**Job Description**

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| **Title** | **Science and Religion Researcher**  |
| **Reporting to**  | **Project Primary Contact (Senior Fellow, Theos)** |
| **Staff responsibility** | None |
| **Location** | **77 Great Peter Street, London, SW1P 2EZ** |
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| **Context:** |  Theos, and The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion are working in partnership on a ground-breaking research project mapping the science-religion landscape in the UK, at academic, media, and popular levels of discourse. This researcher’s post will be central to the project, and will involve desk and primary research, analysis, report writing, and help with project administration and dissemination. Theos is a Christian-based Religion and Society think tank and part of the charity The British and Foreign Bible Society  |
| **Summary of role:** | Working with Primary Contact and Project Director in conducting secondary and original research into the understanding of science and religion today, with a particular emphasis on identifying, conducting and analysing in-depth qualitative interviews; conducting media discourse analysis; contributing to development, implementation and analysis of quantitative research; and analysis, reporting and dissemination of research findings. |
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| **Main responsibilities:** |  |
| **Secondary research**  | * Identifying, locating and reading key academic and media literature on relationship between science and religion in general, and esp. in UK.
* Working with Project Primary Contact in analysing, summarising, and integrating literature and developing in-depth qualitative discussion guides for interviews.
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| **Primary Qualitative Research:** | * Identifying, contacting, travelling (by public transport) to and interviewing key respondents (UK based), in academic and media contexts.
* Arranging transcription of interviews and working with Project Primary Contact and Project Director in analysing transcripts, possibly via appropriate soft, e.g. NVivo.
* Conducting media discourse analysis on use of ‘science’ and ‘religion’ as terms in public discussion over recent years.
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| **Primary Quantitative Research:** | * Working with Project Primary Contact in developing research brief to be put out to tender to major quantitative research agencies.
* Assessing research agency project proposals and identifying right partner agency.
* Working with Project Primary Contact and partner research agency in developing and drafting and testing quantitative questionnaire.
* Working with Project Primary Contact and partner research agency in analysing quantitative data.
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| **Analysis, Writing, Dissemination** | * Working with Project Primary Contact and Project Director in drawing together secondary, qualitative and quantitative data into research project outputs.
* Drafting Research Reports and working with Primary Contact and Project Director in drafting written project outputs (e.g. monograph, popular-level book, briefing papers, etc.).
* Developing media strategy with project team and drafting press release and articles as appropriate.
* Working with media staff to develop podcasts, infographics and blogs in project dissemination stage.
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| **Project Team participation** | * Working with Primary Contact and Project Administrator in managing finances and legal arrangements with funder
* Working with Primary Contact and Project Director in drafting regular progress updates for funders.
* Working with project team in planning and organising any events.
* Playing a full part in project team, attending team meetings and showing an in-depth understanding of and sympathy with project objectives and programme.
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| General | * Adhere to our policies and standards in all your work.
* Carry out ad hoc duties which may be required to ensure Theos maintains its effectiveness.
* Participate fully in the corporate life of Bible Society, by attending All Staff Meetings and departmental meetings as required.
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| **Qualification, knowledge, experience and skills:**  | * Good early career academic record in social science with theology/ religious studies; ideally with some experience across both or, if not, indication of having active interest in cross-over between the two disciples.
* Ideally with PhD in relevant area or at least good first degree (II.i or I) and working towards further studies in this area.
* Sympathy with the work of Theos (and The Faraday Institute)
* Good understanding of research process and experience of qualitative or quantitative research (ideally both). Ideally familiarity with SPSS.
* Excellent oral communications skills, and ability conduct complicated in-depth interviews with senior academics and journalists to the highest standard.
* Excellent written communications skill, and proven track record in academic analysis and report writing.
* Excellent and proven administrative ability.
* Proven experience of working with a team.
* Ability to manage multiple tasks whilst maintaining focus, standards and balancing time scales.
* Computer literate, and familiarity with on-line dissemination (social media, etc.)
* Ability to build positive working relationships with partner organisations and funders.
* Proven ability to project manage project work effectively, including setting milestone and delivering the project on time.
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**We hire for character**

As well as recruiting for talent, experience and expertise Bible Society is also very interested in the character of its staff and would want to know how you demonstrate the following:

**Character for leadership**

You will be self-aware and know what it takes to connect well with others. This will enable you to inspire, challenge and support others such that you see your direct reports flourish and achieve defined outcomes.

**Character for teamwork**

You will demonstrate strong interpersonal skills, loyalty to and respect for colleagues, and a collaborative style of solving problems through a shared sense of common mission and purpose.

**Character for followership**

You will recognise the organisational structure, vision and mission and will constructively and proactively support this structure to operate effectively.

**Vision, mission values and spirituality**

At the heart of Bible Society is a commitment to our vision and mission. This is expressed through our four core values of integrity, intelligence, interaction and inspiration.

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**Bible Society**

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