

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **Job Title** | Research Assistant (Fixed term) |
| **School**  | Architecture, Computing & Engineering (ACE) |
| **Grade and Salary** | E - £39,274 (pro rata) |
| **Location**  | Docklands  |
| **Reporting to** | Dr Arman Hashemi (Principal Investigator), and Professor David Tann (Dean of the School)  |
| **Responsible for** | Supporting research activities for the project: Climate Resilient Energy Efficient Low-income Housing in Egypt. |
| **Contract type** | Fixed Term for 18 Months Part-Time (0.4 FTE) Start date from September 2025 |

Build your career, follow your passion, be inspired by our environment of success **#BeTheChange**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON**

If you are seeking a career that combines innovative education with a passion for crafting positive change, look no further than the University of East London. Founded in 1898 to meet the skills needs of the 2nd industrial revolution, we’re now in Year 5 of our ground-breaking 10-year Vision 2028 strategic plan, orchestrated by our Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Amanda Broderick.

Our goal is to advance industry 5.0 careers-first education and provide a clear path to the jobs and opportunities of the future. We are committed to driving diversity in the 5.0 talent pipeline, working in partnership to promote talent wherever it is found and creating a sustainable, inclusive, and green future.

But we can't achieve this goal alone. We need forward-thinking, innovative, and curious individuals like you to join our community and help us shape the future. As part of our team, you'll have the opportunity to work with a diverse range of people who share your passion for generating positive change. We’re an inclusive and welcoming community that is constantly moving forward, never satisfied with the status quo.

If you're ready to join a team that values your outstanding skills and perspectives and is dedicated to making a difference, we invite you to explore a career with us. We are excited to welcome versatile individuals who are committed to advancing their careers while making a positive impact on the world.

**JOB PURPOSE**

The primary function of the role is to work on a British Council/STDF funded research project through the International Science Partnership Fund (ISPF): ‘Climate Resilient Energy Efficient Low-income Housing in Egypt (CRLiH)’. The project is being jointly led by Dr Arman Hashemi (University of East London) and Dr Ashraf Nessim (Ain Shams University, Egypt).

The project is in line with the UEL Vision 2028 demonstrating our commitments to Sustainability and the Zero Carbon initiatives. The CRLiH aims to fill a knowledge gap in understanding the effects of Climate Change on Thermal Comfort and building Energy Performance and their correlations to health and wellbeing of vulnerable occupants of low-income houses in Egypt. The project adopts a mixed research method including behavioural and health surveys, indoor/outdoor environmental monitoring, dynamic thermal modelling, and real-world tests on retrofitted case study buildings. We anticipate CRLiH will have positive impacts on retrofit policies and increase public awareness on Climate Change and Net Zero targets whilst improving health and wellbeing of low-income populations in Egypt.

The Research Assistant will work alongside a team of RAs and students based in Egypt to deliver the project. The primary role of the post-holder is to analyse the collected data in Egypt, develop computer models in relevant software packages (e.g. IES (VE), EnergyPlus), and ultimately develop and test future-proof retrofit strategies. As a member of the project team, the post-holder will support various aspects of the research including reporting the findings in regular meetings with the partners/stakeholders and dissemination of the outcomes in workshops, conferences, and journal publications.

There will be an opportunity for a partly funded PhD studentship (Tuition Waiver) as a part of this position, subject to final approval by the Dean of the School.

The ideal candidate for the post should have:

* Relevant knowledge on building physics, retrofit and construction detailing.
* Experience in Dynamic Thermal Modelling in IES(VE), EP and/or similar software packages.
* Experience in working with data loggers (i.e. Temp., RH%, CO2)
* Excellent skills in qualitative and quantitative data analysis.
* Excellent skills in report and academic writings.
* Publication in relevant areas would be desirable.

**KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following duties and responsibilities are intended to give a broad indication of the variety of tasks that a Research Assistant in the University may be asked to undertake. It should be noted that a job description is not an exhaustive list of activities, and employees may be asked to carry out other duties commensurate with the grade of the post. The job description may also be amended to take account of changed circumstances, and employees will be consulted when this is necessary

* Support the development and delivery of the research objectives in conjunction with the principal investigator and co-investigators and reporting regularly upon progress.
* Plan and manage own day-to-day research activities in conjunction with more senior colleagues and within the framework of the agreed programme plan.
* Contribute to delivering the research project by undertaking field surveys, data collection and analysis, training & outreach events, recording and generating impact activities; stakeholder engagement and other activities to achieve the stated projects objectives under the direction of the PI and other project partners.
* Be willing to travel nationally and internationally when required.
* Undertake quantitative and/or qualitative analysis and write up own research work in the form of reports for project partners.
* Delivering research reports, publications, and presentations in national/international conferences under the direction of the PI and other project members.
* Attend and contribute to relevant research meetings. Present information on research progress and outcomes at project team meetings. Prepare papers/reports for team meetings.
* Work closely with peers on the administration and organisation of the research project and offer support to other members of the team.
* Deal with problems and issues that may affect the achievement of the research objectives and create solutions to meet delivery deadlines.
* Continually update specialist knowledge and understanding and undertake any further training that may be required.
* Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with the research.
* Ensure all activities undertaken follow the University’s Health and Safety Policies, Equal Opportunities Policy and risk assessments adhered to.
* Keep a track of the identified and potential risks, update the project Risk Assessment forms, and take necessary actions accordingly.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

1. **KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE**

Essential

* Relevant knowledge on building physics, retrofit and construction detailing.
* Experience in Dynamic Thermal Modelling in IES(VE), EP and/or similar software packages.
* Experience in working with data loggers (i.e. Temp., RH%, CO2).
* Research experience in Post Occupancy Evaluation.

Desirable

* Experience of publishing research in peer reviewed journals.
* Experience of presenting and communicating at local/international conferences.
* Experience of working in multidisciplinary teams and with external stakeholders.
* Experience in distributing and assessing questionnaire surveys.
1. **SKILLS**

Essential

* Excellent skills in academic writings.
* Excellent skills in qualitative and quantitative data assessment.
* Ability to conduct field & building surveys.
* Team working both in a university research project context and in the field
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Desirable

* Previous experience in report writing
1. **PERSONAL QUALITIES/ ATTTRIBUTES**

Essential

* Ability to work in a team as well as independently and with project partners.
* Excellent organisational and planning skills.
* Ability to work to deadlines
* Flexible and adaptable approach to working.
* Understanding of and respect for confidentiality.
* Motivated and reliable.
* Willing to travel for dissemination of results and to undertake periods of fieldwork
1. **EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

Essential

* MSc or PhD degree (or equivalent experience) in Architecture, Construction, or Environmental Sciences.

Desirable

* Qualifications related to Energy Performance, Indoor Environmental Quality and Modelling in buildings

UEL is an inclusive equal opportunities employer and are proud of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity achievements. We expect all employees of UEL to accept our EDI policy and will not tolerate discrimination in any form. As an employee of UEL, we expect you to follow all relevant Health & Safety policies.

We're a disability confident employer and value all applications. Please let us know if you require any reasonable accommodations throughout the recruitment process.

So, if you’d like to take your career to the next level with us here at the University of East London and are passionate about our environment and commit to success, we want you to apply today!