

Research Officer in Racial Inequalities and Economic Justice Project Proposal Criteria and Guidelines

As a part of your job application to the Research Officer (RO) in Racial Inequalities and Economic Justice role at the International Inequalities Institute (III) at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), you will need to submit a project proposal. Below are the criteria the III will use as a part of the recruitment process and guidelines for writing the proposal.

1. Purpose of the project proposal

The RO in Racial Inequalities and Economic Justice role aims to enable an early-career researcher in developing and conducting their own year-long project aimed at understanding some aspect of racial disparities or inequalities in the economy. As the RO will work on their own project during their 12-month contract, the project proposal will be a central part of the selection process.

Therefore, the purpose of the project proposal is to showcase to the recruitment panel the possible project that candidates would be undertaking during the 12-month contract.

Proposals should be approximately 900 words in length.

2. Criteria for the project proposal

The recruitment panel will use the project proposal as a key factor in selecting the candidates for the RO. The panel will assess the proposals based on the following criteria:

2.1 Relevance

- Does the project explicitly aim to create a better understanding of racial inequalities within the social sciences and consider concepts of racial justice?
- To what extent does the project consider issues of racial inequality and/or racial justice beyond Europe and North America?

2.2 Feasibility

- Based on the timeline provided, can the project be feasibly completed (or at least substantially advanced) during the 12-month contract period?
- Does the project proposal timeline consider the challenges posed by the current pandemic to the extent that is possible?

2.3 Theoretical Underpinning:

- To what extent does the project draw on and contribute to current theoretical understandings of racial inequalities?

2.4 Contribution to Scholarship

To what extent does the project demonstrate the possibility for eventual publication in a respected professional journal in the social sciences?

2.5 Engagement with III Research Themes

- To what extent does the project explicitly align with and contribute to one of the [four III research themes](#)?

3 Structure of the project proposal

Below is a suggested structure for your project proposals (word lengths are indicative)

3.1 Introduction (150 words)

Provide an overall introduction to the project, your own experience that this project builds upon, and any work you've already done in relation to the project.

3.2 Context and Relevance (200 words)

In this section, include a brief overview of the context of your proposed project and the relevance of the project to 1) racial disparities or inequalities in the economy, and 2) the III's current research themes. Be sure to frame your project within particular disciplinary (or interdisciplinary) traditions.

3.3 Research Question (150 words)

List the specific research questions the project aims to answer. Detail the importance of these questions to understanding racial inequalities more broadly.

3.4 Proposed Methodology (400 words)

Include an overview of the methodological details of how you set out to answer your research questions. In this section, include some consideration of the ethical implications of the research. Ensure your proposed methodology is feasible within the 12-month contract.

3.4 Proposed Outputs and Outcomes

List the proposed outputs and outcomes of the project. This should include possible publications, public events, conferences, public engagement, or any other such outcome. Please note, as a part of the role, there is an expectation that at least one scholarly, peer-reviewed article will be produced. Do make sure it is feasible within the 12-month contract.

3.5 Timeline

Include a 12-month timeline for the project.