Growth Lab Occasional Research Assistants

The Growth Lab at LSE is seeking 3-5 Occasional Research Assistants (ORA) to support projects run by the Growth Lab and the Economics Observatory (ECO). Projects cover a range of topics including economic growth, labour markets, devolution and regional growth, industrial strategy, trade, city development, and data visualisation.

Key responsibilities will include:

- Conducting literature reviews, interviews, and desk-based research to support policy-focused projects.
- Assisting in organising meetings, workshops, and engagement activities with stakeholders.
- Analysing data and producing visualisations for the ECO website and other project outputs.
- Supporting the production of clear, actionable reports and briefings.
- Helping with administrative aspects of projects, including coordination and document management.

Requirements:

- The position is open to current or former SPP students.
- Strong research and analytical skills, ideally with experience in economic and public policy (UK or international).
- Foundational statistical literacy
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- A background in Economics, Public Policy, Data Science, or related fields is preferred.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively on a flexible, occasional basis.
- For data-oriented positions: Strong proficiency in Python for data cleaning, transformation and analysis. Experience producing data visualisations programmatically

Desirable:
- A strong understanding of contemporary UK policy challenges
- Data-stream: Experience with Vega-lite/Altair (or interactive visualisation libraries); A grasp of version control (Git); Experience with UK geographic data; Data collection via APIs and Web scraping (Selenium); Programmatic use of LLMs with interest in agentic AI and the MCP protocol; intermediate web development skills, especially for visualisation (D3; Mapbox/Maplibre).

Please note: Not all ORAs will carry out the same tasks. Candidates may focus more on research, data analysis, or policy engagement depending on project needs. Therefore, it is not required for every candidate to have both policy experience and data science/visualisation skills, though experience in both areas is desirable/preferred.

Additional details:

- This is an hourly-paid role (~5-10 hours per week, variable depending on project demands).
- Pay: £23.72 per hour (including £3.73 holiday pay).
- To apply, email your CV to Camila Arroyo From (c.p.arroyo-from@lse.ac.uk) by 12 pm (noon), Friday 9 January 2025.