

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

SOCIAL STATISTICS

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Social Statistics (Ref: HUM/10155)

1. The University invites applications for the above post which is tenable from September 2010.
2. Further details of the post are attached, including a job description and person specification.
3. Salary will be within lecturer/senior lecturer scale £32,620 - £45,155 per annum / £46,510 - £55,535 per annum according to relevant experience.
4. Informal enquiries should be directed to the Head of Social Statistics, Professor Ian Plewis via email ian.plewis@manchester.ac.uk or tel. +44 (0) 161 306 6952.

For information about Social Statistics, see
<http://wwwsocialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/socialstatistics>

5. Applications should be returned by Friday 21 April 2010 to:

Mrs Marie Rostron
School of Social Sciences
Arthur Lewis Building
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL

Marie.Rostron@manchester.ac.uk

Please note that references and/or testimonials should not be submitted with application forms or CVs, or be submitted on behalf of a candidate. The recruitment panel will only consider nominated referees obtained by the University.

6. If you have not been contacted by end of May 2010 you should assume that, on this occasion, your application has not been successful. We would, however, like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the University of Manchester.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE DIRECTORATE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN SOCIAL STATISTICS (Ref: HUM/10155)

Job Title: Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Social Statistics

Organisation Unit: School of Social Sciences

Date: February 2010

Job Description

The person appointed will be expected to:

- Publish in internationally-recognised journals
- Contribute to the development of a programme of methodological research in collaboration with colleagues in Social Statistics and elsewhere
- Contribute to the development of specialist external short courses through the Centre for Census and Survey Research (CCSR) short course programme
- Provide graduate student supervision
- Contribute to graduate-level teaching in social statistics and social research methods
- Contribute to the development of undergraduate-level teaching in the School of Social Sciences and the School of Mathematics
- Carry out administrative duties as required

Person description

Essential attributes:

- A strong background and qualifications in statistics
- Experience of research in social science
- A track record of publication in statistical or methodological journals
- A proven capacity to deliver high quality teaching to both specialists and non-specialists in social statistics

Desired attributes:

- Experience in the analysis of large-scale longitudinal datasets
- Experience with a range of statistical software packages and other aspects of statistical computing
- A willingness to work collaboratively with colleagues across academic disciplines in the School of Social Sciences and beyond
- A willingness to contribute to the work of methods@manchester

The University of Manchester

The University of Manchester, formed in 2004 by bringing together The Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST, is Britain's first chartered university of the 21st century. With some of the highest quality teaching and research, and the broadest spread of academic subjects, the university's vision for the future is its development as an international research powerhouse and a favoured destination for the best students, teachers, researchers and scholars in the world. It is already the largest single-site higher education institution in the country, offering students a greater choice of degree programmes and options, and even better facilities and support services. A landmark document, *Towards Manchester 2015*, sets out the dynamic plan for making The University of Manchester one of the top 25 universities in the world by that date.

The Faculty of Humanities

With a total income over £130M pa, some 15,000 students and some 900 academic staff, the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Manchester is equivalent to a medium-sized university in the UK. The Faculty encompasses academic areas as diverse as Arts, Education, Law, Development, Social Sciences, and Business and Management, and is addressing with notable success the aim to generate fresh synergies by overcoming traditional institutional barriers between Arts and Social Sciences. The Faculty's structure, scale and academic range permit it to promote interdisciplinary research collaboration across its seven schools from a strong disciplinary base. Major initiatives, supported by substantial internal and external investment, include: the Brooks World Poverty Institute, supported by the Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation, and led by Nobel Laureate and former World Bank Vice-President Professor Joseph Stiglitz, the Centre for Chinese Studies, led by Professor Hong Liu, The Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures in the Humanities (RICCH), led by Professor Nina Glick-Shiller and the Manchester-Harvard 'Social Change' Project led by Professor Robert Putnam in conjunction with the Institute for Social Change, directed by Professor Ed Fieldhouse.

Furthermore, the faculty is home to several Research Council funded, interdisciplinary research centres including the [ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change](#) (CRESC) and has had three successes in the HEFCE/AHRC/ESRC Language-based Area Studies competition for national research centres on China, the Arab World and former USSR/Eastern Europe. The Faculty also hosts the [Institute for Political &](#)

[Economic Governance](http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk) (IPEG) and the European Work and Employment Research Centre (EWERC) which is supported by EU funds.

<http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk>

The School of Social Sciences

The School of Social Sciences (SoSS) was set up in September 2004 within the Faculty of Humanities of the new University of Manchester. It is the second largest School in the Faculty (after Manchester Business School) with over 180 academic staff. It embraces six disciplines area including Sociology, Social Anthropology, Politics, Philosophy and Economics as well as Social Statistics. The Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research (CCSR) constitutes a research group focusing on social statistics within the Social Statistics discipline area.

The School has a highly developed research culture as demonstrated by its performance in the 2008 RAE where a joint Sociology/Social Statistics submission was rated top in the UK and Economics re-entered the top 10 units in the country. The School is one of the top three Schools of Social Sciences in the country alongside Oxford and the London School of Economics. The School's international and national reputations in its constituent disciplines are reflected in the substantial external research income that it generates, its involvement in ESRC Centres, notably that in Socio-Cultural Change, ESRC recognition for training PhD students in all its existing Discipline Areas, and success in securing ESRC studentships for research postgraduates. The School embraces the full range of quantitative and qualitative research methods.

The School of Social Sciences is committed to research-led teaching. It has an extensive portfolio of undergraduate teaching programmes: single and joint honours programmes in its constituent disciplines; joint programmes with other Schools in the Faculty of Humanities; and the large interdisciplinary programmes – the BA(Econ) and the BA in International Business, Finance and Economics (IBFE). At Masters level there are currently over 300 students following in-house MA and MSc programmes. Teaching quality is high across the School's disciplines, with economics, politics and philosophy all being rated 24/24 and social anthropology rated as Excellent in their respective evaluations by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. There are over 150 research students registered in the School.

Social Statistics and the Centre for Census and Survey Research

The social statistics discipline area, headed by Professor Ian Plewis, was launched in January 2009 and is committed to high quality research, innovative teaching methods and collaboration with other disciplines within the university, to improve the methodological rigour and range of quantitative enquiries in social science. Social Statistics delivers a successful M.Sc. programme in Social Research Methods and Statistics and undergraduate courses in survey research.

Closely aligned to Social Statistics is the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research (CCSR), currently directed by Professor Angela Dale and, from 1 April 2010, by Professor James Nazroo. CCSR is an internationally-renowned centre of research excellence specialising in the application of advanced quantitative methods in an

interdisciplinary social science context. The Centre is named after [Cathie Marsh](#) who founded the Census Microdata Unit in 1993, following her seminal work in spearheading the release of census microdata in the UK. CCSR still plays a key role in disseminating UK [Samples of Anonymised Records](#) (SARs) from the Census.

Social Statistics (including members of CCSR and some members of the Institute of Social Change) has 24 academic and research staff and 26 PhD students. CCSR was returned with Sociology in the RAE 2008, with a total of 49 FTEs entered. The outcome gave 40% of research activity at the highest quality (4*) and 60% at the top two levels, representing work of world-quality or international excellence.

The research programme of Social Statistics and CCSR is firmly located within the development and application of statistical methods. The two data development and support services, the Economic and Social Data Service and the Samples of Anonymised Records have 5-year ESRC funding and play a core role within CCSR. Methodological developments related to the Census have always been a central theme within CCSR. They are evident through, for example, the work to develop a specification for SARs for 2011 and work to assess disclosure risk from tabular or microdata – now being extended by Mark Elliot's role with the new ESRC-funded Administrative Data Liaison Service. Mark Tranmer's work on combining data in a multilevel modelling framework has provided a basis for linking individual and aggregate data from the census.

Methodological work on social networks (Mark Tranmer, Mark Elliot) links closely with other disciplines, especially sociology, through the Manchester Social Networks Group and a research network funded by Leverhulme. The appointment of Ian Plewis in September 2007 has enhanced methodological strengths to include non-response, missing data and measurement error, the design and analysis of longitudinal studies (with a particular role on the Millennium Cohort Study) as well as multilevel modelling as applied to longitudinal data.

On the substantive side, the work and employment group, has a major focus on the gender pay gap in the UK ([Wendy Olsen](#)); comparative European labour market research, with an emphasis on the employment conditions and market outcomes of part-time and temporary workers (Vanessa Gash); and income mobility over the life-course (Leen Vandecasteele). All this work includes methodological developments and innovations, and makes links with, for example, Ian Plewis's work on longitudinal analysis. Leen Vandecasteele's methodological interests in survey non-response links directly with Ian Plewis's primary research interests and, across all these researchers, there is an interest in the analysis of poverty dynamics and inequalities.

Research on ethnicity, migration and religion runs through much of the methodological work outlined above and is also the topic of a number of research projects, including, for examples research by Plewis (school results), Ford (attitudes to immigration and ethnic minorities), Finney, (all aspects of migration), Higgins and Dale (ethnic differences in diet, exercise and obesity).

Much work is conducted jointly with other disciplines or centres within the University of Manchester, e.g. Purdam works with the Institute for Political and Economic Governance (IPEG); Elliot works with Computer Science and also the Institute of Health Sciences; Dale is involved with an NCeSS node based in the Institute of Health Sciences. Other

work spans disciplines, e.g. Gash's work on European comparative analysis of employment.

There is also a great deal of collaborative research with other Universities in the UK and overseas. For example, Ian Plewis and Mark Tranmer are part of the e-STAT node of NceSS, based at the universities of Bristol and Southampton; Ian Plewis is part of the ESRC Centre, the International Centre for Lifecourse Studies based at UCL and Imperial College; Mark Tranmer and Mark Elliot hold a bilateral grant funded by ESRC and the Australian Research Council on 'The Role of Households, Neighbourhoods and Networks in Social Statistics'. Wendy Olsen has strong research links with universities in South Asia, and Ian Plewis and Mark Tranmer with universities in Spain.

The Institute for Social Change (ISC)

The Institute for Social Change (ISC) is an interdisciplinary research institute which examines the causes and consequences of social change. Its Director, Ed Fieldhouse, has a joint position in ISC and CCSR. Social Statistics and CCSR have a close relationship with ISC through staffing and also through the kinds of methods that are used by both Centres. In addition the new MSc in Social Change uses many modules from the Social Research Methods and Statistics MSc. In autumn 2008 we started a joint CCSR/ISC/Social Statistics seminar series and all events and activities for PhD students are jointly organised.

ISC is host to a five-year collaboration with Harvard University directed by Professor Robert Putnam: Social Change: A Harvard - Manchester Initiative. Under this programme researchers from Harvard and Manchester are conducting a series of transatlantic comparative studies on topics such as immigration, social inequality and religion. SCHMI also runs an annual summer school and provides for the exchange of faculty and students between the two universities.

Methods@Manchester

methods@manchester is an initiative funded by the Faculty of Humanities, University of Manchester. It aims to:

- highlight Manchester's strength in research methods in the social sciences
- promote interdisciplinary and innovative methodological developments
- foster further developments, including training, through external funding

methods@manchester achieves these aims by:

- web pages that showcase the expertise in research methods within the faculty
- promoting and facilitating methods-related events across the university
- holding twice-yearly high profile external events
- running an annual competition to fund methods-related activities that promote interdisciplinarity, innovation or international collaboration