

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: School of Natural and Built Environment
Reference: 25/112915
Closing Date: Monday 13 October 2025
Salary: £41,519 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Friday 31 October 2025
Duration: 4 months

JOB PURPOSE:

The successful applicant will be a highly productive, ambitious, and collaborative member of the PIPES (Pollutants in Peatlands: From Sink to Source) research project, contributing to all stages of the research process, including data collection, geochemical analysis, data synthesis, and the preparation of high-quality publications.

This is a key role within the project team, and the post-holder will be expected to undertake independent research, manage the day-to-day operations of the laboratory, foster collaborations within and beyond the research group, contribute to peer-reviewed publications, and engage in public and stakeholder outreach activities.

The position will involve extensive laboratory work, particularly the geochemical analysis of peat cores, as well as advanced data processing and interpretation to support the project's overarching goals.

Please note that due to the tight timeframe the successful candidate must be available to start at the beginning of November 2025.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake research within the PIPES research project as a member of a research team.
2. Design, develop and refine research using a range of approaches.
3. Carry out analyses, and interpretations of geochemical data using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
4. Produce high quality research outputs consistent with project aims and commensurate with career stage. This will include collaborating and co-authoring with PI and project team on outputs.
5. In consultation with the project team, promote research milestones and outputs at national and international conferences and through social media where appropriate.
6. Assist the grant holder in the preparation of further funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
7. Carry out occasional educational supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
8. Undertake supplementary duties relevant to the success of the project including administrative duties and additional training and development activities as required.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a relevant PhD. (e.g. Physical Geography, Archaeological Science, Geology, Geo/Earth Science, Environmental Science) (NB: 'About to obtain' is normally defined as within 3 months of application date).
2. Specific relevant research experience to include:
 - Undertaking research in the area of physical geography, geology, ecology, archaeology or environmental science.
 - A proven track record of relevant analyses, and interpretations of scientific data.
 - Working effectively as part of a research team in the development and promotion of the research theme.
 - Publication record commensurate with stage of career.
 - Experience of running fieldwork campaigns or manipulative experiments.

3. Practical problem solving skills, independence of thought and initiative.
4. Ability to assess and organise resources.
5. Ability to communicate complex information in English effectively in oral and written format.
6. Ability to build relationships to develop internal and external networks.
7. Commitment to continuous professional development.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. PhD with a focus on peatland science (i.e. ecology, palaeoecology or geochemistry).
2. Expertise in geochemistry, pollution science or peatland ecology/palaeoecology.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal enquiries may be directed to: Dirk Brandherm at d.brandherm@qub.ac.uk or ub.ac.uk