (especially Political Geography), International Relations, Politics or History. Sufficient knowledge of qualitative research methods and techniques.	Evidence of research activity and published research. Knowledge of current academic research relating to one or more of the themes of the project (geopolitical cultures, militarisation, and war play) Ability to engage with broader literatures and debates that are germane to the project (e.g. play and childhood studies, cultural geographies, material cultures)
Prior Experience		Experience of generating qualitative data via archival work, visual and textual analysis, participant observation and/or interviews. Web authoring and familiarity with disseminating ideas via social media Experience of undertaking research with children and families Evidence of organisational skills.
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal	

	<p>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. 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</p>	
Other Requirements	<p>Willingness and ability to travel and stay away from home for brief periods to conduct research, and to attend meetings and conferences.</p> <p>Willingness to have a DBS check at enhanced disclosure with list checks level.</p>	

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Sean Carter, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, telephone (01392 724473) and email s.carter@exeter.ac.uk.

Additional Information Relating to the Post

Salary

Salary will be circa £25,513 per annum for full-time pro rata for part-time 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.

OR

Hours of work will be 29.2 hours per week worked by arrangement with your line manager.

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

We welcome all applicants and the diversity they bring. However, the nature of this role, the salary and the qualifications required, mean that immigration legislation will not allow the University to apply for a sponsorship certificate for this post. We strongly recommend that applicants that are non EEA nationals consult the Right to Work rules on the Home Office website at: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk.

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 **23 June 2015**.

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.