



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE	Research Assistant				
DEPARTMENT	School of Psychology/School of Social and Political Science				
LOCATION	Brayford Pool				
JOB NUMBER	CSS632	GRADE	6	DATE	June 2022
REPORTS TO	Dr Anna Tarrant				

CONTEXT

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Research Assistant to contribute to the UKRI funded Future Leaders Fellowship study, 'Following Young Fathers Further' (FYFF). The study, which commenced in January 2020, is an ambitious participatory, qualitative longitudinal and international comparative study that aims to understand and transform the way society constructs and responds to young fathers (aged 25 and under). Under the leadership of Dr Anna Tarrant (Associate Professor of Sociology), the post-holder will have direct involvement in developing new knowledge and understanding about young fathers and their support needs. This is an opportunity for a qualitative researcher to gain skills in researching with marginalised young parents, to engage with external partners and develop skills and competence as a qualitative researcher. Further information about the study can be found at: <http://followingyoungfathersfurther.org>

The post will be based in the College of Social Science at the University of Lincoln. The University has established a reputation as one of the most dynamic, fastest growing universities in the UK. Situated in the heart of a beautiful and historic city it has built an international reputation for the quality of its teaching and research. Lincoln is currently ranked 22nd overall in the UK in the The Guardian University Guide and 42nd in the Times Good University Guide 2019. The School of Social and Political Sciences where the post is based houses Politics and International Relations, Criminology, Social Policy and Sociology. The School has a well-established and expanding academic profile in both learning and teaching and research. The FYFF study is significant to the expansion of social sciences research at the University of Lincoln.

Offered on a full-time basis, the post is available fixed term for fourteen months. Ideally the candidate will be available to take up the position by September 2022 or as soon as possible thereafter. Requests for part time working will be considered.

JOB PURPOSE

Under the leadership of Principal Investigator Dr Anna Tarrant (atarrant@lincoln.ac.uk), the post holder will have direct involvement in supporting the FYFF study and in delivering significant academic, social and policy outcomes.

The main duties of the successful candidate include sustaining relationships with participants (some of whom are marginalised), conducting an international literature review of young fatherhood research; scheduling and conducting semi-structured interviews; qualitative data analysis; data management support; and contributing to the presentation

and communication of findings including written reports, the website, and social media. Knowledge and experience with qualitative research methods is essential. Engagement with young people and/or non-academic partners and beneficiaries is beneficial.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Literature Surveys
Undertake literature reviews and other investigations of the state-of-the-art, and prepare reports and publications as required.
Research
Perform specified research under the direction, and with advice from, the Investigators, generate original knowledge, contribute to decisions about research direction, and prepare reports on results, as required.
Plan own day-to-day research activity within the context of the required research programme, exhibiting a high degree of autonomy. Potential to conduct and record semi-structured interviews.
Perform qualitative data analysis under the guidance of the Investigators. Knowledge of NVivo would be advantageous.
Perform project management activities, planning, scheduling, monitoring and reporting on progress of research activities.
Contribute to the production of research outputs, including reports, papers and other publications, and management of the project website and social media.
Liaison and Networking
Identify and liaise with internal and external collaborators, and with colleagues in the School, maintaining positive and effective working relationships.
Participate in and help to organise internal research activities, including advisory group meetings, seminars, research meetings and conferences.

In addition to the above, undertake such duties as may reasonably be requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Key working relationships/networks	
Internal	External
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principle Investigator• Research team members• Project Administrator• Head of School• Other research and academic staff within the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Collaborators• Research Participants• Advisory Group Members

**UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN
PERSON SPECIFICATION**

JOB TITLE	Research Assistant	JOB NUMBER	CSS632
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Selection Criteria	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Where Evidenced Application (A) Interview (I) Presentation (P) References (R)
Qualifications:		
Honours degree in relevant subject (1st, 2.1 or equivalent), and/or Masters degree in a social science discipline (e.g. sociology, psychology, anthropology)	E	A
Experience:		
Experience of relevant research methods and of qualitative data analysis	E	A/I
Experience of working creatively to attract and recruit participants to the study	D	A/I
Experience of research in specific project area (e.g. interest or experience in social scientific approaches to gender, parenting and families)	D	A/I
Skills and Knowledge:		
Ability to conduct original research in the subject area	E	A/I
Excellent written communication, including the ability to write reports and research outputs	E	A/I
Ability to prioritise own workload and work to specified deadlines under pressure	E	A/I
Ability to communicate complex subjects	E	A/I
Competencies and Personal Attributes:		
Ability to work on own and as part of a team	E	I
Enthusiasm and commitment	E	I
Excellent interpersonal skills	E	I

Essential Requirements are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job.

Desirable Requirements are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Author	Anna Tarrant	HRBA	SL
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