



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Research Fellow, School of Media and Communication  
Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures**



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 - £40,332)**

**Reference: AHCMC1054**

**Closing date: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Interviews to take place: Week commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**Fixed-term: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 to 31 March 2021**



## Research Fellow, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures School of Media and Communication

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a strong understanding of contemporary music industries? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive Universities?**

The School of Media and Communication wishes to recruit a fixed-term Research Fellow working full-time from 4 January 2021 until 31 March 2021.

You will join *Musicians' Earnings in the Digital Age*, a research project funded by Research England's Quality-Related Strategic Priorities Fund (QR-SPF), led by Professor David Hesmondhalgh. This research extends an existing project on *Music Creators' Earnings*, funded by the UK Intellectual Property Office, and led by Dr Hyojung Sun (University of Ulster), who will also work on the new project. Dr Richard Osborne (Middlesex University) is co-investigator on both projects.

You will work with Professor Hesmondhalgh, Doctor Sun and Doctor Osborne, to gather, collect and analyse evidence concerning changes in musicians' earnings from recordings. This will include interviews with key stakeholders, and datasets regarding music streaming and other sources of musician income. Part of the research will concern the potential implications of a shift on the part of audio-visual companies towards paying musicians on the basis of "buy-outs" rather than royalties. You will also provide general administrative support for the project, such as arranging and checking transcriptions.

### What does the role entail?

As Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Working with and in support of Professor Hesmondhalgh's research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed; planning appropriately to ensure the project meets key milestones by taking responsibility for the management of the project administration; leading on the logistics associated with the project; and ensuring all stakeholders are aware of the project's progress in a timely manner.
- Independently generating and pursuing original research ideas in the appropriate subject area, using a variety of research methods to analyse changes in the pay and conditions of musicians in the contemporary music industries;
- Preparing material for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Independent, ongoing review and synthesis of existing literature within the field,



including academic research and policy documents;

- Using a variety of networking methods with a range of stakeholders in order to maximise impact of research and opportunities for dissemination;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Proactively enhancing your own continuing professional development;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate.

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:

- Completed a PhD, or submitted a PhD thesis (i.e. awaiting viva), in a relevant subject (e.g. the contemporary music industries, digital platforms involved in the distribution of cultural goods, changing pay and working conditions in the cultural and creative industries);
- The proven ability to generate academic peer reviewed outputs and/or industry reports and/or policy briefings;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight 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;
- The 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:

- Experience of collaboration with media industries (e.g. music, journalism, public relations);
- Experience and evidence of project planning and administration.

### **How to Apply**

You can apply for this role by uploading your academic CV and a cover letter – no longer than two sides of A4 – to address the candidate specification above. Click 'Apply Online' on the job listing page to submit your documents. 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:

David Hesmondhalgh, Professor of Media, Music and Culture, and Communication,

Email: [d.j.hesmondhalgh@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.hesmondhalgh@leeds.ac.uk)

Click here for further information about working at the University of Leeds  
[www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university\\_jobs](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university_jobs)

## Additional information

### 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.





