



Student Research Assistant

Job Description

Position overview

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| Department | Economics |
| Location | Devon House, London (Hybrid role) |
| Term | Part time; Min 8 hours per week, with a total of approximately 350 hours over the year |
| Salary | £11.50 per hour |
| Start | End of October 2022 |

Role Summary

The Research Assistantship is an appointment under the supervision of a regular faculty member conducting a research project. The Research Assistant (RA) is responsible for assisting the faculty member in a variety of non-administrative tasks which may include preparing resources, equipment, materials for the research, documenting results, etc in support of the research activities.

Research projects should ideally lead to a thesis or be directly related to the student's area of study. The research project is intended to provide the opportunity to learn proper research procedures and techniques. The supervising faculty is responsible for providing ongoing feedback and a formal assessment at the conclusion of the assistantship.

The project the RA will be working on is a collaborative NU London-NU Boston Tier 1 grant funded project ("Project 9") that aims to develop innovative research combining public and private datasets to address United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Co-Principal Investigators in London are Dr. Diana Bozhilova (Head of Faculty and Associate Professor in Politics & International Relations), Dr. Sebastian Ille (Associate Professor in Economics), and Dr. Sabina Crowe (Assistant Professor in Economics).

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Duties and Responsibilities

The Research principle (supervising faculty) determines the research goals to assist in the preparation for and achievement of the research goals which may include the following and/or other duties specific to the research objectives:

- Research and collect data through complex techniques and procedures, library research, structured interviews or other project specific methodology.
- Interpret, synthesize and analyse data.
- Schedule, organize and report on status of research activities.
- Plan and modify research techniques, procedures, tests, equipment or software management.
- Write and edit materials for publication and presentation.
- Meet with faculty supervisor on regular basis to maintain ongoing communication regarding the quality of the assistant's performance.
- Perform other related duties as required.

The Research Assistant will work on dedicated tasks. These include conducting several literature reviews such as on food security, or on the impact of various government policies on (sustainable) food consumption. The RA will be required to support the Principal Investigator (PI) in developing the best methodology to investigate issues relating to sustainable food consumption, by, for instance, checking the model equations against literature in the field.

The Research Assistant will provide support with the testing of the model(s), by for instance cleaning up the dataset, as the Principal Investigator writes the code for the main model(s). The position might also involve some data collection and the creation of a data bank regarding, for instance, the carbon/water/land footprint of various food items. The RA might also be asked to conduct coding of policy documents using appropriate software and assist the PI in providing a quantitative analysis of those policy documents.

The RA will work on-line and will be expected to have the necessary equipment (laptop/PC, internet connection, standard licensed software package, College licensed library resources access, etc) to work remotely.

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Supervision

The Research Assistant will be supervised by Dr. Sabina Crowe. This is envisaged to be on a bi-weekly basis, or as required.

Engagement and remuneration

The Supervisor's Tier 1 grant project has planned scope for ca. 350 research assistant hours. The initial scope of project work may not require the use of the full volume of the grant project's planned 350 research assistant hours. Therefore, additional research work may be developed as the project moves along.

The expectation is that the Research Assistant will work at least 8 hours/week. This can be discussed with the Supervisor, subject to study commitments and schedule of the Research Assistant.

About the College

Founded in 2012, New College of the Humanities at Northeastern has established itself as a prestigious higher education institution based in the heart of London. After becoming part of Northeastern University's global network in early 2019, the College has undergone a period of rapid growth, having been granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers in February 2020 and moving to new premises in 2021. NCH continues to grow taking in more students year on year, further expanding its courses, network and opportunities.

Person specification criteria (essential / desirable)

Education/Experience

- Current enrolment in the undergraduate or graduate studies programs with experience and authority in the subject matter of the research project in question. [E]

Skills/Abilities

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- Ability to work independently, accurately and to problem solve technical and methodological issues that arise during the course of the research. [E]
- Ability to apply sound research techniques, methodology and logical critical analysis. [E]
- Experience of both qualitative and quantitative research (in any area of the social sciences). [E]
- Sound numerical literacy. [E]
- Experience of working with Excel sheets. [E]
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills. [E]
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills. [E]
- Interest in economics, consumer theory and sustainability. [D]
- Subject knowledge [D]
- Interest in microeconomic modelling and interdisciplinary research [D]
- Experience of preparing reports to a high standard. [D]

Application process

Applications should be made via [this link](#) by 20:00 on 7 October 2022. Please reference your application “**SRA922**”. Participation in the equal opportunities section is encouraged, but voluntary.

Applications must include a covering letter of no more than one page and a full curriculum vitae of maximum two pages.

Short-listed candidates will be contacted the week of 17 October 2022.

We will not be able to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications.

Applications are welcome from all sections of the community and will be judged on merit alone. Candidates must be able to demonstrate their eligibility to work in the UK in accordance with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.