

Research Associate in Thermal Physiology and Exercise

Job Ref: REQ260541a

School/Department summary:

School of Design and Creative Arts – Environmental Ergonomics Research Centre

The Environmental Ergonomics Research Centre in School of Design and Creative Arts studies the interaction of people, whether at work, leisure or in sport with their thermal environment. Heat stress, cold stress, thermal comfort, protective and sports clothing are typical topics of research (www.lboro.ac.uk/EERC)

Project Description: The project is an exciting opportunity to expand the applicability of a Physical Work Capacity model that can be used to establish the impact of Climate Change on worker productivity.

Job Description

Job Family and Grade: Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 6

Job Purpose

This project will investigate the physiological and perceptual responses of people's physical work capacity in the heat, pre and post acclimatisation. This work will include physiological studies in hot conditions in the climatic chambers with human participants.

Job Duties

- *To develop the research methodology for determination of physiological and perceptual responses to different thermal environmental conditions.*
- *To execute the research paradigm with human participants in the climatic chambers, simulating a range of hot environmental conditions.*
- *To administer a heat acclimatisation protocol.*
- *To summarise results of the research, apply statistical analysis and write up research reports for the project.*
- *To apply for relevant ethics approval for this research*
- *To recruit participants via different channels, in different age and fitness categories*
- *To write up research work in publications as appropriate that disseminate the findings from relevant projects.*
- *To support, conduct and manage all other ongoing project work including data collection and analysis within the centre if so requested.*
- *To contribute to the day-to-day upkeep and running of the laboratory facilities of the EERC, and contribute to other ongoing research and consultancy projects*
- Be responsible for conducting the day to day running of the project. Always maintain confidentiality and ensure that intellectual property (IPR) agreements are not violated.
- To assist the academic staff in the project team with the supervision of undergraduate MSc and PhD project work and day-to-day supervision and support of other researchers.
- Engage in training programmes in the University (or elsewhere) that are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the project and those of the Department.

Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility outlined in the document.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to the: Director of Environmental Ergonomics Research Centre

Direct Reports: N/A

Budget Responsibilities: N/A]

Structure Chart: N/A

Person Specification

Your application will be assessed based on the essential and desirable criteria listed below.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to explicitly demonstrate how they meet each essential (and desirable) criteria at the application stage. The criteria that you need to demonstrate in your application will be listed as Stage 1 in the table below.

Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Criteria measured at Application
- 2 – Criteria measured at Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 - Criteria measured at Interview

Essential Criteria:

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	A detailed understanding of Human (Exercise) Physiology,	1,3
	Experience of analysis and of collecting and reporting qualitative and quantitative data	1,3
	Experience of working with human test participants and monitoring their safety	1,3
	Experience with experimental design	1,3
Skills and abilities	Excellent written and oral communication skills	1,3
	Excellent interpersonal, and organisational skills	1,3
	Able to manage time and task effectively to meet project deadline and prioritise workload with minimum supervision	1,3
	Experience of scientific report writing	1,3
	Able to build and maintain effective working relationships with academic colleagues, students, and external partners to support collaborative research and communication of findings.	3
	Excellent IT skills, including MS Office applications	1,3
	Ability to write project reports and make technical presentations to industrial and academic research groups	1,3
	Knowledge of relevant Health & Safety issues	3
Training	Demonstrate evidence of continuing professional development and a willingness to undertake appropriate further training and to adopt new procedures as and when required	3
Qualifications	Excellent MSc or PhD (or near completion)	1
Other	Uphold and actively contribute to the University's commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.	1,3

Desirable Criteria:

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Relevant post degree experience	1,3
	Working in a high-quality academic research environment	1,3
Skills and abilities	Authoring original work, in the highest quality refereed academic journals	1
Qualifications	PhD in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience	1,3

Conditions of Service

The appointment will be subject to the [University's Terms and Conditions of Employment](#) relevant to the job grade.

Shared University Responsibilities

As a member of the Loughborough community, you are expected to:

- Take reasonable care of yourself, others and the environment, and to prevent harm by your acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Sustainability Policies & Procedures.
- Support and contribute to the University's commitment to principles of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) while carrying out all duties, behaving in a manner that treats others with dignity and respect and upholds every person's right to lawful freedom of expression, freedom of speech and academic freedom. Further information about EDI at Loughborough and our strategic aims is available on our website.

Our Purpose, Vision, and Values

Our purpose, Vision and Values underpin all that we do and shape how we work together at Loughborough.

We're proud to promote our values: **Adventurous, Collaborative, Creative, Authentic** and **Responsible**. Our people bring these values to life every day, and they are central to the positive and supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

If you join us, you'll be encouraged to bring these values to life in your own work and contribute to the positive, supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

Read more about our [vision and values](#).

Our Accreditations



We are proud to be a [Race Equality Charter Member](#). The Charter aims to improve the representation, progression and success of all minority ethnic staff and students within higher education and address issues of racism within higher education institutions (HEIs).



We are proud to be a Disability Confident Employer and have adopted a proactive approach to employing disabled people and to creating a more diverse workforce. We ensure that our recruitment processes are inclusive and accessible. We guarantee to offer an interview to all applicants who have declared themselves with a disability, provided they meet the essential criteria for a role. We proactively anticipate and provide reasonable adjustments and support existing employees who acquire a disability or long-term condition to thrive in the workplace.



We are a real living wage employer, and our Living Wage Employer Mark shows our commitment to paying our staff according to the cost of living.



We are proud supporters of the [City of Sanctuary movement](#) and delighted to be recognised as a University of Sanctuary. This national network brings together, university staff, lecturers, academics and students, who together work to make Higher Education institutions place of safety, solidarity and empowerment for people seeking sanctuary.

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.