



Job title	Research Assistant	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4a
School/ Department	Psychology	Location	University Park Campus

Purpose of role

Applications are invited for a part-time Research Assistant (18.75 hours per week) to join Dr Emily Burdett on a John Templeton Funded research project examining the development and diversity of religious cognition and belief. The project activities will investigate the similarities and differences in how religious cognition and behaviour are acquired in different cultural contexts, and also how the processes of social learning (e.g., testimony, text, instruction, imitation) support the development of religious cognition and behaviour. The role holder will join a diverse international team of researchers called the Developing Belief Network, where work is currently being conducted across 10 different teams and across 30 different sites globally. More information about the project is available here: www.developingbelief.com.

The role holder will be expected to work independently and take the lead in day-to-day management of child recruitment and data collection. They will recruit participants, help to program experiments, and collect data at the university, local schools, churches and mosques, and the Winchester Science Museum. Experience with child and family recruitment is essential. The role holder will work with the supervisor to build relationships with local schools, churches, and mosques to conduct longitudinal studies. Data collection will involve some evening and weekend work.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	To undertake and manage the recruitment, planning, preparation, and data collection for experiments with children and families. Data collection may involve some evening or weekend work.	50%
2	To build relationships with local schools and churches, participate in Nottingham's Summer Scientist Week, and strengthen relationship with Winchester Science Centre.	15%
3	To conduct literature and database searches and carry out analyses and/or tests and/or critical evaluations using specified and agreed techniques, approaches and/or models and document findings.	10%
4	To prepare and present papers on research progress and outcomes to relevant groups including external bodies and project meetings.	5%
5	To contribute to the production of research reports and publications.	5%
6	To work in conjunction with others in the research team, achieve objectives and deadlines of the research project.	5%

7	To attend project meetings with the line manager (in person and online) as well as with the larger network of researchers (online).	5%
8.	Undertake such other duties that as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature of the post.	5%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information. ▪ Ability to contribute to method improvement. ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally. ▪ Demonstrable experience of using statistical packages to analyse, interpret, and present qualitative and quantitative data. For example, demonstrable experience using qualitative software (e.g., NVivo) and quantitative software (e.g., R, SPSS, Excel). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrates a desire to further develop skills and knowledge of research methods and techniques ▪ Experience with using online experimental software (e.g., PsychoPy, Qualtrics, etc). ▪ Ability to build relationships within Christian and Muslim populations for longitudinal data collection for the specific aims and target populations of the project.
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of sufficient breadth or depth of research methodologies (running experiments and surveys) to work in research area. ▪ Experience analysing and interpreting data ▪ Experience and enthusiasm for designing and running experimental studies with children. ▪ Ability to work independently but also collaboratively as part of a team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience with mixed-method studies with families, including coding naturalistic conversations ▪ Experience working with schools, religious organizations, and/or science museums.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Degree or equivalent in relevant subject area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master's Degree, or equivalent in relevant subject area.
Statutory, legal or special requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must hold a full current driving licence and a willingness to drive in the UK unless disability precludes this. This is to enable post holder to get to local schools, churches, mosques, and science centres (e.g., the Winchester Science Museum) for child recruitment. 	



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.



The University is a signatory of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). As such we commit to focus on the scientific content of publications (where requested or provided as part of the recruitment and selection process) as a basis for review of quality, and consideration of value and impact of research conducted, rather than any proxy measures such as Journal Impact Factor.

Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

- Valuing people** Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
- Taking ownership** Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
- Forward thinking** Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
- Professional pride** Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
- Always inclusive** Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

Key relationships with others



