Research Associate

Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Journalism Studies
Overview

We are looking to recruit a French-speaking Research Associate to join our team to work with us on the *FemmePowermentAfrique* project, assessing the impact of radio on women’s rights and empowerment in Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso, principally to transcribe, translate and analyse the content of broadcast recordings from Studio Tamani (Mali) and other radio stations.

Working at the University of Sheffield in the Department of Journalism Studies you will be conducting and contributing to ground-breaking research and cutting-edge thinking, which will produce a range of high impact research outputs. We are therefore seeking applications from ambitious, highly motivated and talented individuals who will be keen to play an active role in maintaining and enhancing the international reputation for research in the Department of Journalism Studies.

The project, which is in collaboration with Fondation Hirondelle in Lausanne, Switzerland, is conducting an impact assessment of radio provision in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso and is focusing in particular on women-themed programmes and programmes aimed at youth. The assessment is contributing to the development of criteria which can be used by radio workers, journalists, NGOs and donors to ensure optimum targeting of marginalised and isolated groups in West Africa. The work will yield a range of academic, industry and public facing outputs and will contribute to wider public understanding of journalism and radio in particular.

Person Specification

You will be undertaking or have recently completed a PhD in a relevant area (Women’s studies, African studies, Journalism, or French-based language studies) and may already have experience of working in a multidisciplinary research project team.

You will also be fluent in French or a native speaker of French as this post requires transcription and translation of radio broadcasts.

When you apply, we will be looking for a number of essential key skills, qualifications, qualities and strengths as shown in your application, references, and through interview and assessment. The essential criteria against which you will be assessed are as follows:

**Qualifications and experience**

- Native or near native fluency in French
- Experience in qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and related packages
- Ability to transcribe French radio broadcasts and focus groups with a high level of accuracy and translate into English when necessary
- Proficiency in Nvivo would be advantageous

**Communication skills**

- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, and excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to liaise effectively with colleagues, project partners and external stakeholders
- High quality reporting, writing and presentation skills

**Team working**
Experience of working in a multi-disciplinary team and independently

**Problem solving and decision making**

- Ability to develop creative approaches to problem solving

**Project management**

- Experience of project management and the ability to manage resources effectively
- Ability to plan and prioritise own workload and forward plan

**Personal effectiveness**

- Ability to adapt to new circumstances
- Proven ability to work to and meet deadlines
- Excellent organisational skills and the ability to undertake some administrative duties
- Experience of developing and maintaining a network of contacts throughout own work area

**About the Department**

The Department of Journalism Studies was launched in 1994 and within 10 years became one of the major journalism teaching and research establishments in the UK. We are currently ranked number one Journalism department in the country by both The Guardian and The Times.

The University of Sheffield is a proven academic centre of excellence and the department strives to provide both theoretical and professional teaching based on the highest academic and journalistic standards. Since its inception, the department has been committed to establishing an active research programme covering a wide range of topics within the fields of journalism and mass communications.

Our research staff work within the Communication, Media and Journalism Research Group (link: [https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/journalism/research/overview](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/journalism/research/overview)) which is an interdisciplinary group, working across a number of research themes: Journalism, Communication and Democracy, Journalism and Communication History, Conflict and Crisis Communication, Digital Media and Communication, Language and Communication, European and Comparative Media and Information Law.

We seek to create an environment in which all staff can develop their research interests through national and international collaboration, links with industry and commerce, conference attendance and a lively seminar series.

**Job Description: Main Duties and Responsibilities**

In this role you would be expected to:

- Transcribe (and when necessary) translate the broadcast recordings from Studio Tamani (Mali) and other radio stations
- Plan and undertake the research and development necessary to contribute to achieving the aims of the project
• Analyse qualitative and quantitative data
• Maintain accurate and complete records of all findings
• Manage data storage on a day-to-day basis
• Arrange and attend internal and external meetings related to the research project
• Contribute to the writing of research projects, progress reports, presentation and any other reporting obligations
• Liaise with the PI and maintain good working relationships with them
• Liaise with project partners and stakeholders
• Organise and participate in project meetings
• Any other duties, commensurate with the grade of the post

Reward Package

Terms and conditions of employment: Will be those for Grade 7 staff.

Salary for this grade: £31,302 - £39,609 per annum pro-rata

This post is fixed-term with a start date of mid-October/beginning November for five months

This post is part-time: 0.8fte

If you join the University you will have access to a Total Reward Package that includes a competitive salary, a generous Pension Scheme and annual leave entitlement, as well as access to a range of learning and development courses to support your personal and professional development. You will have access to your own personalised portal where you can also access a comprehensive selection of benefits and offers to suit your changing lifestyle needs, for example financial wellbeing, travel options, shopping and cinema discounts.

To find out more visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/thedeal

We are committed to making the University a remarkable place to work and we support this through a number of sector leading services such as Juice.

Our innovative Health and Wellbeing service, Juice, encourages and supports staff to maintain their own positive health and wellbeing through a broad range of inclusive services and activities.

To find out more visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/juice

Our leadership development has been designed to ensure that our leaders have the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed by the University.

To find out more visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/sld/sheffieldleader
We are also proud of our award-winning equality and diversity action which enhances working life for all. 92% of staff tell us they are treated with fairness and respect (staff survey 2016)
www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/equality

We are the only university to feature in the Sunday Times 100 Best Not-for-Profit organisations to work for 2018. In our staff survey (2016) 94% of staff said they were proud to work for the University and 89% of our staff would recommend the University as an excellent place to work. To find out more about what it’s like to work here visit remarkable.group.shef.ac.uk

---

**Selection – Next Steps**

**Closing date:** For details of the closing date please view this post on our web pages at www.sheffield.ac.uk/jobs

Following the closing date, we will contact you by email to let you know whether or not you have been shortlisted to participate in the next stage of the selection process. Please note that due to the large number of applications that we receive, it may take up to two working weeks following the closing date before the recruiting department will be able to contact you.

It is anticipated that interviews and other selection action will be held on the 27th September 2019. Full details will be provided to invited candidates.

For more information on our application and recruitment processes visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/jobs/info

**Informal enquiries**

For informal enquiries about this job and the recruiting department, contact: Dr Emma Heywood on e.heywood@sheffield.ac.uk.

For administration queries and details on the application process, contact the lead recruiter: Georgina Gear at g.e.gear@sheffield.ac.uk or on 0114 222 4257.

For all online application system queries and support, visit: www.sheffield.ac.uk/jobs/applying

**Creating a remarkable place to work**

We build teams of people from different heritages and lifestyles from across the world, whose talent and contributions complement each other to greatest effect. We believe diversity in all its forms delivers greater impact through research, teaching and student experience.

We are consistently ranked in the top 100 of the world’s universities, but there’s so much more to us than that. By joining the University, you will be joining award-winning teams and departments who are all working together to make the University of Sheffield a remarkable place to work.

Learn more here.