

Job Description

Role Title:	Research Assistant
School / Dept:	School of Health and Society
Reference:	GRP76
Grade:	Grade 6
Full or Part time:	Full time
Hours:	1.0 FTE
Reports to:	Project Lead

Overview

Applications are invited for a 12-month post as a Research Assistant to work within the Directorate of Psychology and Sport on a project funded by the Fire Service Research and Training Trust (FSRTT). This one-year research project investigates the impact of extreme temperature on cognitive performance. It will involve collection of physiological and behavioural data from fire fighters engaging in live-fire training exercises.

We are looking to appoint a highly motivated individual with an undergraduate degree in psychology/sport or relevant subject to work on this exciting project. The role will involve working with the principal investigators to organise the day-to-day running of the project, including both research and administrative tasks. The post-holder will be supported in undertaking a literature review and will be responsible for data collection at Fire and Rescue services. The post requires experience of data collection, data management, and data analysis and the post-holder will also contribute to the dissemination of the research findings to both academic and non-academic audiences.

The successful candidate will be line managed by Martyn Matthews. The post-holder will have the opportunity to join a thriving research group in Psychology and Sport and will gain experience of working within academia and conducting research in the field.

The post is offered for a period of 12 months.

Role Purpose

To contribute to data collection and analysis, and the day-to-day delivery of a FSRTT funded research project investigating the effects of extreme temperatures on cognitive performance and, in particular, the performance of a novel field test of firefighter cognition. To conduct and record the outcome of experiments and fieldwork and to complete literature reviews. To write up and present results of research projects to internal/external audiences.

Principal Duties & Responsibilities

- To undertake a literature review
- To prepare and submit University ethics applications
- To manage participant recruitment alongside the principal investigators
- To prepare materials for data collection
- Undertake collection of behavioural and physiological data from fire fighters
- To assist in the analysis of quantitative data

- The post-holder will be required to travel for stakeholder meetings, recruitment, and data collection as part of their duties
- Maintain high standards of academic and commercial confidentiality
- In collaboration with the principal investigators to disseminate outcomes from the project through internal and external conferences/seminars and academic journal papers at suitable times throughout the project's progress
- Perform any other duties appropriate to the grade as may be required by the Head of School/Head of Division etc.
- Comply with the personal health and safety responsibilities specified in the University Health and Safety policy.
- To engage with the University's commitment to put our students first and deliver services which are customer orientated, represent value for money and contribute to the financial and environmental sustainability of the University when undertaking all duties and aspects of the role.
- Advance equality, support our work towards eliminating unlawful discrimination, foster an inclusive study and work environment for students, staff and visitors in accordance with our public sector equality duties and university policy.

This role detail is a guide to the work you will initially be required to undertake. It may be changed from time to time to meet changing circumstances. It does not form part of your Contract of Employment.

Person specification follows on next page

Person Specification

The successful candidate should demonstrate the following, which are 'Essential' (E) or 'Desirable' (D)

Qualifications

1. A good undergraduate degree in Psychology/Sport or related discipline. **(E)**
2. Full UK driving licence. **(E)**

Background and Experience

3. Experience of working on a quantitative research project. **(E)**
4. Experience of undertaking literature reviews. **(E)**
5. Experience of writing up project results for dissemination e.g., reports, presentations
6. and/or publications. **(E)**
7. Experience of working successfully in a team environment. **(E)**

Knowledge

8. Standard packages (e.g., word processing, spreadsheets, email, and internet use) and statistical packages (e.g., SPSS, Jamovi). **(E)**
9. University research governance processes and procedures. **(D)**
10. Quantitative research methods and theory. **(E)**
11. Project processes, from project initiation through to final project review. **(D)**
12. The importance of establishing and maintaining recognition in research and scholarship in their field by publication and dissemination of knowledge. **(E)**

Skills and Competencies

13. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. **(E)**
14. Excellent organisational and administrative skills. **(E)**
15. Competence on understanding of relevant ethical and Health and Safety Issues and evidence of high level of professionalism. **(E)**
16. Ability to work in a team in an open, sharing manner. **(E)**
17. Ability to engage in independent working for periods at a time. **(E)**
18. Ability to communicate to a variety of audiences both written and verbally. **(E)**