



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Ethnoclimatology of Climate Risk in the Arctic,
Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£39,105 - £46,485 p.a.)

Reference: ENVGE1250

**Available on a fixed-term basis from 6th January 2025 – 5th January 2028
(to complete specific time limited work)**

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Ethnoclimatology of Climate Risk in the Arctic, School of Geography, Faculty of Environment

Are you an interdisciplinary scholar interested in how climate change is being experienced and responded to in the Arctic? Are you looking to work closely with Inuit communities, and bridge science and Indigenous knowledge in climate risk research? Do you want to advance a cutting-edge ethnoclimatology of climate risk approach? Are you looking for your next challenge? Do you want an exciting opportunity to advance your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive universities, based in scenic Yorkshire?

The recently funded ETHNO-CLIM project is developing new conceptual and methodological tools to understand how different cultures encounter, perceive, adapt to, and interact with climate change. Collaborating with Inuit communities in Alaska, Canada, and Greenland, the project specifically focuses on the use of trails in a rapidly warming Arctic, combining both 'bottom-up' participatory modelling of current and projected climate-risk, and storytelling and visioning to create scenarios of future risk. You will join an international and cross-cultural research team and will be responsible for leading the research in one of the study regions, working with the team to combine Indigenous knowledge and science to understand and model potential risk trajectories. You will be expected to spend considerable time doing fieldwork, co-developing the research with local partners, and conducting interviews, focus groups, and participatory modelling.

What we offer in return

- 26 days holiday plus approx.16 Bank Holidays/days that the University is closed by custom (including Christmas) – That's 42 days a year!
- Generous pension scheme plus life assurance– the University contributes 14.5% of salary.
- Health and Wellbeing: Discounted staff membership options at The Edge, our state-of-the-art Campus gym, with a pool, sauna, climbing wall, cycle circuit, and sports halls.
- Personal Development: Access to courses run by our Organisational Development & Professional Learning team.
- Access to on-site childcare, shopping discounts and travel schemes are also available.



Main duties and responsibilities

- Working closely with the research team and partners to develop a research plan for the operationalisation and completion of the project;
- Developing an innovative conceptual and methodological approach for weaving science and Inuit knowledge for modelling climate risk in relation to the use of trails;
- Conducting fieldwork in partner communities, including using ethnographic methods including interviews, focus groups, and participatory mapping;
- Contributing to report writing and critical reflection of results and methods for project deliverables;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- Presenting results at international conferences;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 PhD focusing on climate change vulnerability, resilience, and/or adaptation;
- Experience working with Inuit communities, including time spent conducting fieldwork;
- Experience using ethnographic methods including interviews and participatory mapping;
- Experience and understanding of participatory modelling approaches in a climate change or environmental change context;



- A track record of bridging science and Indigenous knowledge in climate change research;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team including researchers from diverse academic backgrounds;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;
- Excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills including presentation skills;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

Desirable

- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;
- Experience collaborating with decision makers in the Arctic on climate change policy and programming;
- Experience with using the output of climate models and knowledge of programming languages (e.g. python, R).

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 James Ford](#), Priestley Chair in Climate Adaptation

Email: j.ford2@leeds.ac.uk

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, 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, this may be your status under the EU Settlement Scheme.



Additional information

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

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

Our University

At the University of Leeds, we are committed to providing a culture of inclusion, respect and equity of opportunity that attracts, supports, and retains the best students and staff from all backgrounds and from across the world. Whatever role we recruit for we are always striving to increase the diversity of our community, which each individual helps enrich and cultivate. We particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, those 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.

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.

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

Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify for salary concessions. For more information, please visit [the Government's Skilled Worker visa page](#).

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information, please visit [the Government's page, Apply for the Global Talent visa](#).

