Graduate Research Assistant and Studentship in Criminology (0.2FTE)*

College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities

The successful applicant will receive an annual stipend and salary package currently worth £14,553, and a full UK/EU tuition fee waiver. (*GRA Salary £21,220 per annum, pro rata for part time working)

The Department of Criminology is pleased to offer a fully-funded PhD Graduate Research Assistant and studentship position for four years from September 2017.

This studentship is offered to support the Centre for Hate Studies which is based within the Department of Criminology. The Centre for Hate Studies was established in 2014 to offer academic expertise to policy-makers and practitioners through the undertaking of pioneering and transformative research on hate-related themes and through the delivery of face to face and digital Continuing Professional Development training.

We welcome outline PhD proposals and applications from suitably qualified applicants who can demonstrate relevant interest and knowledge within the field of hate studies. This includes proposals which focus on particular forms of hate crime victimisation and perpetration; policy responses to hate violence; hostility directed towards people because of their ‘difference’ or perceived vulnerability; or engagement with established and emerging minority communities.

The successful applicant will undertake their PhD research while undertaking research- and training-related activities on a part-time basis (0.2 FTE) under the supervision of Professor Neil Chakraborti and Dr Stevie-Jade Hardy. This equates to a nominal 7 hours per week, which will be scheduled by the Department to reflect operational requirements. You will be contracted to work 364 hours in a 12 month period.

This position is available from September 2017. There is some scope to adjust the start date to reflect individual circumstances.

The successful applicant will receive an annual stipend and salary package currently worth £14,553 and a full UK/EU tuition fee waiver. The positions will continue for four years, subject to a satisfactory annual progress review.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 31 May 2017 (at 23:59).

About Graduate Research Assistants

Graduate Research Assistantships enable PhD study to be combined with part-time research work at the University.

A Graduate Research Assistant is responsible to the Head of Department. In addition to undertaking research leading to a PhD, a Graduate Research Assistant is expected to undertake research-related duties as required, not normally exceeding seven hours per week.

These include:

- Undertaking research- and training-related activities that will support the development of the Centre’s internal and external reputation;
- Supporting the Centre in securing external funding (e.g. through helping to draft applications for research grants and contracts);
- Seeking out new opportunities to generate income through research- and training-related activities (e.g. through liaising with policy-makers and practitioners who work within public and third sector organisations);
• Contributing to the marketing of the Centre’s research- and training-related activities to external audiences (e.g. through developing publicity materials, updating the Centre’s website, and building the Centre’s social media presence);
• Disseminating the results of research and scholarship (e.g. through presentations at the Department of Criminology’s seminar series and relevant conferences);
• Maintaining an in-depth knowledge of scholarship and policy within the field of hate studies;
• Being in regular communication with the Centre Team in person, by email or via Skype and during appropriately specified office hours;
• Contributing to the research culture of the Department of Criminology (e.g. through attendance and participation in staff meetings, internal seminars and workshops)

The successful applicant will have:

• A high level of proficiency in English, sufficient to undertake research and training related activities utilising English language materials;
• Excellent written and oral communication skills;
• Experience of engaging with people from different backgrounds;
• The ability to work independently as well as part of a team;
• Excellent IT skills

In the covering letter sent with the PhD application (see below), the applicant should indicate how they meet these requirements.

This position is subject to the condition that the person is registered, and continues to be registered, as a full-time PhD student at the University of Leicester.

Eligibility

Positions are open to persons who are not current PhD students at the University of Leicester. They are open to applicants irrespective of nationality or place of previous residence.

The award covers tuition fees at the UK/EU rate only. International applicants, who do not ordinarily pay UK/EU tuition fees, must be able to demonstrate that they can fund the difference in tuition fee rates.

Entry requirements

• Postgraduate degree in a relevant subject;
• Knowledge of hate studies to an advanced level;
• Outstanding promise of research achievement;
• Meeting the University’s English language requirements for research degrees

Making an application

Applications should be made using the University’s online system for PhD applications. For online applications, please go to this link

Applications must include:

• A research proposal, normally of 1000-1500 words;
• A personal statement which explains why you are interested in the studentship and your credentials in relation to the specified criteria associated with this GRA role;
• All supporting documents, including proof that you meet the academic and English language entry requirements (supporting documents not in English must be accompanied by a certified English translation);
• Two references from referees who are familiar with your academic work and who are able to comment on your ability to conduct research and to complete a PhD programme. We would prefer that you provide us with the names and contact details of these referees as part of your PhD application, so that we may obtain confidential references. In that case, please ensure that your referees submit the reference by the closing date set out above.

In the ‘Source of Funding’ section of the application, you must state that you wish to be considered for the 2017 GRA position in Criminology.

Selection process

Candidates short-listed for interview will be contacted by the University. We hope to conduct interviews within the last two weeks of June 2017. Interviews will be held preferably in person or by Skype, as appropriate.

Why choose Criminology at Leicester?

Since its inauguration in 1987 Criminology at Leicester has established itself as a thriving and internationally-renowned academic community. The University of Leicester is one of a very few universities in the country which is dedicated to researching and teaching criminology. All academic staff within the Department of Criminology have published extensively in their fields of expertise and many are recognised internationally as leaders in their fields.

For further information about the Centre for Hate Studies, please visit this link

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be made in the first instance to Isobel McEwen email: crimphd@le.ac.uk or 0116 252 5755.