

Post-doctoral Research Associate

Department:	Media, Communications and Cultural Studies (MCCS)
Grade/ Salary:	Grade 7 (£43,036 - £47,952)
Contract Type:	Fixed Term 36 months
Hours:	35 per week (Full time)
Location:	New Cross, London

Goldsmiths

Goldsmiths, University of London is a world-leading centre of educational excellence where ground-breaking research meets innovative teaching and thinking. We're looking for inspiring and talented people to help build on our global reputation while also growing personally in a true learning organisation.

As a college we are working to tackle inequality in all its forms and are working to promote equality on grounds of race, disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, and caring responsibilities. We are keen to attract candidates from diverse backgrounds who share our commitment to creating an inclusive culture in which all students and staff can thrive.

Information for candidates with disabilities can be found on our [Disability & Individual needs](#) page. We are happy to supply information in alternative formats for disabled applicants. Please contact hr-recruitment@gold.ac.uk to make your request.



School of Media, Communications and Cultural Studies (MCCS)

MCCS is ranked 12th in the world (and 2nd in the UK) for communication and media studies (QS World Rankings by subject 2022) and second in the UK for 'world leading or internationally excellent research' (Research Excellence Framework 2021). The Department is also unique in its diversity of approaches to, and articulations of, the disciplinary conjunctures around media and culture. It has equal research strengths in media and communications and in cultural studies research, in humanities and social sciences approaches, and in theory- and practice-driven work. It is home to a number of recognised research centres, including the Centre for the Study of Global Media and Democracy and the Digital Culture Unit. Website: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications/>

Job description

Reporting to: Professor Lina Dencik

Summary:

The post-doctoral research associate will work on the international project '*State-tech relations in the datafied welfare state: Examining the computational transformation of the European Social Model [STATETECH]*' led by Prof Lina Dencik and funded by an Advanced Grant from the European Research Council. The project explores the relationship between digital technology providers and European welfare states in the context of data-driven innovation. The candidate will lead the work package on 'infrastructures' that examines the features and ecosystems of platforms and AI applications that are used by different governments. The candidate will be expected to work collaboratively to map data infrastructures, and have the ability to use some data science methods.

Main duties:

- Carry out literature reviews on data infrastructures and the welfare state and identify relevant data systems.
- Carry out research using data science methods, including collection and analysis of data pertaining to government procurement and contracts with digital technology providers across different countries to create a database or register.
- Map and analyse infrastructures for relevant data systems across the stack
- Assist with administrative tasks, including organising project events
- Write research for publication

- Communications with both internal and external networks to develop and advance stakeholder engagement with the project
- You will be required to undertake any other duties as may reasonably be required
- Ensure that you are aware of and aligned with Goldsmiths' Regulations, Strategy, and Objectives to work together to proactively advance Equality and Diversity
- At all times to help maintain a safe working environment by participating in training as necessary and following the Goldsmiths' Health and Safety Codes of Practice and Policy

Person Specification

Detailed below are the types of qualifications, experience, skills, and knowledge which are required of the post holder. Selection will be made upon evidence of best fit with these criteria.

The Essential criteria sections show the minimum essential requirements for the post, therefore if you cannot demonstrate in your application, you meet the essential criteria categorised below, you will not be invited to interview.

The Desirable criteria sections show additional attributes which would enable the applicant to perform the role more effectively with little or no training.

The Category column indicates the method of assessment:

A = Application form

C = Certificate

I = Interview

R = Reference

T = Test

P = Presentation

	Category
Essential Criteria 1 - Qualifications	
A PhD or equivalent in infrastructure studies, data science or related field	A, C

Desirable Criteria 1 - Qualifications	
Essential Criteria 2 - Experience	
Experience mapping data infrastructures	A, I
Experience with writing academic publications	A
Desirable Criteria 2 - Experience	
Experience with creating public-facing databases	A, I
Experience with researching government data	A, I
Essential Criteria 3 – Knowledge	
Knowledge of data infrastructures, including AI	A, I
Knowledge of technical features of data systems	A, I
Desirable Criteria 3 - Knowledge	
Knowledge of government data systems in Europe	A, I
Knowledge of key developments in AI and digital platforms	A, I
Essential Criteria 4 - Skills	
Data science methods, including web scraping	A, I
Creation of database and data visualisation	A, I
Desirable Criteria 4 - Skills	
Communicating and engaging with stakeholders, including government and industry	A, I

Please also note that where qualifications are required, employment is conditional on the verification of them. Qualifications (must be original documents) will be checked on or before the first day of appointment.

Summary of Benefits

If you choose to work with us, you'll become part of a learning organisation that is committed to professional and personal development, with comprehensive and innovative staff development and wellbeing programmes.

You'll also have access to frequent lunchtime and evening talks, seminars and performances, and annual performance and development reviews.

Our other benefits include:

- Competitive salary
- Working in Zone 2, with fantastic transport links and interest free travel to work loans
- Excellent annual leave entitlement plus additional closure days at Christmas and Easter
- Membership of USS or LPFA pension scheme, dependent upon grade
- Maternity, paternity, shared parental leave and adoption leave and pay
- Contractual sick pay provision
- Access to an Employee Assistance Programme, offering 24/7/365 confidential and free advice, support, and information service on a range of personal, family, or work-related matters.
- Free eye tests
- Cycle to work scheme
- Wellbeing initiatives including the Chaplaincy and Staff Choir
- On-site [dining facilities](#)
- Access to University of London facilities such as [Senate House Library](#)
- Membership of Staff Diversity Networks: (Dis)Ability, Goldsmiths Race Equality Group, LGBTQ+, Menopause, Parents and Carers, Women at Goldsmiths. (Staff are also encouraged to join networks as Allies should they wish to do so rather than as members)

Further information

For more information about Goldsmiths, please visit: www.gold.ac.uk/about

Thank you for your interest in working with us, we wish you all the best with your application.