University of Reading

Human Resources

Job Description

Title	Details
Job title	Postdoctoral Research Scientist
Department/Unit	Meteorology, School of Mathematical, Physical and Computational Sciences (SMPCS)
Job Type	Full-time, fixed term
Grade	Grade 6
Accountable to	Professor Ted Shepherd
Vacancy reference	SRF54578
Additional Information	na

Purpose

To develop a robust statistical framework for diagnosing predictable atmospheric circulation signals in climate models and observations, assess their implications for climate predictions and projections, and develop suitable corrections for model errors using causal networks.

Team Structure

The appointee will be working within the AUSPICE research project (https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=UKRI2165), bringing a statistical perspective to complement the climate modelling activities.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Perform independent research using Bayesian statistical methods and causal effect networks to investigate and quantify the predictable signals in climate models and observations, especially those related to atmospheric teleconnections, leading to original publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals.
- Present the research results at national and international scientific meetings.
- Participate in activities and meetings of the AUSPICE research project, and contribute to the University research environment (e.g. seminars, group meetings).
- Interact and collaborate with other members of research group(s) to share ideas and best practices.

©University of Reading 2026

Supervision received

Professor Ted Shepherd FRS, Grantham Chair in Climate Science

Dr Jochen Broecker, Associate Professor

Supervision given

Supervise MSc projects and summer research internships, as the opportunity arises

Contact

Members of the AUSPICE research project, as appropriate.

Terms and conditions

This post is based at Reading University and is full-time, requiring flexible hours.

This document outlines the duties required for the time being of the post to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exhaustive list and the line manager may vary duties from time to time which do not change the general character of the job or the level of responsibility entailed.

Date assessed:

©University of Reading 2026

Person Specification

Job Title	School/Department
Postdoctoral Research Scientist	**SMPCS/Meteorology**

Which stage these Criteria be assessed
A = Application
I = Interview

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Skills Required	• Atmospheric or oceanic data analysis (A and I) • Creativity (A and I) • Initiative (A and I) • Capability of independent thought (I) • Scientific programming (A and I) • Good oral and written communication skills (A and I) • Ability to work collaboratively as part of a team (I) • Strong problem-solving skills (I)	
Attainment	• PhD (or PhD near completion) or equivalent (in either qualification or experience) in meteorology or a related subject (A)	
Knowledge	• Multivariate statistical modelling (A and I) • Atmospheric dynamics (A and I) • Climate variability and change (A and I) • Climate modelling (A and I)	• Bayesian statistics (A and I) • Machine learning (A and I) • Causal effect networks (A and I) • Teleconnections (A and I) • Seasonal prediction (A and I)
Relevant Experience	• Proven track record in research, demonstrated through excellent peer-reviewed publications (A)	• Experience presenting research findings at scientific conferences, workshops or seminars (A and I)

Completed By: Professor Ted Shepherd

Date: 1 October 2026

©University of Reading 2026