



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Spatial Econometrics, Institute for Transport Studies, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a. pro-rata)

Reference: ENVTR1111

Closing date: 8 December 2019

Interview Date: W/c 16 December 2019

Fixed term for 1.5 Years

Research Fellow in Spatial Econometrics Institute for Transport Studies, Faculty of Environment

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

We are looking for an individual to work as part of a team developing spatial econometric models linking transport, housing markets, and commercial property, as well as in the analysis of the determinants of public satisfaction and demand analysis for various transport modes. There is scope to play a key role in shaping and developing these new models, working alongside other economists with a range of relevant expertise and specialist spatial analysis researchers. The role will involve econometric modelling using spatial datasets that will typically be pre-prepared, although some data preparation work can be expected. The models will use data taken from established and novel transport-sector models – offering the researcher the opportunity to explore transport and accessibility modelling as part of their work. The models will also cover a wide range of explanatory variables across multiple sectors – including education and skills, labour markets, and environmental quality.

You will be someone who can work independently as part of research team, and has the ability to take responsibility for specific research outputs including models, reports and publications arising from their field of work within the wider research programme. There is a great deal of scope for innovation within this post, and we are looking for someone who is willing to bring their own energy, interests and knowledge to the role. We will encourage you to contribute to the methodologies and analysis and as a result you will have the opportunity to lead or co-lead on publications. Willingness to learn new software and analysis techniques is essential and support will be provided where necessary. The work will involve deadlines requiring you to work flexibly and be able to prioritise appropriately. The real-world applications of the models developed will include changes to the rail network and rail accessibility across a wide area, and the socio-economic consequences of those changes.

With a PhD (or close to completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application) comprising a substantive applied econometrics component, ideally in spatial econometrics, or a related discipline, you will have an



interest in taking on a substantial modelling research project with a great deal of potential for methodological innovations.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with a number of project managers in the Institute to ensure the projects are successfully delivered;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;
- 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;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 first degree and PhD (or close to completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application) with substantial applied econometrics component, ideally in spatial econometrics or a related discipline;
- Experience developing econometric models using large spatial or spatio-temporal datasets;
- Experience building models using Stata, R or other software;
- Demonstrated experience conducting academic research;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- 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 and academic success.

You may also have:

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications on in your field;
- Experience with housing market modelling;
- Coding experience.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information. 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:

Dr John Nellthorp, Senior Research Fellow

Tel: +44 (0)113 34 36613

Email: j.nellthorp@its.leeds.ac.uk

Dr Phillip Wheat, Associate Professor

Tel: +44 (0)113 34 35344

Email: p.e.wheat@its.leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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

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

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it's 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 in our [Accessibility](#) information or by getting in touch with us at 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 on our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

