

Research Associate in Law**School or Department:** Nottingham Law School**Grade & Salary:** Grade F £29,352 - £33,739 per annum**Role Description:**

Job purpose: The principal purpose of the role is to support the delivery and development of high-quality research across Nottingham Law School. Working with colleagues across the School's three Research Centres, the post holder will contribute to research outputs, externally funded projects, empirical data collection and analysis, funding applications, dissemination and impact.

Principal duties and responsibilities: The role may include the duties below. Their relative emphasis will reflect current project needs and will be agreed with the post holder's line manager.

A) Indicative project areas:

Projects may span socio-legal studies, legal education; law, emerging technologies and business (including artificial intelligence, corporate law and insolvency law); and rights and justice (including human rights, international law and criminal justice). The post holder will not be expected to have prior expertise in every area.

B) Principal duties

1. Undertake focused legal and interdisciplinary research using academic databases and other appropriate sources, identifying, evaluating and analysing relevant literature, legislation, case law, policy materials and research evidence.
2. Prepare accurate summaries and syntheses of law, policy and research, and draft material for literature reviews, reports, journal articles and other academic or public-facing outputs.
3. Contribute to the design of empirical research and research tools, which may include interview and focus group schedules, questionnaires and surveys.
4. Support participant recruitment and undertake fieldwork, including interviews and focus groups with research participants and stakeholders, in accordance with approved ethical procedures and research integrity protocols.
5. Organise, code and analyse qualitative and/or quantitative data using appropriate methods and software, maintaining confidentiality, accuracy and a clear audit trail.
6. Deliver agreed tasks in line with project plans and milestones; maintain accurate project records; identify issues that may affect objectives or deadlines; and seek guidance where appropriate.
7. Undertake horizon-scanning and support the development of external funding applications through activities such as background research, evidence gathering and project scoping.
8. Support dissemination, engagement and impact activity, including research events, presentations, accessible summaries, online content and communication with external stakeholders.



9. Work collaboratively with colleagues across the School's Research Centres and with external partners, attending meetings and providing clear updates on progress.
10. Maintain relevant knowledge and skills through continuing professional development and work in accordance with University requirements relating to research integrity, ethics, data protection, equality, diversity and inclusion, and health and safety.

N.B. The post holder may be required to undertake other duties that are reasonably consistent with the nature and level of the role. Any permanent material change to the role will normally be reflected in an updated job description.

Our Principles, Our Ways:

Our Ways represents a commitment to making a difference, taking bold steps, and maintaining moral standards. It's about proactively creating positive change while prioritising integrity and accountability in all our actions. We encourage colleagues to strive towards Our Ways with the following behaviours:

Our Ways		
We change lives.	We are bold.	We do the right thing.
Relationships with others	Adaptability	Planning and delivering work
Delivering through others	Problem solving	Accountability
	Developing yourself	



Personal Attributes:

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	Sound understanding of legal research methods and sources, including literature and database searching. Understanding of the principles of research integrity, ethics, confidentiality and responsible research data management. Knowledge of one or more of the indicative project areas, as noted above	Understanding of research in a higher education context. Understanding of interdisciplinary or socio-legal research.
Skills	Ability to plan and conduct accurate research, evaluate the quality and relevance of sources, and adapt research skills to unfamiliar legal topics. Ability to analyse and synthesise complex material and communicate findings clearly in writing for academic and non-academic audiences. Ability to support qualitative and/or quantitative data collection and analysis using appropriate methods. Ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with diverse research participants, colleagues and external stakeholders. Ability to organise competing tasks, work to agreed deadlines and maintain accurate records. Ability to work independently within agreed parameters and collaboratively as part of a team, using judgement to resolve routine issues and seeking guidance when needed.	Ability to use qualitative data analysis software, such as NVivo or an equivalent package. Ability to use survey, reference management or other relevant research software including artificial intelligence. Editing and proofreading skills.



	Competence in standard digital tools and the ability to learn new research systems and software.	
Experience	Experience of completing or contributing to a substantial research project in an academic, professional, voluntary or other relevant setting. Experience of gathering, analysing and interpreting evidence or data.	Experience of contributing to a publication, report, funding application, conference paper or other research output. Experience of engaging with research participants or external stakeholders.
Qualifications	A postgraduate qualification in law or a cognate discipline, or equivalent relevant research or professional experience.	PhD in Law or cognate discipline Membership of relevant professional bodies Formal training in qualitative and/or quantitative research methods.