



Access and Participation Project - Research Assistant, Academic Support Office, Campus West

Part time: 585 hours / 2 days a week from 1st October 2020 to 30th June 2021

The University of York has committed to achieving significant Access and Participation targets as part of its [Access and Participation Plan 2020 - 2025](#). As part of this plan, the Academic Support Office has been granted funds to develop initiatives which aim to address continuation and award gaps between different student groups. To inform these initiatives, research will be undertaken including collating policy and guidance documents, gathering good practice from the sector and undertaking University of York specific surveys involving examining staff and students' views on causes for gaps in continuation and award. To undertake the research component of this project, we are recruiting a Research Assistant.

Role and Responsibilities: the role will involve:

- Liaising with the Evaluation and Monitoring team to disseminate continuation and award gap data to Faculty groups and academic departments
- Gathering and summarising all current national policy and guidance documents related to addressing award gaps between:
 - BAME and White students (inc. Asian students and Black students);
 - Students from LPN (Low Participation Neighbourhoods) and non-LPN;
- Gathering examples of good practice in addressing continuation and award gaps - from the UK HE sector and international HE sector;
- Working with Student Expert panels, alumni groups, Student Unions and Student societies to research and analyse possible causes for the continuation gap between UoY Black and White students in terms of perceived and actual needs;
- Working with Student Expert panels, alumni groups, Student Unions and Student societies to develop research tools (surveys / focus groups) collect data and build a fuller picture of the learning experience of BAME, Black and LPN students;
- Producing reports / web page content as directed by the project team;
- In addition, from time to time you may be required to undertake other duties as appropriate to the project and as agreed with the hiring manager.

We would welcome applications from PhD students. The Research Assistant can expect to gain experience of working within a team on a complex University project; further experience of conducting research in a HE-context; and a deeper understanding of factors influencing student learning.

Requirements:

We are looking for someone with:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Previous experience of communication with students (e.g. as demonstrated via teaching experience as a GTA, in previous research or in student leadership)
- A good working knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods;
- An interest in the student learning experience

**Further Details:**

- The project will start in October 2020 and will run until June 2021.
- It is anticipated that the project will require approx. 2 days (15 hours) of work per week. However, candidates may need to be flexible to conduct research at times suitable for students / departments.
- Successful candidates will need to be able to commit to these hours across the course of the project and balance these with their other commitments.
- Pay will be £25.90 = Graduate Teaching Assistant Level 1 including holiday pay.

How to apply:

Applications should be made on this [Google Form](#) by 5 pm on Tuesday 11 August 2020
Interviews are expected to be held during week commencing 17 August 2020.

Enquiries can be made to Cecilia Lowe, Academic Support Office cecilia.lowe@york.ac.uk