



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Human Geography, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.) due to funding restrictions this post will be appointed at no higher than spine point 30 (33,797)

Reference: ENVGE1117

Fixed-term for 24 months

Research Fellow in Human Geography School of Geography, Faculty of Environment

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in human geography or social sciences? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive universities?

You will work with a team of researchers on emerging trends in refugee governance in relation to cash assistance and digital connectivity. Under the supervision of Co-Investigator Dr. Glenda Garelli, you will be studying debit cards and Internet access for refugees in Jordan and Lebanon.

The comparative scope of the overall project (Jordan, Greece, Lebanon, UK) provides a unique opportunity to survey the diversity of current digital connectivity and debit card practices for refugees.

You will have significant experience in qualitative research working with a variety of stakeholders, an understanding of the cultural and political context of the MENA region, fluency in oral Arabic and excellent command of oral and written English, a familiarity with the topic of forced migration and/or humanitarian aid, a developing track record of high impact publications and excellent communication skills.

What does the role entail?

As Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with Dr Glenda Garelli and the rest of the team to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the area of new trends in refugee governance relating to financial tools and digital connectivity;
- Contributing to the design and implementation of the qualitative fieldwork in Jordan and Lebanon (design and administer a short, structured survey of humanitarian organizations, firms and state institutions engaged in servicing digital connectivity and debit cards to refugees; conduct interviews with refugees, state agencies, and NGOs about connectivity initiatives and debit cards for humanitarian aid);



- Critically evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and relating such evaluations appropriately to your own research;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- 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 School, where appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students in areas relevant to the project;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues.

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 you will have:

- A PhD or near completion (initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application) in human geography, anthropology, or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in the study of forced migration, development and/or humanitarian aid in the Middle East;
- Demonstrable fluency in Arabic;
- Experience in conducting qualitative interviews;
- The ability and willingness to travel to, live and work in Jordan and Lebanon in order to conduct fieldwork;
- The ability and willingness to travel to Greece for team meetings;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;



- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills;
- 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:

- Professional experience in finance and/or humanitarian aid;
- An interest in the market of financial technologies and/or internet services;
- Familiarity with the living conditions of refugees in other MENA region and/or European countries.

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 Glenda Garelli](#), Co-Investigator and Lecturer

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 1448

Email: g.garelli@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

Find out more about our [School of Geography](#).

Find out more about our [Social Justice, Cities, Citizenship](#) research cluster.

Find out more about Athena Swan in the [Faculty](#).

Find out more about our [Faculty initiatives](#).



A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Environment has received a prestigious Athena SWAN silver 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 our 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.

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.

