Job title | Postdoctoral Researcher (Climate Econometrics)
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Department | Nuffield College, University of Oxford
Location | 1 New Road, Oxford, OX1 1NF
Grade and salary | Grade 7, £31,604 to £42,418 per annum
Hours | Full time (35 hours/week)
Contract type | Fixed term for 3 years
Reporting to | Director, Co-Director, and project Research Fellow

The role

Applications are invited for a post-doctoral researcher with a background in Economics with a focus on Econometrics to contribute to the ‘Climate Econometrics (CE)’ project (http://www.climateeconometrics.org/), whose principle aim is to improve the understanding of the impact of humanity on climate and vice versa. The role will be based at Nuffield College, University of Oxford beginning on 1 October 2018 or as soon as possible thereafter. The position is full-time, fixed-term for 3 years.

The post holder will contribute to the research objectives of CE through the development of their own independent research, and collaboration with the central team and the wider research community. The post holder is expected to contribute to, and benefit from, the knowledge exchange between econometric modelling, climate science, and the economics of climate change.

CE will provide computer support and funding to present research findings at international conferences and workshops relevant to the project.

Overview of the project

The Climate Econometrics project concentrates on developing and applying empirical methods to augment climate-economic research by helping to disentangle complex relationships between human actions and climate responses and their associated economic effects. We aim to improve our understanding of the impact of humanity on climate and vice versa, as well as how econometrics can be used in climate-economic research.

The project started in 2015, focusing on the development, application and communication of new methods to analyse large and complex sets of climate information, both by empirically estimating the impact of human activity onto climate, as well as considering the economic impacts of climate change. The project consists of researchers with backgrounds in econometrics, environmental science, econometric computing, and oceanography. Ongoing research includes applying econometrics to policy problems concerning hurricanes, sea-level change, anthropogenic emissions, temperature changes, beliefs about climate change, and geodesy as well as developing new econometric software for modelling and forecasting.
We share a commitment to bring together researchers in the field of *Climate Econometrics* through an international network, and to facilitate the dissemination of Climate Econometrics to the wider Climate Science community. To this end, we organise a regular Climate Econometrics conference series [http://www.climateeconometrics.org/conference2018/](http://www.climateeconometrics.org/conference2018/) and have started organising sessions at the European Geoscience Union General Assembly and American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting.

The project is funded by the Robertson Foundation and Nuffield College, and is supported by an international scientific advisory group consisting of Nobel Laureate Robert Engle (NYU), Karen Florini (Climate Central), Prof Cameron Hepburn (Oxford) Prof Robert Kaufmann (Boston), Prof Michael Oppenheimer (Princeton), Prof Thomas Sterner (Gothenburg), and Prof James Stock (Harvard).

**Responsibilities/duties**

*For the Climate Econometrics Research Group*

- Undertake original research on climate econometrics that contributes to the research agenda of the CE project.
- Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management to co-ordinate independent and collaborative research.
- Contribute to the knowledge exchange between econometrics, economics and climatology.
- Adapt existing and develop new econometric research methodologies, with a focus on linking climate sciences and empirical economics.
- Contribute and develop ideas for new research projects.
- Collaborate in the preparation of research publications, and communication to policy makers and the public.
- Present research at national/international conferences and research workshops, represent the research network at external meetings/seminars.
- Carry out collaborative projects with colleagues in partner institutions and research groups

*For Nuffield College:*

- Participate in the intellectual life of the College by attending, and where possible by organising seminars, workshops, conferences, and other academic events.

*For the Collegiate University:*

- Optionally, and with the agreement of the Projector Direct, undertake *ad hoc* paid teaching or supervision within the collegiate University, up to a maximum of 48 hours per year.
Selection criteria

**Essential**

- Holding, or being close to completing, a PhD/DPhil in Economics with a major focus on Econometrics. Successful candidates are expected either to have been awarded a PhD/DPhil or to have submitted their dissertation by the time they take up the post.

- A demonstrated interest in climate change and related research, evidenced by research and professional activities to date.

- Experience of working with statistical software environments, e.g. R, Ox, Matlab, Python

- Evidence of research ability including scholarly publications and presentations at international conferences, commensurate with the candidate’s career stage.

- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including the capacity to represent the project at meetings.

- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities.

- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects.

- Ability to work in an inter-disciplinary environment, collaborating with researchers spanning multiple fields from economics to climate science, and to network effectively and build new contacts.

- Ability to contribute innovatively to econometric methods relevant to non-stationary climate data and undertake empirical analyses thereof.

**Desirable**

- Experience in empirical modelling of time-series or spatio-temporal data.

- Background knowledge of climate science.

- Experience in non-technical communication of research findings.

- Experience of writing grant applications or securing external research funding.
How to Apply

To apply online for this vacancy, please click on the 'Apply' link below. This will take you to the Interfolio Web Recruitment System, where you will need to register for an account (if you have not done so previously) and log in before completing an online application.

For the online application you will be asked to complete an application form and a recruitment monitoring form, and to upload the following documents:

- A cover letter detailing your motivation to participate in the project, highlighting any background in statistics/econometrics and in policy communication, with a short outline of your proposed strategy, noting how your research augments existing Climate Econometrics projects.

- A Curriculum Vitae including full list of publications/working papers (please indicate your contribution if papers are co-authored).

You will also be asked to ensure that three full references (including two academic references) are received via the Interfolio platform by the closing date. As part of the application process, applicants will be asked to provide their referees’ names and email addresses which will generate email reference requests from Interfolio to the referees, who will be invited to upload their confidential references directly to the Interfolio platform.

Apply

If you have any technical difficulties submitting your online application, please contact Interfolio at help@interfolio.com. For other queries, please contact the HR Department, human.resources@nuffield.ox.ac.uk.

If, for your convenience, you wish to submit a hard-copy application, please contact the Nuffield College HR Department at human.resources@nuffield.ox.ac.uk. Interfolio is a US-based service, and complies with the EU-U.S. Privacy Shield Framework (see www.interfolio.com/privacy-policy/). Information submitted via hard-copy is not processed through Interfolio.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Tuesday 4th September 2018.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Full terms and conditions of employment will be provided in writing to the successful candidate. The information below is for guidance only and does not constitute a contract of employment.

Duration

The post is fixed-term for three years, subject to the normal pre-employment checks and satisfactory completion of a six-month probation period.

Salary

The salary for the post will be agreed in the range £31,604 to £42,418 per annum (Grade 7). Salaries are paid in arrears on the 28th of each month (or where the 28th is not a working day, on the last working day before the 28th) as detailed on the payslip. Salaries are reviewed annually in August, although the College is under no obligation to award an increase following a salary review.

Hours of Work

The post is full time and the normal hours of work are 35 hours per week, exclusive of meal breaks. It is essential that the post holder is able to provide some flexibility with working hours in order the meet the demands of the post and for which time off in lieu will be given.

Holiday Entitlement

The post holder will be entitled to 41 days paid leave per annum inclusive of all public holidays and College closure days. Annual leave should be agreed with your Line Manager, as appropriate.

Pension

The post holder will be contractually enrolled in the University Superannuation Scheme (USS) from the commencement of your employment, unless he or she opts out by completing and returning to the HR department the relevant form.

Meal Entitlement

Coffee, tea and lunch, whilst on duty, will be provided free of charge except during any kitchen closure period. The post-holder is also entitled to two academic High Table dinner guests per term at the expense of the College.

Other Benefits

Employees will be eligible for childcare vouchers and a discounted travel to work scheme for the purchase of bus and train tickets.

Training

The College will support the post-holder to undertake any relevant training to enhance his or her career and financial support for these development activities will be provided where appropriate.
Oxford Colleges’ Healthcare Plan

The post holder will be eligible to join the Oxford Colleges’ Healthcare Plan from the commencement of employment. The College will pay for a single membership of the Plan, but you may upgrade, at your own expense, your membership to cover your partner / spouse or your family. As this is a work benefit you will pay tax on the Subscription Rates.

Equal Opportunity statement

The policy and practice of the University of Oxford and Nuffield College require that all staff are afforded equal opportunities within employment. Entry into employment 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. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. Where suitably qualified individuals are available, selection panels will contain at least one member of each sex.

Data Protection

All data supplied by candidates will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post and will be held in accordance with the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Data Protection Act 2018, and the College’s Data Protection Policy.

Pre-employment screening

If you are selected for the post, employment with the College will be conditional upon satisfying the following requirements:

Eligibility to work in the UK

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 makes it a criminal offence for employers to employ someone who is not entitled to work in the UK. We therefore require applicants to provide proof of their right to work in the UK before employment can commence.

Please note that you will need to provide original documents and where any documents are not in English a certified translation will be required. Do not include these documents with your application. You will be sent a request for the relevant information at the appropriate point in the selection process.

Successful applicants who do not currently have the right to work in the UK will be required to apply for permission to do so under the current UK immigration system.

Medical fitness

Please note that any offer of employment will be conditional upon receipt of a completed pre-employment medical health assessment questionnaire and confirmation from the University of Oxford Occupational Health Service that the candidate is medically fit for the post (allowing for any reasonable adjustments that may be required, in line with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010).

The purpose of the pre-employment medical health questionnaire is to:
• Assess the candidate’s medical capability to do the job for which they have applied;

• Determine whether any reasonable adjustments or auxiliary aids may be required to accommodate any disability or impairment which they may now have;

• Ensure that none of the requirements of the job for which they have applied would adversely affect any pre-existing health conditions the candidate may have.

Nothing in these particulars constitutes a contract.

Nuffield College exists to promote excellence in education and research, and is an equal opportunities employer committed to equality and valuing diversity. Applications are particularly welcome from women, from disabled people, and from black and minority ethnic candidates, who are currently under-represented in posts in the College.