Research Staff

Job description

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| **Post Title:** | Research Associate |
| **Grade:** | F  |
| **Faculty/Service:** | ACE |
| **Accountable to:** | Director: Bristol Centre for Linguistics |
| **Accountable for:** | -- |
| **Post no:** | 1720818 |
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Job context

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| The Bristol Centre for Linguistics brings together researchers in a range of areas of language and linguistics, including but not limited to, language acquisition, psycholinguistics, semantics and pragmatics, language variation and change and discourse analysis. Members of the centre have also recently completed the 4-volume Dictionary of Family Names of Britain and Ireland. Members of the centre work on various collaborative projects, including the Sounds Bristolian strand of research – exploring language use by speakers of the traditional Bristol variety, as well as multilingual speakers in the city. Researchers in the centre are also interested in pragmatic markers and are commencing a collaborative project between corpus, psycho- and socio-linguists to investigate the acquisition of these tokens. |

Job purpose

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| The successful candidate will work on either the Sounds Bristolian or Pragmatic Markers projects. 1. Sounds Bristolian

The current phase of the Sounds Bristolian project aims to help primary school children in the local area bridge the gap from talk to writing. The RA will collect data in local schools and analyse the specific difficulties experienced by children for whom English is an Additional Language as well as by those with a Bristolian accent. 1. Pragmatic markers This project aims to identify specific pragmatic markers in adult/child corpora. The RA would independently extract markers from corpora, analyse their location and frequencies and the context in which they occur.

The candidate will work both independently and in collaboration with other members of the research centre. |

Principal accountabilities

1. Research and scholarship

Undertakes basic research for example by preparing, setting up, conducting and recording the outcome of field work or corpus searching.

Analyses and interprets the results of own research and generate original ideas based on outcomes.

1. Workload and project planning

Plans own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme.

Co-ordinates own work with that of others to avoid conflict or duplication of effort. Contributes to the planning of research projects.

1. Communications

Presents information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g., steering groups.

Writes up results of own research and contributes to the production of research reports and publications

1. Teamwork/people management

Actively participates as a member of a research team.

1. Liaison and networking

Makes internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and to form relationships for future collaboration.

1. Other

Comply with the University’s equal opportunities policy, and use this role to promote equal opportunity wherever possible.

Responsible for your own health and safety and that of your colleagues, in accordance with the University’s health and safety policy.

Person specification

**Qualifications/Professional membership**

**Essential**

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| 1. Will have or be about to have a PhD in sociophonetics, syntax, pragmatics/lexical semantics, corpus linguistics, first or second language acquisition.
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**Knowledge/Skills/Experience**

**Essential**

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| 1. Understands how to conduct research using appropriate research techniques and implementing new research methods. Can demonstrate a commitment to continually updating knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
2. Possesses sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within research programmes.
3. Is skilled in effectively analysing and interpreting research data to generate outcomes.
4. Possesses effective communication skills in order to communicate research progress and outcomes, orally and in writing to colleagues and other supervisory groups, and at conferences, where appropriate.
5. Can effectively manage own workload, research resources and administrative activities.
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Special conditions

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Health and Safety/Risks

This post has been identified with the following risks: (activities, hazards or exposures)

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| **Risk 1** | **Risk 2** | **Risk 3** | **Risk 4** | **Risk 5** |
| DSE / VDU User | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |