University of Liverpool

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (2 POSTS)

Job Ref:

Faculty: Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Histories, Languages and Cultures, Department of History

Location: University Campus

Grade: 7

Salary: £34,188 - £39,610 pa

Hours of Work: Full-Time

Tenure: The post are available until 30 September 2022

Shortlisting and interview arrangements are the responsibility of the recruiting Department. Please contact Professor Mark Towsey by email: towsey@liverpool.ac.uk for all enquiries.
More galleries and museums than any UK city outside of London.

33,000
33,000 students, 7,500 of whom travel from all over the world to study here.

Affordable
Based in the 2nd most affordable UK city.

Birthplace of The Beatles and home to two Premier League Football clubs.
The Department of History at the University of Liverpool invites applications for two full-time Post-Doctoral Research Associate posts for 3 years to work with Professor Mark Towsey as part of the newly-funded AHRC project Libraries, Reading Communities and Cultural Formation in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic.

The project investigates the contribution made by books to social, cultural and political change in the eighteenth century. The primary aim is to collect and make available in a single open access database the largest collection of contextualised bibliometric data on eighteenth-century library holdings, membership and usage in the British Isles and North America ever assembled. The project will use this new data to conduct research on the acquisition, organisation, circulation and dissemination of books. You will join a team of eight researchers from the UK, the USA and Australia, working in close collaboration with ten partner institutions including the Bristol Central Library, the Linen Hall Library in Belfast, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the New York Society Library and the State Library of New South Wales.

You will have responsibility for the primary research content of the database, including data entry, bibliographical research on library holdings and prosopographical research on library members. You will collaborate with Partners on workshops and exhibitions, co-edit (with the PI) a volume of essays, and produce an article and a book chapter on topics arising from the database. As well as enhancing your own expertise in this field, you will have significant career development opportunities through advanced technical training onsite at Western Sydney University and involvement in impact partnerships, publication and editing.

You will benefit from membership of Liverpool’s Eighteenth-Century Worlds Research Centre, which offers a rich interdisciplinary research environment including a flourishing MA programme, a vibrant PGR community, regular research events and further opportunities for valuable professional experience.

You should have a PhD with a specialisation in a field relevant to eighteenth-century studies, such as History, Literature, or Information and Library Science. Prior experience of conducting archival research is essential, as is the ability to work in a team. A demonstrable interest in Digital Humanities is highly desirable, as is a commitment to the widespread dissemination of academic research.

The position is based in Liverpool, but will also require travel to Australia in Year 1 and occasional travel thereafter to various locations in the UK, Europe and the United States of America for research and dissemination/impact activities. Research expenses for these trips are included in the post.

The position will start on 1 October 2019 or as soon as possible thereafter. Owing to the constraints of AHRC funding, this project requires full-time working from the successful candidates.
The Department

The Department of History at Liverpool has a distinguished history of its own. Staff expertise ensures a broad portfolio of research-led teaching, extending from the medieval to the modern, and from Britain to the wider world. At undergraduate level, the Department offers a single Honours degree programme in History and contributes major (75%), joint (50%) and minor (25%) versions of the History subject to the full range of 'Honours Select' programmes. Our portfolio of taught MA programmes maps closely to the research expertise of staff and to possibilities for postgraduate research. We also offer a long-established Masters in Archives and Records Management, and a Doctoral Programme.

The Department hosts or contributes to several highly active research centres. These include the Liverpool Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies; Eighteenth-Century Worlds; the Centre for the Study of International Slavery; Europe and the World; the Centre for the Humanities and Social Sciences of Health, Medicine and Technology; and Liverpool University Centre for Archive Studies. The Department also has excellent links with a wide range of museums and other institutions on Merseyside and beyond.

The School of Histories, Languages and Cultures

The School of Histories, Languages and Cultures (HLC) was formed in 2010 as part of a major reorganisation of the academic structures across the University of Liverpool. Located within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the School is an integrated, outward-looking hub for world-class research, undertaken with partners across the University and around the world. HLC is comprised of five academic departments: Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology; History; Irish Studies; Modern Languages and Cultures; and Politics. The Dean of School is Professor Lin Foxhall.

The School is home to around 120 research active members of staff and 120 postgraduate research students as well as over 1500 undergraduate and 125 Masters students studying across more than a dozen subject areas within our five departments. In our research and in our teaching we explore culture and society from the origins of humanity to modern day politics. We are a community of scholars working across a wide range of disciplines and united by our research interests in history and heritage, languages and literatures, and power, conflict and conflict resolution.

Further information about staff, activities, modules, the Departments and School can be found on our website at: http://www.liv.ac.uk/histories-languages-and-cultures/
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Essential Criteria

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<th>Experience</th>
<th>Desirable Criteria</th>
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<td>1.1 Proven research record in the period 1700-1800</td>
<td>Relevant experience of involvement in talks and exhibitions aimed at a general public</td>
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<td>1.2 Proven ability to produce publishable research</td>
<td>Research focus on either Britain or the USA</td>
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## Education, Qualifications and Training

| 2.1 PhD in a Humanities subject and in a field appropriate to the research area | |
| 2.2 A good first degree in an appropriate discipline | |

## Skills, General and Special Knowledge

| 3.1 Excellent IT skills, including use of databases | Understanding of bibliographical and biographical research methodologies |
| 3.2 A high level of written and spoken English | Specific knowledge of eighteenth-century book history |
| 3.3 Excellent time-management and organisational skills | Demonstrable interest in the Digital Humanities, including DH approaches to studying the eighteenth century |
| 3.4 Effective team working skills | |
| 3.5 Excellent archive research skills | |

## Personal Attributes and Circumstances

| 4.1 Proven ability to work independently and as part of a team | Ability to make connections with the activity of other academic staff, within the Department, the School, in the University in general and beyond to other related groups |
| 4.2 Reliable, enthusiastic and strongly motivated to conduct research | A commitment to the widespread dissemination of academic research |
| 4.3 Prepared to travel to libraries and archives in order to achieve project demands, including occasional overnight stays and travel overseas | Interest in contemporary debates about the future of library provision and the role of libraries in communities |
Criteria for Confirmation in Appointment for Academic Staff
appointed on or after January 2013

Probationary members of staff will:

Research

- Demonstrate that they have fulfilled the agreed plans and priorities of their research to an internationally excellent standard, or which demonstrates that their research is progressing towards an internationally excellent standard

Knowledge Exchange

- Demonstrate that they have an awareness of potential knowledge exchange audiences and that they have engaged with the internal and external knowledge exchange environment

Learning and Teaching

- Demonstrate that they have fulfilled the agreed teaching expectations assigned to them to a standard expected in their subject area
- Demonstrate how they have contributed to the student experience at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, including evidence of PGR supervision where appropriate
- Demonstrate that they have completed, or be near to completing within a defined deadline, the Certificate of Professional Studies

Contribution and Engagement

- Demonstrate their awareness of the University's plans and priorities and that they are engaged with these
- Demonstrate that they have fulfilled agreed leadership and managerial activities assigned to them
- Demonstrate their awareness of departmental/school/institutional plans and priorities and how they contribute to and engage with these
- Demonstrate that they have an on-going longer term career plan
- Demonstrate that they have an awareness of the University values

Development

- Demonstrate that they have fulfilled any required development and that they have an ongoing plan for the development of their career

Clinical Engagement (if appropriate)

- Demonstrate that they have fulfilled agreed clinical duties assigned to them and all of the associated professional requirements of their clinical status and registration
To apply for a Vacancy at the University you must register on the University of Liverpool E-Recruitment site, https://recruit.liverpool.ac.uk

If you have any queries relating to applying for a Vacancy please contact the Recruitment team by email – Jobs@liverpool.ac.uk

Acknowledging your application

Once you have submitted your application you will receive an automatic acknowledgement. Your application can be viewed at any time in the Application History section of your E-Recruitment Account.

Outcome of applications

Vacancies at the University often attract a large number of candidates and it is not always possible to respond individually to every application. If you have not heard from the recruiting department within 6 weeks after the closing date please take it that your application has not been successful.
Asylum & Immigration
The University will comply with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006, which requires all employees to provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in this country prior to commencing employment. Please be aware that you will be required to bring your passport (and visa if applicable) to interview so that it can be copied and verified by a member of the Selection Panel. For posts requiring a recognised degree level or equivalent qualification, and where there is no suitable UK or European Economic Area candidate, the University will take the necessary steps to secure UK Border Agency permission for a foreign national to take up employment.

Should a candidate require a Certificate of Sponsorship in order to take up a post they will need to meet the UK Border Agency Tier 2 Points Based Criteria. A self assessment tool can be found on the UK Border Agency website at: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/pointscalculator

A candidate may also be required to undertake an English Language test prior to commencing work at the University. Details of Home Office approved tests can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests. Further information on the eligibility criteria for Certificates of Sponsorship can be found at: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points

National Insurance Number
All employed individuals must possess a UK National Insurance Number. Further information and how to apply for a unique National Insurance Number can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number

Diversity and Equality
The University of Liverpool is committed to diversity and equality of opportunity. All employees and applicants for jobs will be considered on their abilities and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of age, caring responsibilities, colour, disability, employment status, gender, gender identity, marital status, nationality, race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or any other irrelevant distinction. Training is available to support career progression within the University.

Two Ticks Disability: Guaranteed Interview Scheme (GIS)
The University of Liverpool is committed to the employment of disabled people, and as part of our commitment, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for a post and consider them on their abilities. If your disability prevents you completing the application form by the specified closing date, or when the vacancy closes early, due to a high volume of applications, please call the Recruitment Team to discuss alternative arrangements. http://www.liv.ac.uk/working/jobvacancies/guaranteedinterviewscheme/

Micah Liverpool Programme
The University of Liverpool supports the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral Micah Liverpool Programme. Applicants who have successfully completed the programme and meet the essential criteria for the post will be offered a guaranteed interview. Please note that individuals will be confirmed through the Micah Liverpool Programme directly. http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/home/micah-liverpool.aspx

GiveGetGo Volunteer Programme
Applicants who have successfully completed the GiveGetGo Volunteer Programme at the University in Partnership with the Transform Lives Company who meet the essential criteria for the post will be offered a guaranteed interview. Please note that individuals will be confirmed through the GiveGetGo Volunteer Programme directly. https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/working/jobvacancies/givegetgo/

Accessibility
If you require copies of documentation in alternative formats, for example, large print or Braille, please contact jobs@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 6771.
If you have any other requirements which will help you access the application or interview process or employment opportunities at the University of Liverpool, please let us know by contacting jobs@liverpool.ac.uk or telephone 0151 794 6771.

Pension
Information about The Occupational Pension Scheme associated with this appointment can be found here. You are encouraged to familiarise yourself with the full particulars of the scheme.