



MIMY Project, England

Peer Researcher job advertisement

The [MIMY project](#) at the University of Sheffield is recruiting Peer Researchers to contribute to research with young people with migration experiences and people who have lived in the UK for over 5 years. You will be working on a project that aims to improve the circumstances of young people aged 15-29 in South Yorkshire, taking into account migration backgrounds and the difficulties young people might face as they build their lives. The project involves eight other countries as research partners, and is funded by the European Commission. The University of Sheffield researchers involved are Majella Kilkey, Thea Shahrokh (Department of Sociological Studies), and Ryan Powell (Department of Urban Studies and Planning).

What is Peer research?

Peer research is research that is undertaken by people with lived experience of the topic being explored. To apply for this post you should have personal experience of migrating to live in the UK as a young person. The MIMY project recognises the insights, skills and expertise that people affected by the issues being researched can bring to the process. Incorporating those perspectives into the MIMY research will help to enable better understanding of and connection to the experiences we are researching.



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Structure of the post

There will be two components to this role, with related responsibilities. Initially we are recruiting for the first aspect 'peer research', but would invite applicants to express their interest in contributing to the second aspect 'arts-based research'. In both components you will work closely with and be supported by researchers at the University of Sheffield.

1. Peer research with people with migration experiences

45 hours (October 2021 - January 2022)

- Participate in training on how to undertake ethical research.
- Work with other members of the team to recruit participants for, and undertake group-based research with migrants from older generations, and research interviews with young people with positive experiences of building their lives in the local area.
- Participate in the analysis of the information collected and share your ideas on recommendations. Including sharing these findings with key stakeholders.
- Support the development of a youth network to inform and guide the project.
- Write at least one blog article on your experience of doing peer research, and/or your reflections on the research findings.
- Work with other members of the team to ensure The University of Sheffield and MIMY procedures are followed in all areas of work, including finance, safeguarding, health and safety, data protection, accessibility etc.



2. Arts-based research and public engagement

20 hours, approx. April - September 2022

- Contribute to the development and design of arts-based research.
- Engage young people in participating in arts-based research and support the coordination of their involvement.
- Participate in, and co-facilitate workshop sessions and public events as appropriate.

3. General responsibilities that account for both aspects of the role

- Respect the confidential nature of the work and ensure compliance to data protection rules (GDPR).
- Interact professionally with all colleagues and collaborators.
- Be responsive to the needs of the team and support colleagues as required.
- There will be online and offline working, which will involve travel across South Yorkshire for research, meetings and events [please note this depends on current Covid-19 restrictions].

Skills and experience needed to be a Peer Researcher:

- You should be interested in issues affecting young people with migration experiences in the UK, including integration, cohesion and inclusion.
- You should have a strong interest in conducting research with people – experience of undertaking similar research will be an advantage, though this is not essential.
- You should be able to work collaboratively with team members, and be able to work effectively with others who hold both different and shared experiences to yourself.
- You should possess good listening skills and interest in other people's stories.
- You should have strong communication skills, good attention to detail, and an ability to create and maintain good relationships.
- You should be able to handle any information produced through research confidentially.
- Your conversational English should be at a good standard, but you may undertake interviews in your mother tongue (or any other language you feel comfortable speaking).
- You should be IT literate, including competence in using Microsoft packages
- You should reside in the Yorkshire and Humber region with the ability to travel to Sheffield and/or Barnsley.
- You need to have personal experience of migrating to the UK, originally from a country outside of the EU, and as a young person. As this is a peer role, we need to recruit both male and female peer researchers.
- You need to be eligible to work in the UK.



What will you get in return?

- Basic training in how to undertake research with people.
- Gain experience of conducting research, arts-projects and leadership skills.
- Gain experience of working with University-based researchers and artist facilitators.
- Develop skills such as communication and analysis.
- Meet new people in the Yorkshire and Humber and have the opportunity to connect with other Peer Researchers across Europe.
- Opportunities to influence councils and other organisations on issues affecting young people with migration experiences facing difficult circumstances.

Payment and working arrangements

This post will be paid on the University of Sheffield Grade 6.1 hourly rate for a research assistant: £14.86 per hour. The payment for this role is based on a casual contract, which means that you will be paid for pre agreed hours.

We are looking for someone who can commit to working at least 30 hours over a period of 4 months, and who can commit to participate in research training, which will last at least 15 hours. We will aim to work flexibly to support the different circumstances of successful candidates, including for example caring responsibilities.

Equal opportunities

We are committed to equality of opportunity and so we encourage applicants from a range of backgrounds and aim to use positive action to legally support individuals from underrepresented groups. In all cases, the best candidates for the roles will be hired.

Are you interested in this role?

If you would like more information about this role please get in touch with Thea Shahrokh, by telephone +447942 341187 or email t.shahrokh@sheffield.ac.uk

How to apply?

Please submit an application by:

- Sending a short email explaining the main reasons you are interested in becoming a peer researcher.

Or

- Send a short video telling us about why you are interested in being a peer researcher.

Please ensure you cover the following points:

1. Why you are interested in the position?
2. What skills and experience you would bring to the role?
3. What you would like to focus on in the peer research training?

Please send this to Janine Wilson j.l.birch@sheffield.ac.uk, by **09:00 15th September 2021**
Short-listed candidates will be invited for a brief interview shortly after this date.