

Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Assistant
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract - Full-time
Research Group / Department / School:	GLOMoL, Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Phoenix House, 7-9 South Leinster Street, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin, Dublin 2, Ireland
Reports to:	Professor Mark Ward
Salary:	Appointment will be made on the IUA Research Assistant Scale, at PT 8 (€39,696) in line with Government Pay Policy.
Hours of Work:	39 h/w (full-time)
Closing Date:	12 Noon (GMT), Monday 19 th October

Post Summary

We seek to appoint an experienced Research Assistant to join the GLOMoL research team in the Department of Sociology, Trinity College Dublin. GLOMoL is a European Research Council (ERC) funded project led by Professor Mark Ward. This programme of research is a country-comparative 'Global study of the macro- and individual-level causes and consequences of loneliness'. The appointment is a specific purpose contract, to commence on 1st December 2026 or shortly thereafter. This role is offered for an initial period of 12 months, with the possibility of extension subject to performance and the ongoing requirements of the project.

The successful candidate will have completed a Masters's degree (MA, MSc, or equivalent) in quantitative sociology, applied research, or related social science discipline. The successful candidate should also have knowledge of or an interest in ageing and the social determinants of health, including loneliness.

Project Description

GLOMoL is a global country-comparative study of the interaction between individual- and macro-level causes and consequences of loneliness. GLOMoL will create a unique longitudinal

country-comparative data infrastructure that combines individual- and macro-level indicators to advance our understanding of loneliness in different societies. This will be achieved by applying advanced multi-level and longitudinal data analytic techniques to complex data structures.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Undertake data management, literature reviews and descriptive data analysis under the direction of the study PI.
- Assist the study team in preparing material for publication in international peer-reviewed journals and presentations at international conferences.
- Assist with collecting, merging, and harmonising secondary data sources (HRS ageing cohorts).
- Support and assist research tasks including, study documentation and website content.
- Engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities as required by your Principal Investigator, the Department of Sociology, The School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, and the University.

Funding Information

GLOMoL is supported by a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Award (2026-2031).

Person Specification

Qualifications

- A Master's degree (MA, MSc, or equivalent) in quantitative sociology, applied research, or related social science discipline (essential).
- Post-graduate or professional research experience (desirable).

Knowledge & Experience

Essential

- An interest in ageing and / or the social determinant of health.
- Working knowledge of software used for data analysis, Stata, R, or similar.

Desirable

- Committed to your own professional development.
- An interest in developing your research and analytic skills.

- An ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.
- Experience of working with external stakeholders.

Skills & Competencies

- Excellent Communication Skills (Oral, Written, Presentation etc)
- Excellent organisational and administrative skills, and an ability to work to deadlines.

Application Procedure

Applicants should submit the following documentation to Ms Lorraine Ivers at recruit.sociology.sssp@tcd.ie, quoting “RA - GLOMoL” in the subject line.

- A cover letter that clearly indicates how the applicant’s profile and skills fit the requirements of this Research Assistant position (max. two pages)
- A short piece of written work (sample of writing from a research dissertation or essay).
- A full Curriculum Vitae.
- Name, affiliation, and contact details of 2 referees (with their email addresses included);

Further Information for Applicants

Informal enquiries: contact Prof Mark Ward (wardm8@tcd.ie)

URL Link to Human Resources	https://www.tcd.ie/hr/
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Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity College Dublin is Ireland’s leading university and is ranked 75th in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2026. Founded in 1592, the University is steeped in history with a reputation for excellence in education, research and innovation.

Located on an iconic campus in the heart of Dublin’s city centre, Trinity has over 20,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students across three faculties – Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Engineering, Mathematics and Science; and Health Sciences.

Trinity is recognised globally for its international outlook and academic excellence, with students and staff from over 120 countries.

The pursuit of excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of a Trinity education, and our researchers have an outstanding publication record and strong record of

grant success. Trinity has developed 19 broad-based multidisciplinary research themes that cut across disciplines and facilitate world-leading research and collaboration within the University and with colleagues around the world. Trinity is also home to five leading flagship research institutes:

- Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI)
- Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN)
- Trinity Translational Medicine Institute (TTMI)
- Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (TLRH)
- Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)

Trinity is recognised as one of Europe's leading universities for entrepreneurship and innovation, with a strong track record in producing graduate founders and supporting start-up creation.

Trinity is home to the famous Old Library and the historic Book of Kells, as well as internationally significant holdings in manuscripts, maps and early printed material. The Trinity Library is a legal deposit library, granting the University the right to claim a copy of every book published in Ireland and the UK. At present, the Library's holdings span millions of printed and digital resources, including extensive e-books and e-journals.

With over 140,000 alumni worldwide, Trinity's tradition of independent intellectual inquiry has produced some of the world's finest and most original minds, including the writers Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett, mathematician William Rowan Hamilton, physicist Ernest Walton, political thinker Edmund Burke, and former President of Ireland Mary Robinson. This tradition finds expression today in a campus culture of scholarship, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and dedication to societal reform.

Rankings

Trinity is Ireland's leading university and is ranked 75th in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2026. Trinity also performs strongly across subject rankings and is consistently represented among the world's leading universities across a broad range of disciplines. Full details are available at: [Trinity rankings page](#)

The Selection Process in Trinity

The Selection Committee (Interview Panel) may include members of the Academic and Administrative community together with External Assessor(s) who are expert in the area. Applications will be acknowledged by email.

Given the degree of co-ordination and planning to have a Selection Committee available on the specified date, the University regrets that it may not be in a position to offer alternate selection dates. Where candidates are unavailable, reserves may be drawn from a shortlist. Outcomes of interviews are notified in writing to candidates and are issued no later than 5 working days following the selection day.

In some instances the Selection Committee may avail of telephone or video conferencing. The University's selection methods may consist of any or all of the following: Interviews, Presentations, Psychometric Testing, References and Situational Exercises.

It is the policy of the University to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full pre-employment medicals. Information supplied by candidates in their application (Cover Letter and CV) will be used to shortlist for interview.

Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed. However, eligibility is determined by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and further information on the Highly Skills Eligible Occupations List is set out in Schedule 3 of the Regulations

<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Highly-Skilled-Eligible-Occupations-List/> and the Ineligible Categories of Employment are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations

<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/> . Non-EEA candidates should note that the onus is on them to secure a visa to travel to Ireland prior to interview. Non-EEA candidates should also be aware that even if successful at interview, an appointment to the post is contingent on the securing of an employment permit.

Equal Opportunities Policy

Trinity is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to employment policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community. On that basis we encourage and welcome talented people from all

backgrounds to join our staff community. Trinity's Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at <https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement>.

Pension Entitlements

This is a pensionable position and the provisions of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 will apply in relation to retirement age for pension purposes. Details of the relevant Pension Scheme will be provided to the successful applicant. Applicants should note that they will be required to complete a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether or not they have previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Irish Public Service employment.

Applicants formerly employed by the Irish Public Service that may previously have availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of Incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Such queries should be directed to an applicant's former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

Application Procedure

Applicants should submit a Cover Letter, full Curriculum Vitae that includes the names and contact details of 2 referees (including email addresses), to:

Name: Ms Lorraine Ivers

Email Address recruit.sociology.sssp@tcd.ie



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