RESEARCHER JOB DETAILS

School of Geography, Politics and Sociology

Research Associate  Grade: F  Vacancy Ref: B136005R

Main Duties and Responsibilities

1. To contribute to qualitative data collection through Oral History and life-story interviews, archival and textual research, and historical ethnography in Germany.
2. To support the development of the theoretical framework on secrecy and power through collation of relevant academic literature.
3. To support the PI in project administration, to organise regular meetings of the research team and the Advisory Committee, liaise with project partners in Germany, lead the team of research assistants and the organisation of an interdisciplinary conference.
4. To support the preliminary analysis of the data collected.
5. To support impact and dissemination activities through the production of outreach materials for lay audiences and presentations at academic conferences.
6. To make a contribution to relevant scholarly fields through individual and co-publication.

Research Role Profile

As part of our commitment to career development for research staff, the University has developed 3 levels of research role profiles. These profiles set out firstly the generic competences and responsibilities expected of role holders at each level and secondly the general qualifications and experiences needed for entry at a particular level. It is unlikely that any single member of staff will be applying all these competences at any one time but he or she would be expected to display most of them over a period of time.

Please follow this link to our Research Role Profiles
Person Specification

Knowledge (inc. qualifications)

**Essential**
- First degree in humanities or social sciences.
- PhD in history, historical anthropology, historical sociology, German Studies or cognate discipline.
- Knowledge and expertise in qualitative interviewing.
- Expertise in historical approaches including archival research.

**Desirable**
- Expertise in conducting Oral History interviews and/or life-story interviews.

Skills (professional, technical, managerial, practical)

**Essential**
- Fluency in German and English.
- Ability to conduct independent research.
- Demonstrable experience in project administration and/or relevant organisation.
- Ability to write up research for academic audiences and lay audiences.
- Highly developed communication skills.
- Competency to make presentations at academic conferences and workshops with lay audiences in English and German language settings.

**Desirable**
- Proven ability to publish research findings in high profile journals.
- Computer literacy including working with NVivo.

Experience and Achievements (paid or unpaid)

**Essential**
- Experience of carrying out individual or collaborative research projects.
- Experience of using interview and historical research methods for qualitative data generation and experience with textual analysis.
- Organisational and/or administrative experience in research.
- Experience of writing up research work for academic readerships.
- Ability to work as part of a team as well as independently.

**Desirable**
- Experience working in the archives of the BStU and with institutions of Aufarbeitung and/or civic education in Germany.
- Experience of carrying out ethnography.
- Experience of publishing research as either sole or joint author.
- Experience of developing research proposals.
- Experience of working in interdisciplinary groups.

**Other**

*Essential*

- Interest in and enthusiasm for the subject matter of the project(s): The GDR and its portrayal in historic discourses in Germany today; the politics of memory and history.
- Collaborative ethos and positive attitude to colleagues.
- Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills.