



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Corpus Linguistics, Faculty of Social Sciences



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

Due to external funding restrictions, appointments will not be made above £33,797

Reference: ESLED1069

Closing date: 4 December 2019

Fixed-term until 30 April 2021

We will consider flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Corpus Linguistics School of Education, Faculty of Social Sciences

Are you an academic with a corpus linguistics background? Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities?

Applications are invited for a post-doctoral Research Fellow to work on an ESRC-funded project to explore the linguistic challenges of the transition from primary to secondary school in England. The project is based at the University of Leeds and is affiliated with the ESRC-funded Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (CASS) at Lancaster University.

The project will produce a systematic description of the academic language of secondary school, and accounts of how this differs from the language of primary school and public language outside school. It will identify systematically the new linguistic challenges that are faced by students over the transition from primary to secondary school, and which may affect access to the school curriculum.

As Research Fellow in Corpus Linguistics, you will be responsible for data collection, corpus construction and corpus analysis for the project. This will involve conducting and overseeing the transcription of interviews with school students and teachers, as well as preparing a range of written data for corpus analysis. You will then work with other members of the team to conduct a substantial portion of the corpus analysis. You will work with members of the research team to organise events, publish in peer-reviewed journals and provide reports on your research findings for various academic, professional and non-professional audiences throughout the course of the project.

You will have a first degree and a PhD (or be close to completion) in an area of corpus linguistics, preferably as applied to the social sciences, and you will have an interest in applying your skills to educational contexts. You will possess excellent analytical and writing skills and the ability to deal with a variety of tasks to set deadlines. The ability to work alone or as part of a team is essential, as are strong organisational skills.



What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow in Corpus Linguistics, your main duties will include:

- Planning and conducting interviews with school students and teachers about the types of language encountered by students at school;
- Transcribing and overseeing the transcription (to be carried out in part by contracted-out staff) of interviews and lesson recordings;
- Constructing corpora of both written and spoken language data;
- Analysing corpus data using a range of state-of-the-art approaches and tools, as well as qualitative methods;
- Contributing to publications which report on the methods and findings of the project;
- Preparing and collaborating on papers for publication in major refereed journals;
- Drafting project reports and presenting research findings to academic and professional audiences, communicating complex data in accessible ways;
- Assisting with the organisation of engagement and impact activities and events;
- Overseeing digital outputs including the project website, blog, Twitter and YouTube accounts;
- Developing existing knowledge of corpus linguistics;
- Developing understanding of education research.

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 Research Fellow in Corpus Linguistics, you will have:

- A PhD (or be close to completion, i.e. submitted the thesis prior to the start date of the position) in an area of corpus linguistics, preferably as applied to the social sciences;
- Experience with corpus building and analysis, using the most recent software and preferably including up-to-date knowledge of statistical approaches to corpus data;
- Experience of conducting discourse analysis;
- Experience of, or demonstrable potential for, contributing to research publications in the field of corpus linguistics (as applied to the social sciences);
- Excellent time management and planning skills, with the ability to manage competing demands to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with experience of giving presentations and engaging effectively with a wide range of stakeholders from local and community to national and international levels;
- 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:

- Experience of working in educational contexts;
- Experience of conducting research interviews in a range of settings;
- Experience of managing online/social media accounts (including websites, blogs, Twitter and YouTube);
- Experience working as part of an interdisciplinary project.

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:

Dr Robbie Love

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 4531

Email: R.Love@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

About the job

You will be responsible to the Dean of Faculty and report to the Head of School.

The post will involve school visits at times to suit schools, which may occasionally be outside standard working hours. The post will involve some travel within the United Kingdom and overnight stays. Travel overseas may be required.



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.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975

This post requires an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.

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.

