

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

School of Psychology

RA2386

CANDIDATE BROCHURE



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WHAT MAKES UEA SO SPECIAL?

The University of East Anglia is a publicly funded major UK research and teaching university. It was built to embody a radical new vision for higher education, where interdisciplinarity is crucial and excellence in both research and teaching is valued. UEA consistently ranks within the top quarter of universities in the UK for the quality of research and teaching.

As a major regional employer and cultural centre, we take our regional civic responsibilities very seriously and have kept our sights on the people and place we call home. In fact, we launched our University Civic Charter in October 2023; created from in-depth community engagement, renewing our commitment to the region as part of our 60th anniversary.

There are many things which make UEA special, not least of which is the community of staff and students that work and study here. UEA includes three Nobel prize winners, including Sir Paul Nurse and Sir Michael Houghton, and many fellows of the Royal Society and British Academy amongst our alumni and current staff.

Our campus is home to Sir Denys Lasdun's iconic brutalist architecture set in hundreds of acres of beautiful country park that includes a large broad (lake). In the spirit of Lasdun's ambition to inspire an anatomy of ideas, today, UEA is tackling some of the key challenges of the changing world. UEA's research combines disciplines

and breaks new boundaries across its priority research themes of climate, creative and health.

UEA is the place where global warming was first documented. Since the 1970s, UEA's Climatic Research Unit, and more recently Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (Headquarters hosted at UEA), have played a pivotal role in developing temperature records and climate models, contributing to the understanding of climate change, and informing global policy. Many UEA scientists have played significant roles in the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), which was jointly awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to increase public knowledge of anthropogenic climate change. Environmental Science and Global Studies at UEA continue to be a major powerhouse for research and teaching.

UEA is widely regarded as a pioneer in creative writing, having established the UK's first Creative Writing Masters programme in 1970. This renowned programme has since attracted and produced numerous successful writers, including Booker Prize winners such as Ian McEwan and Anne Enright, and Nobel Prize Winner Sir Kazuo Ishiguro. In recent years, UEA academics have played a pivotal role in the discovery and presentation of the Gloucester Royal shipwreck (Norfolk's Mary Rose). Our iconic Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is a major museum and arts research facility.



Health research at UEA not only embraces the Faculty of Medicine and Health but draws in research from both social and natural sciences. Research under this theme has made major contributions in the fields of healthy ageing, epidemiology and involving citizens (via our innovative Citizens' Academy) in improving health care outcomes. This theme benefits from close association with the other major research institutes on the Norwich Research Park; notably the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the Quadram Institute. The Norwich Cancer Research Network, and Norfolk Institute for Healthy Ageing, are examples of key mechanisms for delivery of real impact from health research at UEA.

UEA has been a major success over the last 60 years and looks forward with confidence to the next 60 years.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Rose Meleady, Principal Investigator via r.meleady@uea.ac.uk

UEA is part of the Norwich Research Park

Norwich Research Park (NRP) membership locates UEA in one of the largest concentrations of research institutes in the whole of Europe – four independent internationally-renowned research institutes: John Innes Centre, Quadram Institute, Earlham Institute and The Sainsbury Laboratory; with the University of East Anglia and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, supported and funded by The John Innes Foundation, The Gatsby Foundation, and UKRI Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

The NRP provides an ideal environment for collaborative use of infrastructure and facilities, with a single portal for academics and businesses to access the specialist facilities across the Park.

The Enterprise Centre is a regional business, knowledge and innovation hub, with workspace provision and supports over 80 businesses working alongside UEA staff and students in a dynamic and vibrant entrepreneurial community. On the wider NRP, there are dedicated laboratory and office spaces in the Innovation Centre and Centrum hosting over 600 staff within a total of 115 businesses and spinouts.



THE ROLE

The Senior Researcher will play a pivotal role in conducting experiments and analysing data in a project exploring the impact of intergroup contact using novel, experience sampling methods (ESM).

The project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust and led by Professor Rose Meleady, involves a programme of work examining the impact of intergroup contact on prejudice attitudes. While previous research has typically examined the impact of intergroup contact on attitudes over timespans of months or years, this project will adopt a real-time perspective. Using innovative experience sampling methods (ESM), the study will capture interactions between individuals from different ethnic groups as they happen, providing new insights into their immediate 'micro-level' effects. The results will provide a new understanding of the temporal dynamics of intergroup contact, and timeframe over which contact effects occur.

You will be responsible for designing and programming ESM studies, coordinating data collection, obtaining ethical clearance, analysing the data using multi-level modelling techniques for intensive longitudinal data, and contributing to writing up results and dissemination activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Running experience sampling method (ESM) studies to explore intergroup contact and its impact on prejudiced attitudes
- Programming applications for collecting ESM data
- Coordinating data collection both online and in-person
- Conducting data analysis using multi-level techniques for intensive longitudinal data
- Contributing to the preparation of conference papers and journal articles for publication
- Contributing to grant applications and other projects in Professor Meleady's research group, commensurate with the grade of appointment
- Contribution to the supervision of more junior researchers in the research group
- Positively supporting and promoting the University's values in all aspects of work.
- Abiding by all University Regulations and Policies relevant to the role.

THE PERSON

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- PhD in relevant area (E)
- Significant experience of independent research (E)
- Publications in respected journals or equivalent in the field (E)

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- Experience designing and running research studies in person and online (E)
- Grasp of relevant theory on prejudice and intergroup contact (E)
- Advanced knowledge of statistical analysis, including the analysis of intensive longitudinal data / experience sampling data using multi-level techniques (E)
- Demonstrable administrative and prioritisation skills with the ability to manage a varied workload in a high paced environment (E)
- Ability to use initiative and apply creativity to solve problems (E)
- Excellent interpersonal skills; ability to quickly establish and maintain good working relationships at all levels (E)

- Experience using and/ or programming applications for collecting experience sampling data (D)
- Experience with open and reproducible research practices (D)

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Demonstrate UEA's Values and behaviours in day-to-day work and support a team culture that reflects them (E)
- Willingness to change and develop work practices (E)
- Proactive and self-motivated and willing to take ownership of tasks without close supervision (E)
- Confident, articulate and credible (E)

Essential Requirements (E) are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job.

Desirable Requirements (D) are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The post is available from 1 July 2026 on a full-time basis for a fixed term period of 27 months.

Salary will be £38,784 to £46,049 per annum on Grade 7 on the single salary spine.

Place of Work - The University is strongly committed to providing an excellent student experience and research environment, and it is expected that all staff will be available on campus to carry out their duties during their working week in support of these goals. We have a hybrid-working policy which supports a mix of at home and on campus 'hybrid' working for many roles. For the majority of hybrid roles, the expectation is a minimum of 60% of working time will be spent physically present in the workplace.

The flexibility of the hybrid-working policy allows the possibility of some remote working, but it is the expectation that all appointments will be UK based, with any overseas working agreed in advance by exception only.

If successful you will be asked to show evidence of right to work in the UK prior to any formal offer being made. Non-British and non-Irish nationals entering the UK to undertake employment or who are currently in the UK will have to meet eligibility criteria under the points-based immigration system. The University may be able to provide sponsorship under the Skilled Worker route if relevant criteria are met. Please note, due to the complexities of the immigration system, Skilled Worker visa sponsorship is not guaranteed for every role. If you would like further information about whether this role is eligible for visa sponsorship, please contact staff.visacompliance@uea.ac.uk

The post is superannuable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme and there is an annual leave entitlement of 30 days plus statutory (8 days) and customary (6 days) holidays. The University is committed to creating an environment where the health, welfare and safety of all students and staff is of paramount importance. The University's Safeguarding Policy addresses both child protection and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults within the work of the University. Appointment will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, which may include an Occupational

Health assessment.

Information on the benefits of working at UEA can be found at <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>.

If you require the information contained within this candidate brochure in a different format please email staff.recruitment@uea.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this vacancy, please follow the online instructions at: <https://vacancies.uea.ac.uk>

The closing date for this role is 11:59pm on **18 May 2026**.

Please note that the application form contains an Equal Opportunities section which must be completed. The Equal Opportunities information will not be made available to the selection panel and will not form any part of either the short-listing or decision making process.

It is anticipated that interviews will take place via Microsoft Teams or in person on **9 June 2026** and we will inform you of the outcome of your application prior to this date.

Candidates should note that travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending an in-person interview will not be reimbursed.



ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School of Psychology, based within the Faculty of Social Sciences at UEA offers all School staff a great balance of a stimulating research-intensive department with a commitment to high-quality teaching.

A combination of research focused (ATR) and scholarship oriented (ATS) faculty, together with research students supported through the Faculty Graduate School and Research Associates create a lively research community. Research seminars, interest groups and informal gatherings cut across the three research clusters of Cognition Action and Perception, Developmental Science, and Social Cognition to create a network of supportive colleagues and a foundation from which to develop collaborations across UEA's range of research groups and centres. Psychological science is facilitated by cutting-edge facilities including EEG, TMS, Eye Tracking, and VR laboratories, Developmental Dynamics Laboratory and the UEA Wellcome-Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (UJWWBIC). Faculty also benefit from dedicated participant panels, funding bid assistance through the Research and Innovation Service as well as School based professional support and a skilled technical team.

Research-led teaching underpins a dynamic learning experience for students on 15 Undergraduate programmes including Year Abroad and Placement Year variants, all accredited by the British Psychological Society. The flexible undergraduate pathways and the three Postgraduate Taught Masters align with research expertise and allow students to share in the creative excitement of scientific endeavour, especially with the operation of the School's internship and volunteering schemes. Programme teams work in partnership with students, and are supported by central services such as Wellbeing, Learning and Careers, to embed skills within a blended and inclusive pedagogical approach which provide students with a strong disciplinary identity.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is a thread that links all School activities. The University possesses an institutional Silver Athena SWAN award and the School's commitment to providing a fair and equal environment for staff and students is demonstrated through obtaining a School level Silver Athena Swan Award in 2018. The School encourages wide representation across the School's portfolio of activities and provides the facilities and the environment to allow all staff and students to contribute fully and to flourish.



ABOUT THE FACULTY

The Faculty of Social Sciences is a vibrant and stimulating environment, which is home to seven Schools of study at the forefront of teaching and research in a range of social science and professional subjects:

- School of Economics (ECO)
- School of Education and Lifelong Learning (EDU)
- School of Global Development (DEV)
- UEA Law School (LAW)
- Norwich Business School (NBS)
- School of Social Work and Sociology (SWK & SOL)
- School of Psychology (PSY)

As a Faculty we:

- Provide high-quality learning and teaching, and postgraduate training, aimed at developing critical reasoning skills and employability
- Generate research and scholarship across disciplines that not only contribute to the development of disciplines themselves, but also produces socially useful new knowledge
- Put enterprise and engagement, locally and globally, at the heart of our mission





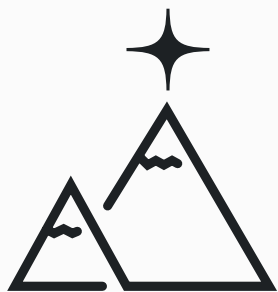
OUR VALUES

Shaped by staff, our UEA values represent a core set of standards for how we behave as an employer, drive excellence in teaching, learning and research, and collaborate as an anchor institution in our local community.

From tackling global challenges, striving for student and staff success, and creating a vibrant inclusive environment, our values are what unite us.

- ✦ AMBITION
- ✦ COLLABORATION
- ✦ EMPOWERMENT
- ✦ RESPECT

OUR VALUES (CONTINUED)



AMBITION

We are ambitious for our future success.

We are forward-thinking and brave in our approach and decisions. We make space for innovation and creativity, seizing opportunities that are responsible and sustainable. We are ambitious for the advancement of education and research.



COLLABORATION

We are collaborative in our approach.

We work together with shared purpose. We build connections, share ideas and develop new networks. We champion our regional, national and global relationships and demonstrate that together we can achieve greater goals and positively influence the world around us.



EMPOWERMENT

We empower ourselves and each other.

We develop ourselves and others, trusting people to make decisions based on their expertise and knowledge. We continually improve systems and processes to support us in working in an agile and efficient way.



RESPECT

We respect each other.

We treat everyone with respect and dignity. We value diversity and foster a community where people can express different thoughts and views. We are open to challenge, so we can learn and improve. We encourage a positive, inclusive environment where everyone has opportunities to fulfil their potential.

RESEARCH AT UEA

REF21 results showed that 91% of our research is world leading or internationally excellent ([The University of East Anglia : Results and submissions : REF 2021](#)); and the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) results show UEA as above average across most indicators in our Cluster-X grouping ([Knowledge exchange framework: Dashboard \(kef.ac.uk\)](#)).

UEA research is highly cited, the 6th most cited in the UK and 41st globally (THE Research Citations rankings 2022). Ten researchers associated with the Norwich Research park and seven researchers from UEA have been named in the annual [Clarivate Web of Science Group Highly Cited Researchers list for 2022](#).

UEA is listed in the World Top 100 for research citations (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023) and World Top 50 (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022).

REF21 Highlights – Top 20s

- 1st overall, 6th for outputs and 1st for impact - for (Anthropology and) Development Studies (8th for research power)
- 1st overall, 2nd for outputs and 1st for impact - for Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences
- 3rd overall, 7th for outputs and 8th for impact - for History

- 4th overall, 14th for outputs and 5th for impact - for Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences (9th for research power)
- 4th overall, 9th for outputs and 1st for impact - for Social Work and Social Policy
- 5th overall, 8th for outputs and 7th for impact - for Area Studies

UEA is home to several world-renowned Research Centres and Networks

- Climatic Research Unit (CRU) [Climatic Research Unit - Groups and Centres \(uea.ac.uk\)](#)
- Tyndall Centre [Homepage -Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research](#)
- Norwich Institute for Healthy Ageing (NIHA) <https://healthyageingnorwich.com/>
- Centre for Japanese Studies & Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Art and Cultures <https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/centre-for-japanese-studies> <https://www.sainsbury-institute.org/>
- Biomedical Research Centre <https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/biomedical-research-centre>
- Centre for Competition Policy <https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/centre-for-competition-policy>

- Norwich Institute for Sustainable Development (NISD) [Home - The Norwich Institute for Sustainable Development \(nisd.ac.uk\)](#)
- Centre for Research on Children and Families (CCRF) <https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/centre-for-research-on-children-and-families>
- Water Security Research Centre (WSRC) [Water Security Research Centre - Groups and Centres \(uea.ac.uk\)](#)
- Productivity East <https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/productivity-east>

UEA houses the British Archive for Contemporary Writing (with material from renowned authors such as Doris Lessing and Lee Child), the nationally accredited East Anglian Film Archive, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Culture, and Sainsbury Research Unit for the Arts of Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

OTHER ACCOLADES

- Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education have been awarded to UEA for international development studies (2009), creative writing (2011) and environmental sciences (2017). Notable alumni include Sir Paul Nurse (1973, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2001), Sir Kazuo Ishiguro (1980, Nobel Prize for Literature 2017), Sir Michael Houghton (1972, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2020) and Sarah Gilbert (1983) who led the Oxford University team to develop a COVID-19 vaccine, approved in 2020.
- Our Doctoral College, established in 2018, hosts six Doctoral Training Partnerships and integrates Faculty and School provision for 1600 Postgraduate Research Students (including those from across the Norwich Research Park), enabling collaboration and innovation.
- We recognise our global impact and were one of the first universities to declare a climate and biodiversity emergency in June 2019. Our sustainable campus, including over 50 acres of environmentally valuable parkland, is constantly evolving with ambitions to be 100% net zero by 2045 or sooner.
- UEA is a University of Sanctuary, an accreditation given to universities that show an ongoing commitment to creating a welcoming culture of inclusivity and awareness.
- UEA was awarded the Silver Athena SWAN Award in 2019, and all our Schools hold awards at Bronze or Silver.

A vibrant place to study, learn and work, UEA is a very special place.



A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

At UEA, we are now working to create a university that will be even better in the future, and we are working to achieve net zero carbon by 2045 (or earlier). Our Sustainable Ways vision is one of a resilient university – where consumption is efficient and self-generated energy supports low carbon goals, supported by a vibrant community of world-leading researchers and inspired graduates.

At a basic level, our sustainable development means that we try to balance the 'three pillars' of environmental, economic and social elements.

We challenge our environmental impact through on-site energy generation and a district heating and cooling network, reducing our reliance on grid electricity and therefore fossil fuels. We promote and use recycled and 'eco' products such as biological cleaning materials. We champion local suppliers and ethical causes, including Fairtrade and vegan products. We seek to ensure value for money in a holistic, whole-life costing sense in our new buildings and procurement contracts.

OUR INITIATIVES

Central campaigns, such as holiday shut-downs or awareness day events, support a whole-University approach to energy saving and other initiatives.

Follow us on X [@SustainableUEA](https://twitter.com/SustainableUEA)



OUR CAMPUS

UEA is based on a campus that provides top quality academic, social and cultural facilities to over 17,000 students.

Although located in 320 acres of rolling parkland, virtually no part of the campus is more than a few minutes' walk from anywhere else, so everything is close at hand – the library, nursery, health centre, supermarket (incorporating a post office) and restaurants. Amongst the striking buildings is the UEA's Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, which contains the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection – one of the greatest art collections formed in Europe during the 20th Century.

The University has invested in new learning and teaching and research spaces, including a celebrated new Enterprise Centre that underpins its commitment to promoting student enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Sport and Recreation plays a major part in the life of the University of East Anglia, centred around the major Sportspark facility which is one of the most successful community sport facilities in the UK. This accessible and affordable facility provides a diverse range of activities, and incorporates a 50m Olympic size swimming pool, indoor climbing wall, coaching resource centre and sports injury clinic.



NORWICH

A CITY OF STORIES

The city's motto is 'A fine city' and its strong cultural heritage has seen Norwich maintain the best of its historical character whilst developing to become one of the most vibrant and attractive cities in Europe. Norwich offers miles of riverside walks and cycle ways, and a unique collection of 1930s parks. The city is surrounded by beautiful countryside and within easy reach of the stunning Norfolk coast.

Norwich is a UNESCO World city of Literature, the first in the UK, as well as being one of the newly named Tech Cities recognising the growth of digital businesses in the region. The most prominent high-rise building, apart from the castle, is the magnificent 11th century cathedral, which still dominates the skyline. The city's medieval centre of cobbled streets remains largely intact, but there is still space for modern buildings such as the city's centrepiece, the Forum, which is a striking piece of contemporary architecture. The glass front overlooks the colourful open-air market (one of the largest in the country) and reflects the city in all its diversity.

The city is consistently rated as one of the top ten shopping venues in the UK. Norfolk and Suffolk attract thousands of visitors each summer. The famous Norfolk Broads are among the most important wetlands in Europe and a haven for rare plants, wildlife and insects. The Broads attract holidaymakers who come to navigate the intricate natural network of waterways formed by the Rivers Bure, Yare and Waveney and their tributaries.

For further information about UEA's excellent facilities, staff benefits, picturesque campus and the UEA working environment, please visit the 'Careers at UEA' microsite <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>. Additional information about living and working in the city of Norwich can be found at <https://www.workinnorwich.co.uk/>



If there is another city in the United Kingdom with a school of painters named after it, a matchless modern art gallery, a university with a reputation for literary excellence which can boast Booker Prize-winning alumni, one of the grandest Romanesque cathedrals in the world, an extraordinary new state-of-the-art public library then I have yet to hear of it. Norwich is a fine city. None finer.

STEPHEN FRY



LOCATION

Some cities you've heard of, others you have to discover. Norwich is one of the most beautiful, modern historic cities in Britain. It's a city that celebrates the independent, stimulates creativity, promotes change and encourages diversity.

UEA is a campus university located 3 miles from the centre of Norwich. Situated in the heart of Norfolk, which means it's an ideal location to explore Norwich and beyond.

BY RAIL

LONDON • 2 HOURS

CAMBRIDGE • 1 HR 15 MINS

BIRMINGHAM • 4 HOURS

Many European cities (including Paris and Amsterdam) easily accessible by train

BY ROAD

KINGS LYNN • 1 HOUR

CROMER • 45 MINUTES

SOUTHWOLD • 1 HOUR

BY AIR

NORWICH AIRPORT • 20 MINUTES

STANSTED AIRPORT • 2 HOURS

London is a major airline hub and all main international destinations are easily accessible



An internationally renowned university, UEA is ranked 26th in the UK (Complete University Guide 2026) and is in the UK Top 25 for research quality (Times Higher Education Rankings 2026) reflecting the international excellence of its research environment. We are in the World Top 60 (QS World Rankings for Sustainability 2025) and the World Top 13th for reduced inequalities (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025). The University holds UK Teaching Excellence Framework Silver status.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing

The University is committed to diversifying its workforce and to the wellbeing of all our staff. For example, we already hold an Athena Swan Silver Institutional Award in recognition of our advancement towards gender equality. Further details on our broader Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing work can be found on our [website](#).

