



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Assistant in Bioinformatics, Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 6 (£27,924 – £33,309 p.a.)

Reference: FBSMB1226

Available on a fixed-term basis from 1st July 2022 until 31st January 2023

We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements

Research Assistant in Bioinformatics

School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

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

The aim of this project is to create statistical and AI methods to predict early progression in patients with follicular lymphoma. Follicular lymphoma is a slow growing cancer and often patients require limited treatment for many years. A subset of patients however experience more rapid disease progression, and to identify them early is an important clinical problem. In this role you will analyse a large transcriptomic (RNA-seq) data set from patients and investigate its use to predict progression. You will collaborate with other researchers using digital pathology and genome sequence analysis to create more accurate methods based on data integration.

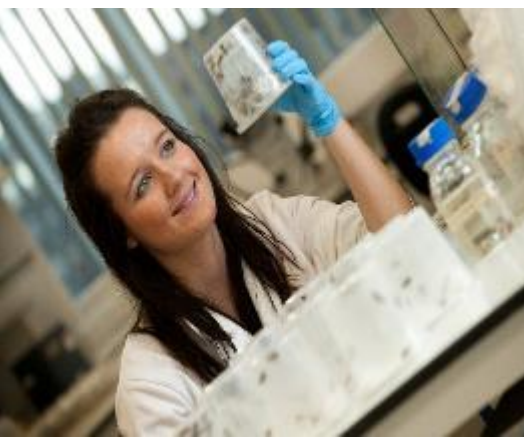
You should have a first degree/Masters in bioinformatics or a closely allied discipline, with experience in analysing RNA-seq or other high-throughput sequencing data.

The University of Leeds and the Faculty of Biological Sciences are committed to providing equal opportunities for all and offer a range of family friendly policies. The University is a charter member of Athena SWAN (the national body that promotes gender equality in higher education), and the Faculty of Biological Sciences was awarded a Silver award in 2020. We are proud to be an inclusive Faculty that values all staff, and are happy to consider job share applications and requests for flexible working arrangements from our employees. Our Athena SWAN [webpage](#) provides more information.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Assistant your main duties will include:

- Contributing to the follicular lymphoma project, as directed by [Prof David Westhead](#);
- Generating original ideas based on the outcome of analysis, in collaboration with Prof Westhead and other members of his group;



- Contributing to the dissemination of research results in leading peer-reviewed journals and through presentation at meetings and conferences, with guidance as necessary;
- Supporting the activities of the research group to ensure a successful programme of investigation, including participation at group meetings and seminars;
- Providing support and advice to other members of the group, and assisting in the supervision of students;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field in which you work.

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 Assistant you will have:

- A first degree/Masters in bioinformatics or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in analysing RNA-seq or other high-throughput sequencing data;
- Evidence of contributing to papers in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals or evidence of publishable research in progress;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal, and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- The ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A PhD (or close to completion) in bioinformatics or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in machine learning and/or statistical methodology;
- Accepted publications in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals.



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 David R Westhead, Professor of Bioinformatics

Email: D.R.Westhead@leeds.ac.uk

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Additional information

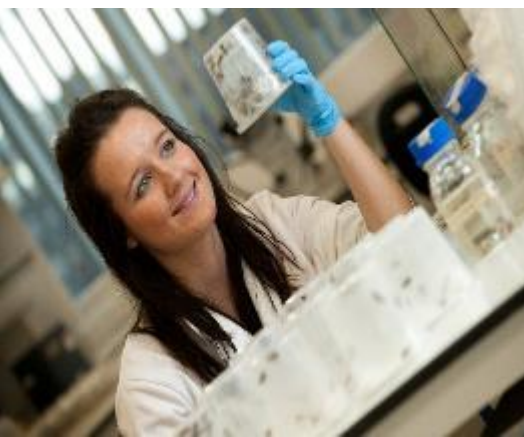
Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#) and the [School of Molecular and Cellular Biology](#)

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.

