



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	Postdoctoral Research Assistant
<b>Department / Unit:</b>	Psychology
<b>Job type</b>	Fixed Term, Full time Professional Services
<b>Grade:</b>	RHUL 7
<b>Accountable to:</b>	Professor Ryan McKay
<b>Accountable for:</b>	N/A
<b>Purpose of the Post</b>	
<p>The current post relates to the Leverhulme International Professorship grant awarded to Prof. David Levine, which started in September 2023. The project includes not only Psychology but also involves Economics and Computer Science. A total of nine postdoctoral researchers are to be hired to join the project, including two in Psychology.</p>	
<b>Key Tasks</b>	
<p>The holder of the current post will join a project team, to be led by Prof. David Levine as incoming Leverhulme International Professor, to deliver a large-scale funded research project on social norms. The project will combine theoretical development, advanced quantitative methods, and experimental designs in a mix of research methods. Associated tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serve as team member in the development of the project design and research setup.</li> <li>• Stay updated with the most recent research in the areas of social norms, relevant psychological theory, computational modelling, and experimental designs.</li> <li>• Develop novel experimental designs that span the disciplines involved.</li> <li>• Pilot, refine and optimise experimental methods to be employed within the project.</li> <li>• Implement computational models.</li> <li>• Write up research into publishable research outputs, present these at international conferences and submit to leading international academic journals.</li> <li>• Engage with project members and other stakeholders as required.</li> <li>• Enhance the departmental research agenda through application of theoretical and empirical research designs.</li> <li>• Develop research funding proposals in collaboration with department academic staff and submit to appropriate funding bodies.</li> <li>• Read academic papers, journals, and textbooks to keep abreast of project related developments and techniques.</li> </ul>	

### **Other Duties**

This job description reflects the present requirements of the post, and as duties and responsibilities change/develop, the job description will be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the post holder.

The post holder will carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the PI, Prof. David Levine.

The post holder will actively follow RHUL policies including Equal Opportunities policies and be expected to give consideration within their role as to how they can actively advance equality of opportunity and good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

The post holder will maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations.

The post holder will carry out their duties in a resource efficient way and actively support RHUL's Sustainability policies and objectives within the remit of their role.

The successful candidate will need to meet RHUL's expectations of core behaviours.

### **Internal and external relationships**

The following list is not exhaustive but the post holder will be required to liaise with: Students, other members of staff within the school/department and University, academics in other institutions and, where relevant, industrial or professional contacts.

**ROYAL HOLLOWAY**  
**University of London**

**PERSON SPECIFICATION FORM**

**Job Title:** Postdoctoral Research Assistant

	Essential	Desirable
<p><b>Knowledge, Education, Qualifications and Training</b></p> <p>PhD in relevant subject area (or near completion of)</p> <p>Experience of designing and running psychology studies with human subjects (online and/or in-lab)</p> <p>Demonstrable comprehensive knowledge in the subject area</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>	
<p><b>Skills and/or Abilities</b></p> <p>Strong statistical skills</p> <p>Ability to use key statistical and/or stimulus presentation software, e.g., Python, R, Javascript</p> <p>Proven ability to analyse and write up research results and handle related administrative duties</p> <p>Excellent communication and presentation skills, with the proven ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with students, colleagues, and external audiences including the ability to present complex information effectively to a range of audiences</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>	
<p><b>Experience</b></p> <p>Proven track record of publishing rigorous, innovative, and potentially impactful research</p> <p>Experience/expertise with computational modelling of behaviour.</p> <p>Experience with constructing research funding proposals</p> <p>Demonstrated enthusiasm for open science research practices</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>