Postdoctoral Research Associate
Centre for Global Development

Closing date: 2 April 2018
Interview date: 2 May 2018
Vacancy reference: 6428
INTRODUCTION

The University of York is establishing a new interdisciplinary research centre, York Global Development Centre (YGDC), led by the Departments of Politics, Environment and History. The Centre will support cross-department, interdisciplinary research in the broad area of international development, provide an integrated infrastructure for research, teaching and postgraduate provision and support engagement with relevant stakeholders. The University of York has an excellent research base in interdisciplinary international development and has research teams working in global health, sustainable development, environmental hazards, climate change, conflict, migration, work, human rights, post-colonial legacies, governance and political economy. Departments that work closely with the new Centre include Politics, Environment, History, Biology, Health Sciences, Centre for Health Economics, Management, Education, Social Policy and Social Work. We are now seeking to recruit two post-doctoral research associates to support the research, impact, engagement and income development activities of the Centre. Successful candidates will have completed a PhD in a relevant area, be a good fit with at least one existing research in York and have a strong interest in working across interdisciplinary boundaries. They will be able to pursue their own research agendas, whilst at the same time contributing to the research plans of the Centre. Experience of generating research income and/or of stakeholder engagement would be an advantage. We particularly welcome applications in the areas of global health (including mental health and disability), sustainability challenges, governance, citizenship and rights.

The post is available for 22 months, in the first instance.
Main purpose of the role

- To conduct research under the supervision of the Directors of York Global Development Centre (YGDC) and support the work of the Centre
- To pursue independent research in areas of key strategic importance for the Centre
- To work closely with one of more research teams at York to further collective research achievements
- To lead on, and contribute to, the writing of research papers
- To lead and support grant bids
- To foster the interdisciplinary research culture in international development in York
- To build and sustain stakeholder relationships and stakeholder engagement events

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- To conduct original research and lead and contribute to research publications
- To contribute to the research and research culture of the Centre
- To play a leading role in research collaborations and stakeholder engagement
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Knowledge</th>
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<td><strong>Qualifications</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>First degree in Politics, International Relations, International Development or a cognate area</td>
<td>A good understanding of the challenges of international development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>PhD in Politics, International Relations, International Development or a relevant social, environmental or health science area</td>
<td>Knowledge of a range of relevant research techniques and methodologies</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Relevant field work and research experience</td>
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<td><strong>Skills, abilities and competencies</strong></td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Highly developed communication skills to engage effectively with a wide ranging audience, both orally and in writing, using a range of media</td>
<td>Ability to write up research work for publication in high profile journals and engage in public dissemination</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to attract funding for research</td>
<td>Ability to attract funding for research</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Competency and sensitivity in field work</td>
<td>Competency and sensitivity in field work</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Competency to make presentations at conferences or exhibit work in other appropriate events</td>
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# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Experience

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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Experience of carrying out both independent and collaborative research</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Experience of writing up research work for publication</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to work as part of a team and also to work independently using own initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Experience of independent working</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Experience of research in an interdisciplinary setting</td>
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## Personal attributes

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<th>Essential</th>
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<tr>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Positive attitude to colleagues and students</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines, including using initiative to plan research programmes</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Willingness to travel</td>
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The University of York is establishing an interdisciplinary research centre, led by Politics, Environment and History. The Centre will support the research and engagement strategies across the University and its research and impact in the area of International Development, broadly defined. York was 51 in the 2017 QS ranking for Development Studies and investment in the Centre is designed to support its research work whilst enabling the University to consolidate and extend its profile in this interdisciplinary area. The Centre is led by the Departments of Politics, Environment and History, and works closely with other Departments including Archaeology, Environment, History, York Management School, Biology, the Centre for Applied Human Rights, Language & Linguistics, Centre for Health Economics, Politics, Theatre, Film and Television, Education, Law School, Chemistry, Computer Science, Social Policy and Social Work, Stockholm Environment Institute and Health Sciences, as well as having close links with the York Environmental Sustainability Institute (YESI), the Migration Network, Centre for Applied Human Rights and York Asian Research Network (YARN). It plays an important role in supporting the University’s research strategy. The Centre recognises the growing demand for interdisciplinary policy-relevant research in international development, as well as the critical importance of pursuing ethical research in this field and it is committed to research income generation in areas that genuinely make a difference to people’s lives. We are looking for enthusiastic post-doctoral associates, who share our ethos, with track records of successful post-doctoral research, to support income generation, research and engagement. An interest in building new outreach activities, such as summer schools and training events and external partnerships that will enhance our reputation is welcome. Successful candidates will work closely with the Directors of the Centre, Jean Grugel, Piran White and Henrice Altink, as well as other researchers associated with the Centre, depending on their areas of expertise. You will be based on the Centre, which is located in the Department of Politics.
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2017 it is the home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and one of just six post-war universities which appear in the world top 100 (2013-14) and 15th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2016). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen’s Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we've worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University aims to offer a nurturing and supportive environment as an employer. Flexible working hours, nursery facilities, childcare vouchers, cycle to work scheme, generous holidays and an attractive pension scheme all make the University of York one of the region’s leading employers.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages.
THE CITY AND THE REGION

The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York’s bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford’s Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn’t just a great place to visit - it’s also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit www.visityork.org for more information on the city of York

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain’s best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 6428
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 2 April 2018.

What will I need?

You will need to upload:

- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of 2 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to Jean Grugel – jean.grugel@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835