

## Job Description

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Research Assistant in Micro-plastics analysis</b>
<b>Job Ref:</b>	<b>SCT224</b>
<b>Campus:</b>	<b>Hendon</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>£31,210 - £35,792 per annum</b>
<b>Period:</b>	<b>3 months</b>
<b>Reporting To:</b>	<b>Head of Department or Lead Researcher</b>
<b>Reporting to Job Holder:</b>	<b>None</b>

### **Role Summary**

The role will be held by a postgraduate researcher.

### **Job Purpose**

To undertake novel experimental work on the analysis of micro-plastics in various environmental media.

The work will form an important part of an international collaboration, contributing to enhancing knowledge in a topical and important research area. Working as part of a team of researchers the successful applicant will help enable the delivery of the intended project goals, to the benefit of the Faculty, the University and the wider community especially those with an interest in understanding and protecting the aquatic environment from the threat of plastic pollution.

### **Main responsibilities:**

#### **Research and knowledge transfer**

- Contribute to the design of research and to develop specific novel research techniques
- Individually or with others, contribute to the research project through undertaking quantitative laboratory analysis of the highest quality
- To undertake literature reviews and contribute to the production of research reports and peer-reviewed journals where appropriate.
- To liaise with project and programme partners internally and externally to support the delivery of the research project and/or programme
- Continually update own knowledge in the field of micro-plastics analysis

#### **Administration**

- Support the Lead Researcher with the coordination of research activity, as agreed
- Provide administrative support to the project to include dissemination of information to stakeholders

#### **Learning and Teaching**

- Assist in the supervision of student research projects
- Undertake other activities, as required.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

**Post Title:** Research Assistant in micro-plastics analysis

Essential requirements

### Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Appropriate academic qualifications and experience (a minimum of MSc level in Environmental Chemistry or related discipline)
- Previous experience of working with micro-plastics including laboratory analysis
- Demonstrable practical experience and knowledge of the interaction of micro-plastics with existing micro-pollutants in the aquatic environment
- Understanding of research methods and research design
- Proven experience of the use of a range analytical instrumental techniques e.g. Fourier transform infra-red spectroscopy
- Experience of using a variety of research methods and data analysis techniques including strong competence in statistical software
- Proven computer literacy in standard office software applications
- Ability to undertake practical laboratory work to high levels of precision and accuracy while adhering to tight deadlines
- Ability to communicate effectively within a team and externally, in writing and orally
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to organise and coordinate a number of activities simultaneously

**Hours:** You will be expected to work hours as are reasonably necessary in order to fulfill your duties and responsibilities.

**Leave:** 35 days per annum plus eight Bank Holidays and seven University days taken at Christmas (pro rata for part-time staff) which may need to be taken as time off in lieu.

**Flexibility:** Please note that given the need for flexibility in order to meet the changing requirements of the University, the duties and location of this post and the role of the post-holder may be changed after consultation. The balance of duties may vary over time and will be reviewed as part of the appraisal process.

**No Parking at Hendon campus:** There are no parking facilities for new staff joining our Hendon campus, except for Blue Badge holders. If you are applying for a post at our Hendon Campus please ensure you can commute without using a car.

Information on public transport to Hendon can be found here:

<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Location/hendon/directions/index.aspx>

We offer an interest-free season ticket loan, interest-free motorbike loan, and bicycle and motorbike parking and changing facilities.

Flexible working applications (including part-time working) will be considered.