

Post/Job Title:	Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Media Audiences and Social Change
Postholder:	Bournemouth University
Ref:	498
Faculty/Professional Service:	Faculty of Media, Science and Technology
Location including building:	Hybrid and highly flexible – desk space at Bournemouth University (Talbot Campus) or optionally remote (but must be based in the UK)
Normal hours per week:	37 hours (full time)
Grade:	6
Duration: (Dates from and to):	24 months (01/02/2026 – 30/01/2028)
Accountable to:	Dr. Catalin Brylla (line manager and Principal Investigator)

Job Purpose

- To plan, design and conduct research on media audiences and social change
- To produce related published outputs
- To manage and coordinate the research project as directed by the Principal Investigator.

Main Responsibilities

(See job advert for more details).

- Deliver research objectives of proposed work within the timeframes of the project and ensuring the achievement of project outcomes.
- Plan, design and conduct research using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area.
- Ensure the maintenance of data and records in accordance with the appropriate protocols.
- Write up research work for publication, to include research outputs and reports.
- Present findings at national/international conferences and other dissemination and knowledge exchange activities, including public engagement.
- Participate in team meetings and committees as appropriate, and provide support and guidance to other staff as appropriate.
- Continue to develop a body of published work relevant to own discipline both in terms of type and volume.
- Build relationships with internal and external contacts to exchange information, publish outputs and develop future collaborations.
- Undertake personal and professional development activities in line with agreed appraisal and development programme to enhance personal knowledge and contribution to relevant activities.

Outline Person Specification

(See job advert for more details).

- Doctoral qualification (or viva corrections completed by start date) in a relevant field (e.g., media/communication studies, film/television studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, disability studies).
- Advanced knowledge in either media studies, disability studies or social psychology
- Evidence of a sound publication trajectory.
- Experience of research design and a sound understanding of and ability to apply appropriate research methodologies, such as discourse analysis, interviews, focus groups and/or experimental setups
- Experience of presenting research within and beyond academia (desirable)
- Experience in collaboration with researchers from other disciplines (desirable)

- Familiar with current developments in research and scholarship with ability to identify appropriate research options, methods and theoretical perspectives.
- Expertise in relevant data analytical tools (desirable)
- Analytical skills
- Excellent communication skills, both orally and in writing, and the ability to communicate research findings to different audiences.
- Able to keep accurate records.
- Strong administrative skills.
- Effective team-working skills.
- Highly motivated with the drive to succeed.
- Ability to reason accurately and quickly and handle complex situations.

Contacts

Internal: Dr. Catalin Brylla, Prof. Dan Jackson

Additional Information

The purpose of the job description is to indicate the general level of responsibility and location of the position. The duties may vary from time to time without changing their general character or level of responsibility.

BU is an equal opportunities employer which values a diverse workforce. The post holder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the University's Dignity, Diversity and Equality Policy Statement.

Our highly skilled and creative workforce is comprised of individuals drawn from a broad cross section of the globe, and who reflect a variety of backgrounds, talents, perspectives and experiences to build our global learning community. Through fused activity, the post holder must have an understanding of and commitment to promoting a global outlook.

All employees have an obligation to be aware of and comply with the Universities Sustainability Policy, Carbon Management Plan and associated documents, and to ensure that whilst at work that they demonstrate the adoption of sustainable habits or practices and carry out their day-to-day activities in an environmentally responsible manner.

October 2025

Person Specification

Post / Job Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Media Audiences and Social Change

Post No: 498

Faculty / Service: Faculty of Media, Science and Technology

Date: 22/10/2025

SELECTION CRITERIA	Essential / Desirable
Knowledge (including experience & qualifications)	
PhD (or viva corrections completed by start date) in a relevant field (e.g., media/communication studies, film/television studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, disability studies)	E
Relevant experience of research in in one or more of the following methods: interviews, focus groups, quantitative surveys, discourse analysis.	E
Strong grasp of research ethics, accessibility and inclusive practice with diverse participants; clear attention to data integrity and GDPR.	E
Knowledge of disability and media, media industries, attitudes/stigma or audience effects (any combination is welcome).	D
Knowledge and experience with survey software (e.g., Qualtrics), data analysis software (e.g., NVivo), statistical software (e.g., SPSS/R) and online data collection platforms (e.g. Prolific).	D
Experience of project management (e.g. coordinating research timelines, participant recruitment, data handling, or team communications).	D
Evidence of research skills including production of peer reviewed publications in a relevant field	D
Experience of media content production (for short film stimuli).	D
Track record of public engagement, industry liaison or impact-oriented research.	D
Skills	
Research and writing skills to a publishable standard	E
Excellent interpersonal skills	E
Ability to work well both as team member and on own initiative	E
Able to communicate well at all levels both internally and with external partners	D
Attributes	
Able to identify research and professional practice activities relevant to research community	E
Highly motivated to work in subject area	E
Flexible, adaptable with strong team working skills	D