



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Assistant in Digital Media, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures



Salary: Grade 6 (£31,396– £37,099 p.a. pro rata depending on experience)

Reporting to: Professor Catherine Johnson

Reference: AHCMC1117

80% FTE - Available on a fixed term basis until 31 July 2025 to complete specific time limited work.

Earliest start date 1 November 2024. Interviews will take place Monday 21 October.

Location: University of Leeds campus (with scope for hybrid working)

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements.

Research Assistant in Digital Media School of Media and Communication

Overview of the Role

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

Applications are invited for a Research Assistant to support an exciting new research project, *Expanding the Evidence Base for UK Public Service Media and Audiovisual Policymaking*, funded by Research England. Under the supervision of [Professor Catherine Johnson](#) and [Dr Chris Birchall](#) the successful candidate will collaborate with external project partners to develop new methods that ensure the evidence-base for UK PSM/audiovisual policymaking is adapted to changes in technology, distribution and consumption. They will also help to coordinate three project events.

The successful candidate will possess a degree in an area related to media and communication studies or a closely allied discipline. They will also have experience in digital research methods and an evidenced background in quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Excellent communication and written skills are essential, as is a commitment to professional development in the area of programming.

The role will also include the requirement to travel to London to host one project event which will include an overnight stay, with travel and accommodation paid for by the University.

Main duties and responsibilities

As a Research Assistant your main duties will include:

- Contributing to the *Expanding the Evidence Base for UK Public Service Media and Audiovisual Policymaking*, project, as directed by , [Professor Catherine Johnson](#) and [Dr Chris Birchall](#);
- Collecting and analysing data scraped from the web, including writing code to support data analysis, and contributing to training workshops for external



stakeholders on the methods used in the project with [Professor Catherine Johnson](#) and [Dr Chris Birchall](#)

- Working in collaboration with external stakeholders in the design, analysis and writing up of the research
- 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;
- 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.

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A first degree in Media and Communication Studies or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in digital research and digital research methods, and well-developed analytical skills with an evidenced background in quantitative and qualitative research methods and data analysis ;
- 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.

Desirable



- A PhD (or close to completion) in Media and Communication Studies or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in programming or software development
- Experience of collaborating with stakeholders on shared agendas and writing industry reports

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:

Joanne Williams, Research Manager

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 8919

Email: J.Williams1@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Our University

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the School of Media and Communication we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, people who belong to a



minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found under the 'Accessibility' heading on our [How to Apply](#) information page or by getting in touch by [emailing HR via hr@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:hr@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.

Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

G6 - Please note that due to Home Office visa requirements, this role may only be suitable for first-time Skilled Worker visa applicants if they are eligible for salary concessions. For more information please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>.

