

Research Role Profile

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Officer/Research Assistant (1B)
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<b>Responsible to:</b>	Head of research group, or principal investigator
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<b>Responsible for:</b>	There is no direct supervisory responsibility
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<b>Job Summary and Purpose:</b>
To support research activity in accordance with specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator

<b>Main Responsibilities/Activities</b>
<p>To support a research team by contributing to the planning of research projects and undertaking prescribed research tasks in accordance with specified research project(s), making use of standard research techniques and methods. These may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, computer-based data analysis or library research as directed by the research award holder and will entail co-ordinating own work with that of others to avoid conflict or duplication of effort. Analysing and interpreting results of own research, under the guidance of research award holder or supervisor. Write up results and contribute to the preparation of 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.</p> <p>Continually update knowledge and develop skills</p> <p>To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with a specified research project, for example risk assessment of research tasks, organisation of project meetings and documentation. This will entail planning own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme, dealing with problems that may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines and implementing procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control</p> <p>Demonstrating, or occasionally assisting with undergraduate supervision within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of the Faculty academic staff.</p>

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### Person Specification

#### The post holder must have:

A first degree or a professional qualification or equivalent in a relevant subject.

At least part-completed a relevant doctoral degree or have relevant experience in a given field.

Whilst there is no requirement for previous work experience, the post holder will be expected to be able to support research activities by performing experiments and/or undertaking studies and analysing/ interpreting results.

### Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor.

### 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

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 Role Profile.

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Assistant in Macroeconomics
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### Background Information/Relationships

As part of a larger consortium, the University of Surrey was recently awarded a European Commission Horizon 2020 grant on “Better integration of evidence on the impact of research and innovation in policy making”. At Surrey, the work on this grant is being led by Dr Tom Holden, with Dr Cristiano Cantore undertaking research on related issues.

One of our key promises in the grant proposal was that we would construct a medium-scale DSGE model for Europe featuring endogenous growth. This will involve writing several papers describing the model, its properties and its implications for policy makers, as well as work implementing and estimating the model in Dynare. We are looking for a post-doctoral research assistant to take a leading role in these tasks, ensuring that all the required outputs are delivered to the European Commission on time.

We have promised that the model will include the following features:

- Endogenous growth via the mechanisms outlined in Holden’s prior work, available here: <https://is.gd/mfcHolden>.
- Roles for policy to influence research and development.
- Multiple countries (perhaps US vs EU north vs EU south, or a finer level of disaggregation).
- Some New Keynesian frictions.

Additionally, we have promised that the model will be estimated on European data, and that a range of policy exercises will be conducted within it.

Ideally, the model will also include the following features:

- Public sector basic research.
- Sectoral heterogeneity in research and innovation (R&I).
- Directed and/or skill biased technological change.
- Skilled and unskilled labour.
- Human capital accumulation.
- Financial frictions.
- Finer spatial disaggregation.
- Some countries that only perform technology transfer rather than frontier R&I.
- Spatial and inter-sectoral diffusion of innovations.
- Spatial heterogeneity.

Ideally, we will estimate the model on data that is more spatially disaggregated than the level of the model itself (with each (small) region in the data being modelled as a weighted combination of (bigger) regions in the model), permitting us to make some finer level predictions for the impacts of policy.

If you think you could assist with these tasks, we encourage you to apply.

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### 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 Role Profile.

	Essential/ Desirable
PhD in Economics, focussing on DSGE macroeconomics	D
PhD thesis in Economics already submitted	E
Experience constructing medium scale DSGE models	E
Experience working with endogenous growth models	D
Experience working with open-economy models	D
Experience working with models with financial frictions	D
Ability to work independently and as part of a research team	E
Excellent written and oral communication skills	E

### 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 (5 to 8 maximum). This should be read in conjunction with those contained within the accompanying generic Role Profile.

1. Building and estimating the model described in “Background Information/Relationships” above, under the supervision of Dr Holden.
2. Research on any novel features of the model.
3. Documenting the model through co-authoring papers.
4. Presenting these papers at relevant conferences.
5. Organising and running dissemination activities, such as workshops.
6. Some light project management, such as the tracking of the deliverables that are the responsibility of the University of Surrey.