

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Fellow A
Responsible to:	Prof Paul Hodgkinson
Responsible for:	Not applicable
Job Summary and Purpose:	
To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.	
Main Responsibilities/Activities	
To undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research. Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research develop new research methods and extend the research portfolio. Analysing and interpreting results of own research. Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development. The post holder may also contribute to writing bids for research grants and will contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in areas of research. Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity. To plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others. To carry out administrative tasks associated with specified research funding, for example risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation. Implementation of procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control. To contribute to teaching in the Faculty by carrying out student supervision and/or demonstrating within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of departmental academic staff, as appropriate. The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff.	

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Person Specification

The post holder must have:

A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline (although individuals who have almost completed a doctoral degree may be appointed). Consideration may also be given to individuals who do not hold a doctoral degree but have required skills based on a number of years experience in specified / relevant fields

The post holder will have authority over some aspects of project work and must be capable of providing academic judgement, offering original and creative thoughts and be able to interpret and analyse results.

Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the academic supervisor. The post holder may be asked to serve on a relevant Faculty committee. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues from CVSSP and other institutions.

Special Requirements

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
 - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
 - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

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ADDENDUM

Addendum This document provides additional information relating to both specific aspects of the post/faculty and any post specific person specification criteria. The information contained within this document should always be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Job Purpose.	
Job Title:	Research Fellow in Sociology (Teenage Boys and Digital Media)
Background Information/Relationships The post holder will work within the Department of Sociology at the University of Surrey as part of an ESRC-funded project on teenage masculinities and digital media. The study will use focus groups, repeated interviews and digital media diaries to examine how teenage boys are navigating online content and discourse relating to gender and masculinity that has been identified as contentious or harmful. By focusing on the everyday digital lives of a broad range of teenage boys, the project will explore the circumstances in which different young men may engage with or avoid such content, how this connects to their broader digital experiences, and the ways in which this informs their developing masculinities. Research participants will include teenage boys and their parents or carers, and the project includes emphasis on how boy's digital practices and understandings are situated in relation to their families, peers and social positionings. The project takes an exploratory and participant-centred approach, seeking to understand boys' digital lives on their own terms, while remaining attentive to questions of gender, inequality and harm. The research therefore requires an approach that is analytically open, reflexive and sensitive to the complexity and diversity of boys' experiences. The Research Fellow will work closely with the Project Investigators, contributing to all stages of the research process, including design, data collection, analysis and dissemination. The role will involve collaboration with other academic colleagues and external stakeholders and will include close and repeated engagement with both young men and their parents in relation to potentially sensitive topics. The postholder will be expected to operate with a high degree of initiative and independence while working closely with others as part of a collaborative and intellectually engaged research environment.	
Person Specification This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role. This is in addition to the criteria contained within the accompanying generic Job Purpose.	
Qualifications and Professional Memberships	Essential/ Desirable
PhD in sociology, media and communications, psychology, gender studies or a related social science discipline	Essential
Training or study in the use of qualitative methods	Essential
Relevant professional or academic affiliations (e.g. British Sociological Association)	Desirable
Knowledge, Experience and Competence	

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Experience of conducting qualitative social research and a reflexive, inductive and participant-centred approach	Essential
Ability to engage with young men and their carers in relation to sensitive topics and an understanding of ethical research practice	Essential
Familiarity with research and scholarship of significance to the project, and capacity to scrutinise established narratives about boys, masculinities and digital media	Essential
Strong organisational skills and ability to use initiative and manage research and administrative tasks independently	Essential
Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including academic writing	Essential
Excellent collegiality and team working skills	Essential
Experience of writing and publishing work in peer-reviewed journals	Desirable
Experience working as a researcher on funded research projects	Desirable
Experience of stakeholder engagement or research dissemination activities	Desirable
Key Responsibilities This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of any faculty/post specific responsibilities. This should be read in conjunction with those contained within the accompanying generic Job Purpose.	
1. Conduct and support systematic and critical literature reviews on areas that include young masculinities, digital media, family negotiation of digital technology use and gendered moralities and related areas. 2. Carry out extensive qualitative data collection across different stages of research, including participant recruitment, conduction of focus groups and interviews, and administering of digital diaries 3. Adhere to project ethical and data management procedures 4. Develop reflexive fieldnotes and undertake inductive and theoretically informed qualitative analysis, remaining attentive to participants' own meaning-making and to different interpretations of boys' experiences and digital practices, under the guidance of the Project Investigators 5. Support various dimensions of project administration, including development and organisation of research materials, liaison with advisory groups, participants, gatekeepers and stakeholders 6. Contribute to academic outputs, including journal articles, book chapters, reports and presentations 7. Assist with the organisation and delivery of dissemination and engagement activities, including communication of project aims, progress and findings to academic and non-academic audiences via a range of media N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.	