RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Job Title:	**Research Assistant**
Department:	Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics (IDE-D)
Faculty:	Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH)
Location:	Keppel Street, London
FTE:	0.6
Grade:	G5
Accountable to:	Head of Department through Principal Investigator (PI)
Job Summary:	The post-holder will be a core member of the team delivering the Lancet Commission: 'Rethinking Misinformation, Health and Human Security', led by Prof. Heidi Larson. The Commission brings together an international and multidisciplinary group of Commissioners to develop new approaches to understanding and addressing misinformation within health information ecosystems. Working closely with the Commission co-chairs and Commission working group leads, the post-holder will provide research, analytical and coordination support across the Commission. They will also be part of the team supporting stakeholder engagement and dissemination of findings. Responsibilities: 1. Coordination of working groups, including managing meetings and providing support to meet output deadlines and milestones, and helping to ensure coherence across the different workstreams; 2. Involvement (as defined by working group leads) in research work (e.g., case studies) and the development of engagement and dissemination pieces (e.g., working papers, policy briefs, peer-reviewed publications) and activities. 3. Contribute to the development and final synthesis of the Lancet commission report. We seek an applicant who has experience or strong interest in researching misinformation, trust, information systems and health; who is comfortable working with diverse and senior stakeholders in an interdisciplinary environment; and willing to work flexibly and to adapt to changing needs across the working groups.

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

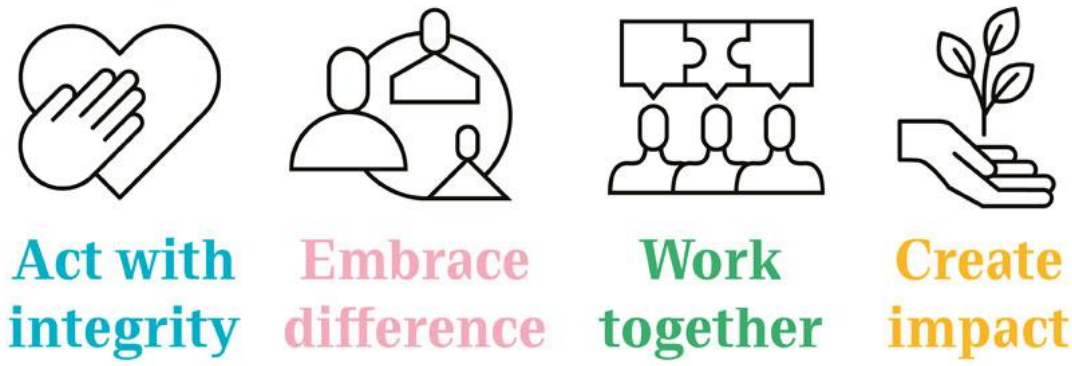
Staff and students are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements to improve health worldwide. We believe that when people feel respected and included, they can be more creative, successful, and happier at work. While we have more work to do, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace, a community that everyone feels a part of, which is safe, respectful, supportive and enables all to reach their full potential.

To find out more please visit our Introducing LSHTM page.

Our Values

Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our LSHTM Values page for further information.



Faculty Information

The Faculty of Epidemiology & Population Health (EPH) houses a large group of epidemiologists, demographers, statisticians and nutritionists working on major issues of importance to public health provision in the UK and globally. EPH employs approximately 560 people in five research departments.

- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics
- Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health
- Department of Medical Statistics, which includes the Clinical Trials Unit
- Department of Non-communicable Disease Epidemiology
- Department of Population Health

The Faculty has a postgraduate teaching programme including eleven intensive MSc courses: Epidemiology, Demography and Health, Medical Statistics, Health Data Science, Public Health for Development (jointly with Faculties of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and Public Health & Policy), Nutrition for Global Health, Global Mental Health (jointly with Kings College London, Institute of Psychiatry), Reproductive & Sexual Health Research, Sexual & Reproductive Health Policy and Practice (online), Veterinary Epidemiology (run jointly with the Royal Veterinary College) and Climate Change and Planetary Health. There are also two Distance Learning MSc courses: Epidemiology and Clinical Trials. The Faculty also has approximately 220 research students studying for an MPhil, PhD or DrPH degree.

The Dean of Faculty is Professor Elizabeth Allen.

Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics (IDED)

The Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Dynamics conducts research on the epidemiology and control of infectious diseases of public health importance. Work is carried out in low-, middle- and high-income countries, including the United Kingdom, in close collaboration with partners in each country. The Department has three groups:

- The infectious disease modelling group, which comprises the majority of the Centre for Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases (CMMID), and develops and applies the latest mathematical and statistical modelling methods to understand the dynamics of infectious pathogens to inform their control.
- The UK Public Health Rapid Support Team, a specialist multidisciplinary team across LSHTM and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) that offers low and middle income countries around the world support to prepare for and respond to disease outbreaks, through field collaboration, research and capacity-strengthening activities.
- The Vaccine Confidence Project, which conducts global research, investigating the roots, trends over time and impacts of vaccine confidence at regional, national and sub-national levels.

The Department works closely with the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & International Health.

The Department Head is Dr Oliver Brady.

The portfolio of duties outlined below will vary in accordance with the academic expectations of the role, which may be varied from time to time, and agreed at your annual Performance and Development Review (PDR).

Job Description

Main Activities and Responsibilities

Knowledge Generation

1. To undertake high quality research as directed by your line manager, including contributing to drafting grant proposals and peer-reviewed and other outputs, and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To support the administration of projects linked to your employment, helping ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant LSHTM policies;
3. To support the **coordination of multiple working groups** (aligned to specific topics) within the Commission.
4. To support the development of **thematic case studies and/or other research pieces** relating to misinformation and the information ecosystem as part of a Lancet Commission.
5. To contribute to the **development and translation of research** outputs to involved stakeholders, including policy makers, members of the community and others.

Education

1. To participate in some aspects of LSHTM's Education Programme or educational outreach activities;

Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty, MRC Unit or LSHTM;
2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in LSHTM's PDR process;

External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by supporting the external academic and practice communities;
2. To contribute to institutional and partnership links across the network of commissioners and research groups within the Commission.

Professional Development and Training

1. To keep up-to-date with the latest research / thinking in your academic field and with changes to pedagogic practice within LSHTM and more generally;
2. For lab-based disciplines: where the length and nature of the position permits, to apply for and, if accepted, undertake a doctoral degree (if not already acquired);
3. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by LSHTM as appropriate to the role;

General

All academic staff are free within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, to enable LSHTM to engage in research and promote learning to the highest possible standards.

All staff at LSHTM are also expected to:

1. Act at all times in LSHTM's best interests;
2. Treat staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;
3. Comply fully with LSHTM policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role;
4. Uphold and support LSHTM's values (as set out in the LSHTM Strategy);
5. Act as ambassadors for LSHTM when hosting visitors or attending external events;

Academic Expectations

All academic roles have a statement of academic expectations attached to each level. Please ensure that these have been read and understood. For further information please refer to the Academic Expectations page.

The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the role holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the role.

Role descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are an accurate representation of the role.

Person Specification

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed by the post holder to be able to perform the job effectively.

Applicants will be shortlisted solely on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

Essential criteria:

1. A relevant first degree. The Commission includes a wide disciplinary lens including risk science, security, social and political science, computer science and health.
2. Strong qualitative or quantitative background, ideally both, and a willingness to work flexibly and adapt research skillset to meet evolving demands of the Commission's working groups.
3. Relevant experience in a coordination or stakeholder management role
4. Experience contributing to interdisciplinary projects involving public health, climate science, vaccination, family planning or communications.
5. Evidence of good organisational skills, including effective time management.
6. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively, as part of a research team.
7. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Desirable Criteria

8. Some experience of teaching
9. Some experience working on misinformation and/or information system dynamics, ideally in the context of health.
10. Some experience working across different geographies

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is part-time 21 hours per week, 0.6 FTE and fixed-term until 31 October 2028. The post is funded by the Wellcome Trust and is available from 01 November 2026. The salary will be on the LSHTM salary scale, Grade 5 in the range £40,784 - £45,173 per annum pro rata (inclusive of London Weighting).

The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year, pro rata for part-time staff. In addition to this there are discretionary “Wellbeing Days”. Membership of the Pension Scheme is available.

LSHTM operates a Hybrid Working Framework which, alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly where the role allows - promoting wellbeing and a better work/life balance. Please note that roles based in London are required to work on-site a minimum of two days per week.

Application Process

Applications should be made on-line via our jobs website. Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if appointed. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10pm of the closing date. We regret that late applications cannot be accepted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.

The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV”, “Yes” or “No" will not be considered acceptable and will not be scored.

Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

Asylum and Immigration Statement

LSHTM will comply with current UKVI legislation, which requires all employees to provide documentary evidence of their legal right to work in this country prior to commencing employment. Candidates will be required to email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to bring the original documents in to be copied and verified before their start date.

This role does not meet the minimum job classification, skill level, salary or qualification requirements set by UKVI to enable sponsorship under the skilled worker route. Therefore, we cannot progress applications from candidates who require sponsorship to work in the UK.