

PGR Placement

Placement Provider:	Bolton Libraries and Museums
Placement Contact:	Louise.Davies-2@manchester.ac.uk
Location(s) of placement:	Bolton Museum Service
Start Date:	December 2018
Duration:	3 months
Work hours each week:	Full-time or part-time equivalent
Deadline for Applications:	1 st October 2018
Resources available eg library data, computer, desk etc	Resources required will be supplied.
Equality & Diversity policy is in place and monitored	Yes/No
Security clearance required	Yes/No
Disclosure Barring Service check required	Yes/No
Placement contains [time]-sensitive information	Yes/No
Description of Placement:	
<p>This PhD research placement is intended to provide opportunities for a PhD student to apply and enhance research, communications and analytical skills and expertise outside of Higher Education as part of their wider research training and professional development. It will help them to develop skills, experience and contacts that will enhance their employability in the future.</p> <p>A PhD research placement at Bolton Libraries and Museums provides the chance to experience research in a different environment to that of a university, to engage with a range of users and audiences, to gain insights into different potential postdoctoral career paths, and to make a tangible contribution to the purposes and programmes of a major cultural organisation in the north-west of England.</p> <p>Bolton Library and Museum Service are a combined library and museum Service, managing three museums and 10 libraries. Our flagship Central Museum is due to re-open in September 2018 having undergone an historic transformation of our galleries and public spaces.</p> <p>One of our first major temporary exhibitions will be Desire, Love and Identity in Bolton, featuring artefacts and histories from our local collections as well as significant International artefacts on loan from the British Museum (and possibly the British Library?).</p> <p>The exhibition will showcase Bolton's LGBT+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans) history and personal stories alongside world treasures depicting Desire, Love, Identity from the British Museum – a collection that was put together to celebrate 50years since the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality.</p> <p>Bolton is honoured to be the only Northern venue to host this touring collection from the British Museum.</p> <p>The exhibition will run from 14th March 2019 – 26th May 2019.</p> <p>New insights from a student with research interests in this area will help the museum discover stories and histories about our own collections and how they can better represent the diverse LGBT+ communities, who are currently underrepresented in our collection records.</p>	
Expected Tasks and Outcomes :	
<p>The placement student will be given an induction to the Museum, Local Studies and Archives collections by the Collections Access Officer team. As well as learning about the methods, tools and sources currently used to inform collection research and development, the student will be given an overview of collections that have significance in documenting LGBT+ histories. An overview will also be given of the exhibition, collection content and planning and associated</p>	

audience development, learning and events programme. Building on this induction, and working closely with these Bolton Museum staff, the placement student will then use their knowledge of research using primary resources in order to add information to and to discover new stories highlighting LGBT+ stories and themes through the collections of the museum, local studies and archives.

Regular catch ups with the placement supervisors will help monitor progress and address any issues and questions that come up over the course of the research.

Outputs from the placement would include:

- Detailed collection based records inputted into our collections management database, new information that would be used to interpret collections in the Desire, Love, Identity in Bolton exhibition.
- Social media posts for a public audience with stories about new and interesting information, revealed during the research.

Specific Skills/Experience/Training Required for the Placement:

The student will be expected to have a keen interest in researching new information and stories and links with the past that help bring a richer understanding of our historical identities and shared heritage to contribute, and make relevant to, contemporary debates and issues of public life. The student will have the ability to search and document resources from a wide and varying format, media and databases and keep detailed records of their findings in accordance with museum collection management criteria.

Training and experience expected to be gained through the placement:

See placement discription

Financial assistance (if any) offered by the organisation:

A Faculty bursary will be available for this placement.

Other Comments: