

Research Fellows / Senior Research Fellows in Sociology - Violence and Society

Violence and Society Centre

School of Arts and Social Sciences
School of Health Sciences
City Law School

[Violence and Society Centre](#)

September 2021



Role Profile	
Post:	Research Fellows / Senior Research Fellows in Sociology - Violence and Society
Department:	Violence and Society Centre
School:	School of Arts and Social Sciences School of Health Sciences City Law School
Grade:	Senior Research Fellow Grade 8 or Research Fellow Grade 7
Tenure:	Permanent, full-time; funding confirmed until 30 September 2026
Responsible to:	Principal Investigator, Centre Director Professor Sylvia Walby

Context

The Violence and Society Centre, City, University of London, directed by Professor Sylvia Walby OBE, is an interdisciplinary research centre supported by University and external funds. The UKRI/MRC/PRP has awarded £7m to a Consortium led by Professor Walby to research 'Violence, health and society' (2021-2026). The Consortium includes academic partners in King's College London, University College London, Lancaster University, University of Bristol, Warwick University, and at Public Health Wales. It engages with multiple public and Third Sector professionals and practitioners who generate data, as well as with national and international governmental bodies that use data.

The aim of the Consortium is to improve the measurement of violence to support the investigation of causal pathways, to develop a theory of change, and to evaluate interventions, in order to reduce the violence that harms health. Analysis of gender and other inequalities is mainstreamed throughout the work. The Consortium draws on multiple disciplines across the social and health sciences, including sociology, criminology, health and economics. The interdisciplinary research centre is supported by City, University of London, across the three Schools of Arts and Social Sciences, City Law School and the School of Health Sciences.

The Violence and Society Centre is recruiting up to six postdoctoral Research Fellows/Senior Research Fellows across a number of disciplines to build an interdisciplinary team to work on the five-year project. We are expecting to appoint one or two posts from Sociology or related disciplines. Details of the other posts are [available here](#).

Job Purpose

You will be helping to build the best ever dataset on violence: comprehensive and authoritative; combining survey and administrative data; on victims and perpetrators; coherent and integrated. You will be developing a theory of change in cooperation with leading theorists of violence and society. You will be mainstreaming gender and intersecting inequalities throughout. You will use this data to evaluate interventions by professionals, the Third Sector, and public policy to reduce violence, and thus harms to health, and health inequalities. Your methodology will mobilise and further develop recent innovations in statistical and computing techniques.

Each post will look after specific data (one of the following):

Crime Survey for England and Wales;
 Third Sector service providers (Women's Aid, Safe Lives, Refuge, Rape Crisis, Imkaan, Respect);
 Police;
 Health services (A&E data, ambulance data);
 Global cross-national dataset.

You will follow this data throughout the five-year life of the Consortium.

In year 1, you will work with the data providers, helping to improve the way they organise their data.

In year 2, you will de-identify the data (if needed), extract and clean relevant data

In year 3, you will help to integrate the data with other data sets

In year 4, you will analyse connections and causal pathways using the integrated data

In year 5, you will develop tools to evaluate interventions, improving risk assessment tools, cost-benefit analyses, and policy priorities.

We are building a team with a mix of skills. We need high end statistical and computing skills. We also need an understanding of violence, of health, and of society. We want experience of the organisations generating the data at the centre of the project. This is an opportunity to join a new team, to learn and develop cutting-edge methods, improving measurement and data use across violence reduction sectors, and to publish high impact analyses.

The posts are offered on a full-time basis for the five-year funded period, but we will consider candidates who wish to wish for a shorter term within the funded period (end date 30 September 2026). Secondments are possible (internal and external to City), subject to the agreement of the home institution.

Main Responsibilities

- Working cooperatively with data providers to improve their data on violence.
- Restructuring and 'cleaning' data.
- Analysing data on violence, health and society, using quantitative techniques and innovative computing practices.
- Contributing to, or leading on for the more senior grade, writing up results for reports to users and for articles in leading academic journals.
- Leading and training colleagues in your area of substantive or technical expertise (especially for the more senior grade).
- Project planning (and project leadership for the more senior grade)
- Contributing to the overall aim of producing research that has an impact on the real world to reduce violence and health inequalities.
- Contributing to the collaborative working of the project team.

Additional information

- The post holder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to City, University of London's Equal Opportunities Statement.
- The post holder must accept responsibility for ensuring that the policies and procedures relating to Health and Safety in the workplace are adhered to at all times.
- The post holder must respect the confidentiality of data stored electronically and by other means in line with General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR) the Data Protection Act 2018.
- The post holder must carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the non-smoking environment of City, University of London.
- Sustainable Development
City, University of London is committed to a policy of best practice to assist in building a sustainable way of life by taking a positive, solutions-orientated approach. All post holders are encouraged to contribute through their roles to improving the environment for City and the wider community.

Details of policy, information and staff development supporting the policy on the environment and sustainability can be found at www.city.ac.uk/green-policies.

The above list is not exclusive or exhaustive and the post holder will be required to undertake such duties as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the post. All members of staff are required to be professional, co-operative and flexible in line with the needs of the post, Department, School and City, University of London.

Job descriptions should be regularly reviewed and at least prior to the annual appraisal, if applicable or on a regular basis to ensure they are an accurate representation of the post.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Statement (EDI)

City, University of London is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in all its activities, processes, and culture, for our whole community, including staff, students and visitors.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or social class. For more information on our approaches to encouraging an inclusive environment, please see our [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Pages](#).

Person Specification	
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Criteria	Essential (E) / Desirable (D)	Method of Assessment (Application (A) / Interview (I) Exercise (E))
Qualifications and Knowledge		
PhD awarded, or equivalent professional qualifications and experience in Sociology or related discipline	E	A
Quantitative and computing expertise	E	A
Knowledge of violence and society, gender and inequalities	E	A/I
Relevant publications	8: E 7: D	A
Experience		
Quantitative analysis of data such as: data management, curation of large datasets; analyses in R, SPSS, STATA; Natural Language Processing, machine learning; economic costing, evaluation methodologies.	E	A/I
Engagement with non-academic agencies concerned with violence	D	A/I
Project management and leadership	8: E 7: D	A/I
Skills and Abilities		
Willing to learn new skills and to be trained in innovative statistical and computing methods	E	A/I
Understanding and commitment to the purpose of the project to reduce violence and thereby harms to health and health inequalities	E	A/I

Salary and Conditions of Service

The salient features of conditions of service for Research and Analogous staff are as follows:

- Salary will be within the range of £46,041 to £63,688 per annum on Grade 7/8 of the salary scales for Research and Analogous staff.
- Annual Leave is 30 days, plus 8 statutory and 4 additional days during the Christmas holiday period.
- Automatic entry into the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) with the option to opt out.
- This post is fixed term for five years
- This post is full-time, we will consider applications to work on a part-time, flexible and job share basis wherever possible.
- This position is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such a Disclosure and Barring Service check will be required for this post.
- All offers of appointment are subject to City receiving satisfactory references and medical clearance.
- All posts at City are subject to reasonable adjustment under the Equalities Act (2010).
- All appointments at City are subject to a probationary period.
- The appointment is terminable by three months' notice on either side.

Applications

When preparing your application, you should address carefully the post details enclosed and in particular the qualities outlined in the Person Specification. Please include examples where appropriate. In the section Teaching/Research Information, where we ask you to provide details of your publications, please also include a link to your best and/or most relevant publication.

All applications must be received by the advertised deadline.

Interviews will be held during early November 2021

For an informal discussion please contact Sylvia Walby violenceandsociety@city.ac.uk

Further Information

City operates a no smoking policy.

City offers an excellent pension scheme, generous leave allowance, season ticket loan, a good working environment and access to fitness and social facilities.

City confirms its commitment to equal opportunities in all its activities. It is intended that no job applicant or employee will receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of political belief, sex, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or social class. Selection and promotion criteria are kept under review to ensure that individuals are treated on the basis of the job requirements and on their relevant personal merits; and are not disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.

If you have a disability and are interested in this post, City welcomes your application. For an informal discussion you may wish to contact the Recruitment Team on:

Telephone: 020 7040 3085
E-mail: hradmin@city.ac.uk