GASCON Project Postdoctoral Researcher

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Job title</th>
<th>Postdoctoral Researcher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division</td>
<td>Humanities/Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Banbury Road, Oxford</td>
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<td>Grade and salary</td>
<td>Grade 7 : £32,817 - £40,322 p.a.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Full-time, 37.5 per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract type</td>
<td>Fixed Term for 1 year</td>
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<td>Reporting to</td>
<td>Dr Javier Lezaun</td>
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Job description

Overview of the role

The Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS) at the University of Oxford is seeking to appoint a postdoctoral research fellow as part of a new project dedicated to studying the policies and politics of Greenhouse Gas Removal (GGR).

Large-scale removal of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide removal, is increasingly being discussed as a condition for meeting climate mitigation targets. Recent IPCC assessments, and multilateral commitments to ‘net zero’ or ‘carbon neutrality’, rely on the prospect of removing large quantities of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The development and eventual adoption of technologies capable of removing greenhouse gases at scale poses, however, a series of complex political, social and ethical questions.

InSIS has a long track record of researching prospective climate engineering technologies and their governance, going back to the pioneering ESRC/AHRC-funded Climate Geoengineering Programme (CGG), carried out between 2010 and 2014. This position is part of the new GASCON project, which focuses on the policy frameworks required for the responsible evaluation of GGR options in different jurisdictions. This research position is funded by a grant from the ClimateWorks Foundation.

The position is full time for 12 months.

Responsibilities/duties
• Carry out research on the international policies and politics of Greenhouse Gas Removal/Carbon Dioxide Removal, as part of InSIS research activities in this area.
• Design, conduct and analyse stakeholder engagement processes focused on the public understanding of GGR.
• Analyse data and collaborate in the writing and publication of academic articles, book chapters and policy briefs.
• Contribute ideas for new research projects, and contribute to the writing of new research funding bids.
• Present papers at conferences or public meetings
• Act as a source of information and advice to other members of the group on methodologies or procedures
• Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone
• Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions, and research groups
• Develop ideas for generating research income, and present detailed research proposals to senior researchers

Selection criteria

Essential

• Hold a PhD/Dphil in a relevant social science discipline (e.g. Science and Technology Studies, Anthropology, Geography, Environmental Humanities, Environmental Studies, Politics and International Relations, Policy Studies) together with relevant experience.
• Possess sufficient specialist knowledge on climate policy and politics to work within an established research programme on carbon dioxide removal.
• Possess professional and/or academic research experience in the science/policy interface
• Proficiency in qualitative methods (including interviews) in the study of public opinion and/or policy processes and deliberations.
• Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities
• Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations
• Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and research income generation
• Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings

Desirable

• Experience of independently managing a discrete area of a research project
• Experience of actively collaborating in the development of research articles for publication.

Important notes for the application:

The application deadline is 30 September 2020. Interviews (face-to-face or remotely) will take place in early October 2020.

All applications must be submitted using the University’s recruitment system; for more details on this see the ‘How to apply’ section below.

Please note that:

Your Curriculum Vitae must include a list of academic outputs.
Your application’s supporting statement must include:
• a motivation letter (why do you want to join the project) with brief description of previous research that demonstrates your suitability for the position;
• a research proposal (2 pages) describing research ideas related to the project description (including the theoretical approach and expertise you might contribute to the project and potential research sites and analytical/methodological approach;
• a copy of one representative publication;
• names and contact information for two academic references who will be contacted for recommendation letters after the applicant is shortlisted.

For further information, including parts of the project proposal, please contact Javier Lezaun at javier.lezaun@ensis.ox.ac.uk

Pre-employment screening

• All offers of employment are made subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post.

• If you are offered the post, you will be asked to provide proof of your right-to-work, your identity, and we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration (so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities so that we can discuss appropriate adjustments with you), and a declaration of any unspent criminal convictions.

• We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University’s pre-employment screening procedures, found at www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford’s researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual’s unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting edge. Oxford is one of Europe’s most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spinouts, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information, please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation.
Institute for Science, Innovation and Society

The Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS) is dedicated to the study of the social dimensions of novel science and technology. We are currently undertaking research on the governance of climate engineering technologies, global health research and interventions, scientific data sharing, and transboundary resource management, among others. We nurture early career researchers through research fellowships in our various programmes. InSIS is directed by Javier Lezaun, and is based at Oxford University's School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, one of the world’s largest and most vibrant centres for teaching and research in the field.

For more information, please visit www.ensis.ox.ac.uk

School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography

The School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography (SAME) is renowned for its contributions to anthropological theory, its commitment to long-term ethnographic fieldwork, and its association with the Pitt Rivers Museum and the anthropology of visual and material culture. It has also become known as a centre for medical and ecological anthropology migration studies, evolutionary anthropology, cognition and culture, and science and technology studies.

Home to over sixty members of academic staff and researchers, over a hundred doctoral students in two doctoral programmes, eight Master’s programmes, and two undergraduate degrees, Oxford anthropology is one of the world’s largest and most exciting centres for teaching and research in the discipline.

Aside from its various undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes, the School is also home to a number of institutes and centres. Among these, the Institute of Human Sciences (IHS) provides a base for our undergraduates reading for the interdisciplinary degree in Human Sciences. The Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology (ISCA) is a world leading centre for comparative, empirically grounded research in anthropology, including ethnographic, historical, medical, material, visual and bio-cultural approaches. The Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) provides a strategic, integrated research approach to understanding contemporary and future migration dynamics in the UK and EU. The Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology (ICEA) investigates the evolution of human behaviour drawing on a diverse range of approaches, including biology, primatology, palaeoanthropology, cultural evolution, and psychology. The Centre for the Study of Social Cohesion (CSSC) conducts research and generates science driven policy interventions on the causes and consequences of social cohesion – the bonds that hold groups together, from families and gangs to nations and world religions. The Institute for Science, Society and Innovation (InSIS) researches and informs the key processes of social and technological innovation that are critical to business, governments and civil society in the 21st century and beyond.

The School of Anthropology has close links with the Pitt Rivers Museum, which houses one of the world’s greatest ethnographic collections.

The School strives for a culture that is transparent, inclusive and supportive for all its staff and students. We have achieved Bronze Level Athena SWAN accreditation and we are committed to supporting all staff who wish to undertake a rewarding career whilst maintaining a balance with their home and family lives.
More information about the School can be found at [www.anthro.ox.ac.uk](http://www.anthro.ox.ac.uk).

**Social Sciences Division**

The Social Sciences Division is a world-leading centre of research and education in the social sciences. The social sciences at Oxford are distinctive for both their depth and breadth, with activity spanning fourteen departments and faculties and one cross-divisional unit. Interdisciplinary links within and beyond the university are strong, extending to the humanities, natural sciences, and medical sciences.

Academic and research staff and research students are engaged in world-leading research that challenges current ideas and theories and is tackling some of the major challenges facing humanity, such as sustainable resource management, migration, governance, poverty and development, and justice. REF 2014 confirmed Oxford as the UK powerhouse for research in the social sciences, where Oxford accounted for more world-leading (4*) research than any other institution, across the social sciences units of assessment to which it made submissions. The division also delivers an exceptional range of high quality educational programmes (undergraduate, postgraduate taught and postgraduate research), all of which are underpinned by the innovative research being undertaken by our academics.

For more information please visit [www.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ox.ac.uk) and [http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/).

**How to apply**

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the ‘Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford’ document, at [www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/).

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the ‘Job Details’ page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.
Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our e-recruitment system to confirm receipt of your application. Please check your spam/junk mail if you do not receive this email.

**Important information for candidates**

**Data Privacy**

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University’s Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/. The University’s Policy on Data Protection is available at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/.

**The University’s policy on retirement**

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. The University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acreleiretire8+/

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acreleiretire8+/. There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

**Equality of Opportunity**

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
Benefits of working at the University

Employee benefits

University employees enjoy 38 days’ paid holiday, generous pension schemes, travel discounts, and a variety of professional development opportunities. Our range of other employee benefits and discounts also includes free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits.

University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club offers social, sporting, and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See www.club.ox.ac.uk and www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation, and local schools. See www.welcome.ox.ac.uk. There is also a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents. See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/.

Family-friendly benefits

With one of the most generous family leave schemes in the Higher Education sector, and a range of flexible working options, Oxford aims to be a family-friendly employer. We also subscribe to My Family Care, a service that provides practical advice and support for employees who have caring responsibilities. The service offers a free telephone advice line, and the ability to book emergency back-up care for children, adult dependents and elderly relatives. See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/.

Childcare

The University has excellent childcare services, including five University nurseries as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries. For full details, including how to apply and the costs, see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/.

Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University’s Staff Disability Advisor, see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff.

Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/.

The University of Oxford Newcomers’ Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff settle into Oxford, and provides them with an opportunity to meet people and make connections in the local area. See www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk.