



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Officer

Department/Centre/Institute: Departments of Methodology and International Relations
Accountable to: Professor Kenneth Benoit and Professor Peter Trubowitz

Job Summary

This full-time position is shared between the Departments of Methodology and International Relations. This position involves splitting time between software development led by Professor Kenneth Benoit in the Department of Methodology, and data analysis led by Professor Peter Trubowitz in the Department of International Relations.

The position involves text analysis and computer programming in the areas of text analysis, including contributing to the development of the quanteda package for R and its growing ecosystem of companion packages. Specifically, the job involves working on a Shiny application in R based on quanteda. The position also requires background and training in international relations and extensive experience working with large cross-national data sets on international conflict and foreign policy.

The successful candidate will have extensive computing and applied data science skills with a social emphasis, including specifically programming skills in R and some experience in developing Shiny applications along with experience managing and analysing international relations data. Knowledge of JavaScript for extending Shiny is also desirable, as is a working knowledge of database managers (especially SQL). The ability to work in a team using modern tools and collaborative tools is essential, including extensive use of GitHub and other cloud-based collaboration platforms.

The successful candidate will have a background in data science or a cognate social science field with extensive computing experience, who wishes to gain experience working in a prestigious, exciting, and entrepreneurial environment that offers significant possibilities for networking and advancement.

Duties and Responsibilities

Range of Research Activities and Responsibilities

- Conducting research projects or programmes either independently or in a team.
- Demonstrating the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories and applying appropriate methodologies.
- Designing and conducting field-work.
- Contributing to the formulation of peer reviewed research grant proposals.
- Writing up research for publication in a variety of modes including peer reviewed journals.
- Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration.
- Presenting research papers at conferences.



- Organising conferences, seminars and workshops.
- Contributing creative solutions to research challenges.

Activities relating to administration and management and/or School service may include:

- Playing a constructive role in the life of the Centre/Institute/Department.
- Managing the activities of research assistants on a day-to-day basis.

All of the above subject to the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator and/or Head of Centre.

Note

The LSE has a progressive pay structure that rewards you with annual pay increases up to a certain level as you develop in your role. We also provide for further reward past this point in the form of further pay increases based on exceptional performance.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

Equality and Diversity

To uphold the School's commitment to equality of respect and opportunity, as set out in the [Ethics Code](#), we will treat all people with dignity and respect, and ensure that no one will be treated less favourably because of their role at the School, age, sex, disability, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, or social and economic background. For the full Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy statement, please see the [EDI website](#).

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.