



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Choice Modelling

Faculty of Environment



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.), due to funding limitations an appointment is unlikely to be made above £37,345 p.a.**

**Reference: ENVTR1102**

**Closing date: 18 September 2019**

**Fixed-term until 30 June 2020**

**We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements**

# **Research Fellow in Choice Modelling**

## **Institute for Transport Studies & Choice Modelling Centre, Faculty of Environment**

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in Choice Modelling? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

We are looking for a committed, highly motivated and innovative individual with strong choice modelling skills. This post is for working in an exciting long term research project, hosted in the Institute for Transport Studies (ITS), but with cross-university collaborations through the Choice Modelling Centre (CMC). The project looks at reconciling modelled choices with real world choices, recognising the choice process in our models, considering the use of differing decision rules and the operationalisation of alternative theories of behaviour. It is also concerned with modelling long term decisions, interactions between choices, and joint decision making.

The brief for this particular position is purposefully kept very broad. You will be expected to make a contribution to choice modelling work in one of the areas above, by developing new methods and conducting innovative applications. As this is a multi-faceted research project, you will be able to contribute to individual components of the work as well as helping to shape the direction of the research according to your own interests and background.

You will be expected to take academic ownership of large parts of the programme and make a lasting contribution to the field. You will also contribute to the empirical component of the project, which makes use of an innovative survey combining social network analysis, attitudinal surveys, a life course calendar and GPS smartphone tracking.

### **What does the role entail?**

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of Prof Stephane Hess on the DECISIONS research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in choice modelling;



- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including, where appropriate preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Communicating or presenting research results through publication or other recognised forms of output;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the Institute, where appropriate;
- Develop and support a small number of master's student dissertations in areas which support the overall objectives of the post;
- Make a contribution to the Choice Modelling Centre through interactions with other choice modellers working in the University of Leeds.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD or near completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application in Choice Modelling or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong track record of developing and refining state-of-the-art modelling techniques and applying them to different decision contexts;
- Experience in developing advanced choice models and applying them to real world decision contexts;
- Evidence of cross-disciplinary experience, applying choice models across different fields;
- A developing track record of peer-reviewed publications in international journals;
- Computer programming skills in the context of model estimation;



- Ability to meet deadlines and maintain a professional approach to all aspects of the role;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Teaching experience in Choice Modelling;
- Survey design experience;
- A willingness to learn about unfamiliar sectors and literatures;
- Ideas for ways in which the project could stimulate engagement with policy makers and/or the public.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

[Professor Stephane Hess](#)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6611

[s.hess@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:s.hess@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about the [Institute for Transport Studies](#).

Find out more about the [Choice Modelling Centre](#).

Find out more about our [Research](#).



## **A diverse workforce**

The University of Leeds has been commended for its work to support the career development of talented women working in the traditionally male dominated fields of Science, Engineering and Technology in the form of a prestigious bronze award under the Athena SWAN Charter for Women in Science. [Find out more.](#)

The Faculty of Environment has also received a prestigious Athena SWAN bronze award from [Advance HE](#), the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.

## **Working at Leeds**

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

## **Candidates with disabilities**

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## **Criminal record information**

### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

