

# Research Assistant - Cognitive Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS)

---

*Fixed Term Contract for 22 months, 30 hours per week (0.8 FTE)*

*Job share and flexible working patterns will be considered*

*Grade AC1*

*Walton Hall, Milton Keynes*

*Vacancy ref: 18073*

## **About the Role**

The Research Assistant – Cognitive Psychology, will work with Dr Sarah Laurence (PI) on an ESRC-funded project investigating how we recognise faces across substantial changes in appearance.

## **Key Responsibilities**

The post-holder will be responsible for participant recruitment (including younger and older adults and super-recognisers), stimuli collection and preparation, building experiments using experimental software (e.g. PsychoPy, Gorilla, Qualtrics), testing participants, data entry and analysis, and preparing the results for publication. They will accurately collect and record experimental results throughout the project, in compliance with ESRC and The Open University data management policies.

There will also be opportunities to engage with continuing professional development (e.g. skills development workshops) and knowledge transfer activities (e.g. presenting at lab meetings, academic conferences and public events, meetings with non-academic beneficiaries).

## **Skills and experience**

### **Essential:**

- 2:1 or 1st class honours BSc in Psychology (or other cognate discipline)
- Designing and conducting experimental psychology research
- Data inputting and quantitative analyses using statistical software (e.g. JASP, SPSS or R)
- Able to engage and communicate effectively with a wide range of participants.
- Knowledge of relevant ethical and health and safety issues
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written)
- Excellent time management and organisational skills
- Ability to travel to Milton Keynes and other local areas for fieldwork (if/when in-person data collection is safe to resume)

### **Desirable:**

- A postgraduate qualification in Psychology (or other cognate discipline)
- Programming experimental software (e.g., PsychoPy, Gorilla)
- Liaising with external public groups and non-academic partners (e.g. working on research projects or in gaining and maintaining research access to participants)
- Project management experience
- Report writing and dissemination (e.g. conference papers)
- Knowledge of cognitive psychology topics and an interest in the psychology literature on face perception
- Able to interpret and write-up results in a format suitable for scientific publications

If you would like further details about the role before making an application then please email your query through to [sarah.laurence@open.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.laurence@open.ac.uk) or contact [Resourcing-Hub@open.ac.uk](mailto:Resourcing-Hub@open.ac.uk) quoting the reference number and job title or contact Wendy Hunt, telephone +44(1908) 655544.