Candidate Information

Position: Research Assistant
School/Department: School Office (Elect, Elect Eng & Comp Sci)
Reference: 22/109827
Closing Date: Monday 13 June 2022
Salary: £28,756 - £30,497 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Wednesday 29 June 2022
Duration: Available for 16 months or until 31 August 2023

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of Dr Neil Anderson, Prof Ruth Hunter and Dr Leondro Garcia's research project which is focused on the impact of urban design on non-communicable diseases such as cancers, heart disease and diabetes in the UK and Australia.
The post holder will work collaboratively to develop an interactive web-based toolkit for evidence-informed decision making. Further details about this project can be found here:
https://www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/CentreforPublicHealth/News/AvisionofhealthyurbandesignforNCDprevention.html

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To develop a web-based tool, called City Vision, which presents and manipulates data in an interactive environment, encouraging exploration of findings, new insights and evidence-informed decisions.
2. To undertake full stack web development (collate and render data using existing tools e.g. Shiny Server/Python/Node.js) to present on the web-based tool.
3. To collate a toolkit co-designed with intended users (e.g., decision-makers and public servants in urban planning and health departments, members of the public, NGOs, researchers).
4. To conduct a usability study alongside the tool development to identify the tasks and goals of intended users and the features required for the tool.
5. Work with other members of the research team in delivering a detailed project plan for the research.
6. Assist in the coordination of project activities with the research team and stakeholders.
7. Assist with the development of regular progress reports to members of the research group, other groups within the Centre/University, external audiences nationally and internationally and external bodies to disseminate and publicize research findings.
8. Assist with the preparation, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
9. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines and engage in technical training as needed.
10. Participate and in some cases lead outreach activities on behalf of the group/Centre.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. A relevant primary degree (1st or 2:1 classification) related to the duties of the post such as computer science, data science, data analytics.
2. Demonstrable recent experience of:
    - Full stack web-based development.
    - Data manipulation, use of R or Python.
3. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
4. Ability to communicate complex information clearly in both written and oral format.
5. Good team working skills in multiple team settings.
6. Excellent problem-solving skills and able to use own initiative.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. About to complete a PhD in a computer science, data science or data analytics related subject.
2. Experience of:
   - Shiny Server and/or Node.js development.
   - Working in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a research team.
   - Conducting a usability study or experience in co-developing web-based tools with stakeholders.
3. Proven ability to participate in collaborative research.
4. Experience of public engagement activities and disseminating research to non-academic audiences.