

Job description

Responsibilities

This post is available through the generous support of a Modern Humanities Research Association (MHRA) Research Associateship. The MHRA exists to support high-quality research in English and the Modern Languages. The post is part of the project *Back for the future of the Corpus de Français Parlé à Bruxelles* (PI: Dr Emmanuelle Labeau, Aston University; A; Dr Hélène Blondeau, University of Florida) that consists in making available online and valorising a patrimonial corpus of 22 interviews collected in Brussels in 1989, in parallel to the CFPB.

Research Support

The primary task of the MHRA RA will be the formatting of data including:

- Digitalizing the tapes to prevent further damage and to preserve the data as well as possible;
- Carrying out a transcription aligned with sound in PRAAT, which will provide a linguistics-focused presentation in the same format as the CFPB and allow for common interrogation;
- Valorising the data through free online diffusion on the CFPB website and developing a mirror website at the partner institution (University of Florida).
- Contributing to the preparation of further research funding bids.

All these activities will better equip the RA for their future academic career.

Research

The MHRA RA will be associated to the academic exploitation of the project, for instance:

- Presenting the data at academic specialised and general conferences;
- Contributing to academic journal articles presenting the corpus (e.g. *Brussels Studies*) and to linguistic exploitation both in the project directors' and RA's areas of specialisms;
- Co-organizing a day-conference on French corpora collected in urban centres;
- Participating in funding applications to further develop the CFPB both quantitatively (e.g. integration of different types of informants such as immigrants) and qualitatively (e.g. how to use the data for pedagogic purposes to teach variation).

Additional responsibilities

- Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.

- ▯ Ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▯ Carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▯ Promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

Person specification

| | Essential | Method of assessment |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Education and qualifications | <p>A good degree in a relevant discipline.</p> <p>A doctorate in a relevant linguistics discipline, either completed or submitted for examination.</p> | Application form |
| Experience | <p>Sound subject knowledge and experience of research in linguistics.</p> <p>Outstanding understanding of spoken French, and accuracy in written French.</p> | Application form, interview and presentation |
| Aptitude and skills | <p>Excellent research skills and the ability to produce high quality material</p> <p>Ability to take part in project development.</p> <p>Ability to harness IT as a research tool.</p> <p>Competence in IT skills and Internet use including the ability to undertake word-processing, e-mail communication and web-based internet retrieval are crucial for the daily tasks of this post.</p> <p>Strong organisational skills for both individual and team work.</p> | Interview and presentation |
| Training and Development | A commitment to undertake further training as appropriate and to acquire new skills and | Interview |

| | Essential | Method of assessment |
|--------------|--|----------------------|
| | adopt new procedures as and when required. | |
| Other | <p>Professionalism, diplomacy, and good interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people and maintain professional interactions with colleagues as well as working well as a team member.</p> <p>Commitment to research ethics.</p> <p>A high level of personal integrity, adaptability and flexibility, including readiness to innovate and to adapt to the fast changing environment of Higher Education</p> <p>Commitment to attend the University as and when required for scheduled duties, relevant meetings and project support.</p> <p>Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times.</p> | Interview |

| | Desirable | Method of assessment |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Education and qualifications | Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching & Learning in Higher Education, or equivalent qualification. | Application form |
| Experience | Experience of initiating, conducting and publishing research, preferably in French sociolinguistics. | Application form, interview and presentation |

| | Desirable | Method of assessment |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | Experience of transcription preferably with PRAAT. | |
| Aptitude and skills | <p>Ability to adapt to new softwares.</p> <p>Familiarity with social media for research.</p> <p>Ability to build and maintain a project website</p> | Interview and presentation |