

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER****PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT****FACULTY OF HUMANITIES****SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES****DIVISION OF MANCHESTER CHINA INSTITUTE****RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN THE POLITICAL/SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF CHINA AND THE WORLD****VACANCY REF: HUM-018016**

Salary:	£33,309 to £40,927 per annum, depending on relevant experience
Hours:	Full time
Duration:	Fixed Term, available from September 2022 for 24 months (with 9-month probation)
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

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**Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:**

Contact: Professor Peter Gries

Email: [peter.gries@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:peter.gries@manchester.ac.uk)

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**Manchester China Institute** ([www.mci.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.mci.manchester.ac.uk))

The appointed research associate will be based in the Lee Kai Hung Postdoctoral College in the Manchester China Institute (MCI) at the University of Manchester. MCI both engages in and promotes world-class research about China, seeking to improve mutual understanding in UK-China relations.

Ongoing social/political psychology projects in MCI's research lab include 1) how gendered stereotypes of race shape patterns of racial prejudice, discrimination, and aggression against Asian and Black men, 2) how contacts between Anglo and Chinese students on and near campus shape intergroup bias, 3) the drivers of global views of China, and 4) the political psychology of cross-Strait (Mainland-Taiwan) relations. The appointed postdoc may contribute to these projects and potentially commence another.

Manchester has more academics engaged in China-related research than almost any other UK university – working on everything from the arts and humanities to health and science. MCI seeks to bring these experts together, enabling multidisciplinary collaborations spanning the many disciplines where the University of Manchester leads the world. MCI's offices in the Lee Building lie at the heart of the University, providing a central space where ideas and projects on China can be shared and developed.

The Research Associate will work under the supervision of MCI Director Peter Gries. A political psychologist of international affairs, MCI Director Prof Peter Gries' work explores the psychological underpinnings of China's engagement with the world, such as the causes and consequences of mis/trust and mis/perception in US-China and UK-China relations. He is particularly interested in the ideological drivers of conflict. For instance, in his first book, *China's New Nationalism*, he explored how China's anti-imperialist nationalism shapes Chinese views of the United States and Japan. His later book, *The Politics of American Foreign Policy*, examines how Liberalism both unites and divides Americans in their views of China and the world.

MCI promotes research with an impact. Scholarships and grants foster student and staff study of China. Online and on-campus seminar series provide an ongoing forum for University of Manchester students and staff to learn about each other's work on China, as well as to learn from the work of visiting scholars and practitioners.

Beyond academic research, MCI promotes mutual understanding through signature programmes such as the UK-China Diplomatic Dialogue, a forum for British and Chinese diplomats, and a UK-China International Photography Competition for ordinary British and

### **Overall Purpose of the Job**

You will work independently but also within a small research team on the social/political psychology of China and globalisation under the supervision of Prof Peter Gries.

You will be involved in managing the delivery of research projects. You will engage in research and writing, including reviewing academic and policy literatures, survey and experimental design and implementation, and manuscript preparation and submission. The role will require liaison and collaboration with academic colleagues and will also involve building relationships with other organisations and networks around the world. Your work will be carried out in a timely fashion and knowledge from research will be disseminated and used effectively.

This is a two-year fixed term post commencing September 2022.

### **Key Responsibilities, Accountabilities or Duties**

- Design and implement survey and experimental research on the social/political psychology of China and globalisation
- Write up research findings for publication in leading academic journals
- Deliver projects in a timely and organized fashion
- Present at national and international conferences
- Engage with external stakeholders and partners as appropriate
- Contribute to writing bids for research grants
- Support the research and outreach activities of the MCI as appropriate

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

### **Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

- A PhD or equivalent at the time of appointment in psychology or politics
- Demonstrable ability to publish in leading academic journals
- Strong grounding in psychological theories, survey and experimental research design
- Strong quantitative skills, including regression, ANCOVA, mediation, and moderation, and advanced familiarity with at least one software for statistical analysis, such as SPSS
- Strong inter-personal skills, including an ability to understand and communicate difficult ideas to non-academics and academics from other disciplinary backgrounds

### **Desirable Knowledge, Skills, Experience and Qualifications**

- Evidence of publication in leading academic journals
- Knowledge of Mandarin Chinese
- Knowledge of China and globalisation