

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Post Doctoral Research Assistant (NERC Nature of the Beast project)
Department / Unit:	Geography
Job type	Research
Grade:	Grade 7 Spine Point 33
Accountable to:	Professor Danielle Schreve (PI)
Accountable for:	n/a
Purpose of the Post	
To undertake research for the NERC-funded research project 'Nature of the beast? Resolving drivers of prey choice, competition and resilience in wolves', in collaboration with the research team. Responsible for planning and undertaking stable isotope sampling and analysis of fossil and modern wolf material, undertaking cranio-dental measurements of Holocene and modern wolves in the UK and continental Europe, integration of results with other proxy data, co-authoring relevant project outputs and participating in outreach events with Project Partners.	
Key Tasks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the first, most comprehensive and state-of-the-art examination of diet in modern and recent (<250,000 year) European fossil wolf records. • Review and evaluate relevant literature on wolf and contemporary large carnivore palaeodietary reconstructions. • Design and implement a programme of targeted stable isotope data collection from UK and European modern and fossil material, ensuring complementarity with collection of other proxy data by other project members. • Liaise with museum curators and other holders of collections over access to material and sampling protocols; complete destructive sampling applications where required. • Obtain stable isotope samples of target individuals, liaising with the Co-I and technician at the British Geological Survey • Assist in the interpretation of stable isotope data and integrate results with cranio-dental measurements and other proxies. • Apply appropriate statistical packages to the datasets. • Participate in team meetings and assist in their organisation. • Compose lead author and contributor research papers for peer-reviewed publication, in collaboration with PI, CI and Named Researcher. • Prepare and present findings of research activity to colleagues and at workshops, conferences and seminars 	

- Take the initiative in overcoming methodological problems that arise during the project lifespan, and keep the CI and PI up-to-date with the project's progress
- Undergo continued personal professional development, including further research training where required

Other Duties

The duties listed are not exhaustive and may be varied from time to time as dictated by the changing needs of the College. The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties as appropriate and as requested by their manager.

The post holder may be required to work at any of the locations at which the business of Royal Holloway is conducted.

Internal and external relationships

The following list is not exhaustive but the post holder will be required to liaise with:

Members of the Nature of the Beast team including PI, CI and Named Researcher
 Other members of staff within the Department and College
 Project partners, including the Wildwood Trust and wolf ecologists based in continental Europe
 Museum curators in the UK and overseas