



Estancia Postmáster de investigación

Reports to

Dr Juan Demerutis and Professor Ayona Datta

Context

The *Centro Universitario de Arte, Arquitectura y Diseño* (CUAAD) of the University of Guadalajara (UDG) conducts, supports and facilitates innovative, world-leading, high-impact research across urbanism and planning in Jalisco and across Mexican territory.

The CUAAD's main campus is located in *Huentitán El Alto*, in the municipality of Guadalajara. We provide an exceptionally well-stocked library, research offices, administrative support and technical services and equipment, and knowledge-sharing and funding opportunities for scholars at all stages of their careers.

The post holder will be part of an international research team at University College London led by Prof. Ayona Datta (PI). This is a five-year (2022-2026) European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant-funded project, "*Regional Futures: The territorial politics of digitalization-as-urbanisation in the global south*".

The appointment will be for three years starting on October 1st 2025. This position has a probationary period in line with the policies of UDG (CUAAD) and requires full-time dedication.

Main purpose of the job

Reporting directly to Dr Demerutis, the post holder will work as part of an international research team led by Prof. Ayona Datta on the European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant-funded project, "*Regional Futures: The territorial politics of digitalization-as-urbanisation in the global south*". With expertise across urban and digital geography in the global south, the post holder will work closely with team members to support the development of a research programme on regional futures in the global south along three thematic foci: digitalising state, information infrastructures and territorial politics. Team members are located in Mumbai, Nairobi, and Guadalajara, and the post-holder will be expected to work closely with team members and report regularly to Prof. Datta as project lead. Fluency in speaking and reading English and Spanish is essential. See the project website for further details: www.regionalfutures.org

Duties and responsibilities



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- Work in a highly collaborative manner with team members and maintain regular communication with PI, Collaborator, and across the team.
- Assist in identifying and contacting key informants and stakeholders to conduct the required research programme.
- Conduct archival and field research to collect relevant and high-quality data and work collaboratively with other team members.
- Conduct research within communities using semi-structured interviews, focus groups and participatory methods, and participant observation of public consultation meetings organised by community leaders and state officials.
- Transcribe and translate documents, audio/video clips and field interviews from Spanish to English.
- Assist with the coding and analysis of data for the project in collaboration with PDRA, including interviews, interpretation of observations and documentary analysis.
- Ethically conduct research and follow all UDG, UCL and ERC ethical protocols.
- Record, transfer and safely store (according to Data Protection rules of all participating countries) interview material, transcripts, documents, and personal information for research.
- Be efficient in personal time management and be meticulous in maintaining time sheets to fulfil funder obligations.
- Work with the team to maintain detailed and accurate records of all project documentation, including team meetings and communications.
- Contribute to the project website through blogs, working papers, and other public-facing outputs.
- Assist in and support the project team in organising at least three local stakeholder workshops in line with project objectives.
- Deliver a detailed report at the end of each year with the supervision of PI and collaborator, including findings and research analysis.
- To deliver outputs on time and to agreed specifications with project PI and other team members.
- Assist in and provide support to the project team during field visits.
- Assist in, and contribute to, the dissemination of project findings in appropriate academic and stakeholder settings.
- Maintain own continuing professional development through the above activities.
- Actively engage with the research community and environment of the UDG.



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As duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the post holder. Job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, so the post holder will carry out any other duties within the job's scope, spirit and purpose as requested by the line manager Dr Demerutis and/or PI (Prof. Datta). The post holder will actively follow all UDG and UCL-relevant policies.

The post holder will carry out duties in a resource-efficient way.

How to apply:

Applications should include:

- Your full CV (max five pages including publications)
- A 2-page statement, based on the information on the project website, about how your current research interests fit into the "Regional Futures" project.
- A sample of written work (could be a sample from master's thesis)
- One reference from your current employer (or supervisor) and the details of two further referees whom the UDG may contact.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to share one piece of published writing with the panel before the interview.

Informal enquiries may be made to Prof. Ayona Datta (a.datta@ucl.ac.uk) or Dr Juan Demerutis (juan.demerutis@cuaad.udg.mx).

If you have any queries regarding the application process, please contact Dr. Juan Demerutis. Applications for the position should be sent directly to leticia.becerra@cuaad.udg.mx with the subject line: RESEARCHASST (your surname)

The application deadline is 12:00 Hrs (GMT-6) on 30th August 2023, with interviews planned in mid-September.

Applicants must have the right to work in Mexico. If necessary, they must be able to organise a work permit themselves.

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Criteria	Essential or Desirable	Assessment method (Application/Interview)
Qualifications, experience, and knowledge		
Master's in Human Geography/Regional Planning (or cognate fields) with specialisation in organisational studies or information infrastructures.	E	A
Research experience in urban contexts in Mexico, which is relevant to the research project	E	A, I
Knowledge of key debates in urban studies and/or digital geographies	D	A, I
Knowledge/understanding of struggles faced by marginal or indigenous communities in Mexico	E	A, I
Knowledge/understanding of the politics of regional urbanisation in Mexico	D	A, I
Knowledge/understanding of municipal governance in Mexico	D	A, I
Experience working with community organisations, marginal and indigenous communities	E	A, I
Knowledge and experience in using archival methods for data collection and analysis	E	A, I
Experience using qualitative research methods, including in-depth stakeholder interviews, archival/document searches, ethnography, and discourse analysis.	E	A, I
Experience in writing research reports	E	A, I

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Criteria	Essential or Desirable	Assessment method (Application/Interview)
Experience in and enthusiasm for collaborative and team-based working	E	A, I
Skills and abilities		
Excellent interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills, including in local languages relevant to the research project	E	A, I
Fluency in speaking and reading Spanish	E	A, I
Ability to undertake independent research in Guadalajara	E	A, I
Skills in detailed and timely recordkeeping and documentation.	E	A, I
Ability to work sensitively and sympathetically with communities using approved ethics and data privacy protocols.	E	A, I
Ability to write scholarly research outputs which contribute to digital, urban and regional studies	E	A, I
Personal attributes		
Ability to work independently as well as part of a team	E	A, I
Ability to take the initiative and deliver deadlines	E	I
Have excellent interpersonal skills and be able to work across cultural contexts	E	A, I
Maintain regular and effective communication across the team	E	I

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Criteria	Essential or Desirable	Assessment method (Application/Interview)
Show effective time management and work efficiently across geographical time zones.	E	I
Show meticulous attention to detail.	E	A, I
Respond proactively and appropriately to the needs of the project team, stakeholders, research participants and partners.	E	I
Making inclusivity, diversity and (inter) cultural awareness core to actions and decision-making for self and team.	E	I