

Digit Maria Jahoda Visiting Fellowship – Round 3 Guidance for Applicants

About Digit

The Digital Futures at Work Research Centre (Digit) aims to advance our understanding of how digital technologies are reshaping work, impacting on employers, employees, job seekers and governments. It is jointly led by the [University of Sussex Business School](#) and the [Leeds University Business School](#) with partners from [Aberdeen](#), [Cambridge](#), [Manchester](#) and [Monash Universities](#). The Digit centre has been established with an investment from the [Economic and Social Research Council](#) (ESRC) equivalent to £8m for the period between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2024.

Digit provides theoretically-informed, empirically-evidenced and policy relevant analysis of the benefits, risks and challenges for companies operating in the UK and abroad. Research draws on international, interdisciplinary research and employees innovative mixed methods approaches. Digit aims to provide a compelling empirical base that will allow policy makers to move beyond current levels of speculation, while contributing intellectually with empirical evidence to contemporary debates on the future of work.

Maria Jahoda Visiting Fellowship

These visiting fellowships commemorate the ground-breaking work of the social psychologist Marie Jahoda (1907-2001), an emeritus Professor at the University of Sussex Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU). Her research focused on social and technological forecasting and the social psychological consequences of prolonged unemployment.

What is involved

The purpose of the Marie Jahoda Visiting Fellowship (MJVF) is to expand the opportunities for research on digital futures at work that advance the Digit research objectives. This will be done by enabling synergies between Fellows and the host institution by encouraging co-production of research.

Applications are invited from academics or non-academics, overseas or UK. We welcome a range of applicants, from those who are well-established in their fields, to early career researchers. We anticipate that Round 3 will consist of 4 to 5 Fellows. Please note: previous successful applicants to this Fellowship are not eligible.

All researchers in the field of digital futures at work research are eligible. Applicants not affiliated with Digit, must secure a Digit sponsor (from list of Digit researchers here: <https://digit-research.org/people/researchers/>) who will connect the Fellow to Digit and assist in arranging workshops, meetings etc. In the application, indicate your agreed Digit sponsor, or research host (where relevant), and what you would like to achieve during your visit. Applicants already affiliated with Digit must identify a relevant research host to visit.

The fellowship can start upon award, and must conclude no later than 30 September 2024. Collaboration during that time can be virtual / online, and we would normally expect each MJVF to include an in-person visit to the institution of the Digit collaborator, namely the University of Sussex Business School or Leeds University Business School or one of our other UK Digit partners (Manchester, Cambridge, Aberdeen). Similarly, we would expect Digit affiliates to visit a named person and institution.

The Fellow will be associated, where relevant, with the specific Digit university of their sponsor, and with the Digit centre (meetings, collaborations, etc.) during their Fellowship. Fellows will be invited to participate in activities related to relevant Digit [Research Theme\(s\)](#) and other Centre activities.

Benefits

The benefits to the Fellows visiting Digit will include access to the research and networks of Digit and associated members. Mid- and early career researchers are welcome to participate in our very active programme that supports early-stage researchers. Fellows visiting Digit will also have access to our internal training sessions; be able to contribute to our [Working Paper series](#); and receive support for promoting any resulting outputs, including on the Digit website.

Eligibility & Indications

- We are inviting applications from those working in the area of digital futures at work.
- The Fellowships must conclude by 30 September 2024 at the latest.
- Applicants visiting Digit will need a Digit sponsor. Please reach out to a Digit member (see here: <https://digit-research.org/people/researchers/>) before submitting an application, to ensure there is a possibility of working together. Evidence should be provided in the application of how you might collaborate with this person(s).
- Proposed collaboration should be on a social science-focused topic, though it can be interdisciplinary.
- Fellows will remain in their current role or employment; that is, they will not be employed by Digit.
- The information and application of those who are successful may be shared with relevant organisations, e.g. ESRC.
- If accepted, please be aware that there will likely be further paperwork via your host institution to enable you to have access to resources at that institution, in addition paperwork for e.g. visas.
- The head of your department or institution (where relevant), will need to approve and support the application. PhD students must have a letter of support from their supervisor.

Expectations of successful Visiting Fellows

- We expect that there will be tangible outputs, for example:
 - Presentation or lecture
 - Journal paper submissions or other publications (e.g. policy briefings) co-authored with Digit members
 - Joint grant submissions, etc.
- Should the Fellowship result in data, papers, or other outputs, we would generally expect those to be jointly published with Digit members. We invite resulting data to be archived at the UK Data Service.
- Fellows will need to adhere to data protection and [GDPR](#) guidelines.
- Fellows will need to adhere to the UKRI's guidelines and procedures on research integrity, according to the UKRI's [Policy and Guidelines on the Governance of Good Research Conduct](#), as well as your institutions – and the [ESRC's](#) – ethics policies and procedures.
- We ask successful applicants to be willing to participate in Digit future events or meetings, particularly for the purpose of sharing experience and building capacity.
- There should be an in-person visit to the host partner. There is no minimum or maximum time recommended; it will need to work with the host.

Funding

Each fellowship will be funded up to maximum £12,500 sterling. The fellowship budget may only include the following, and must demonstrate value for money:

- Travel to and from the fellow's home institution to the partner organisation (e.g. Sussex or Leeds), as well as any necessary travel within the location of the partner organisation. Please note, we cannot cover first class travel, and it must demonstrate value for money
- Accommodation for the period of the fellowship
- Subsistence
- Costs of visas and insurance

Application guidelines and requirements

There are three parts of the application:

1. Application Form, including research topics, activities & budget (details below)
2. CV, no longer than 2 pages
3. Reference letter from current head of department/institution/supervisor (as applicable), outlining support and permission for the visit

Please create one .pdf document of all 3 parts of the application.

As part of the application, the research topics, activities & budget should cover:

- **Current research activities:** If applicable, please cover your current area of research in the field of digital futures at work, with brief reference to relevant papers, talks, etc.
- **Proposed research topic:** We are not prescriptive about the area or topic of research, but it should be in the field of digital futures at work. We are particularly looking to understand 'real world' problems and how we can co-develop research to address those problems.
- **Collaboration with Digit:** Please indicate your intentions for collaboration with Digit, the [Digit person\(s\)](#) you would anticipate working closely with, and the anticipated benefits to yourself and to Digit.
- **Expected engagement plan and outputs:** Please describe how you would suggest communicating the research, linking it in with your networks (or Digit networks). Please also include any outputs, such as papers, talks, policy briefings, that would you aim to co-produce with Digit.
- **Ethics & EDI:** please discuss how you will address research ethics, and how your proposal contributes to equality, diversity and inclusion, particularly bearing in mind UKRI's [key principles](#) on EDI.
- **Budget (maximum £12,500) and justification:** Any proposed budget needs to be itemised and justified in the application. Outline as closely as possible your budget in relation to your proposed research. Eligible items include only: travel to and from the host institution; accommodation; subsistence during the visit to the host institution; visa or insurance costs. For applicants from government bodies in the UK, only research-related travel and subsistence are eligible.

Assessment of the Marie Jahoda Visiting Fellowship applications

Applications will be assessed according to the following evaluation criteria:

1. Complementarity to, and extension of, the Digit research centre [research programme](#)
2. Quality of application, innovation, and contribution to knowledge.
3. Clarity of proposed outputs, including evidence of impact and engagement

4. Active engagement with Digit researchers
5. Outline of ethical issues and how you will address them
6. Indication of how EDI concerns are incorporated in the proposal

Applications will be reviewed and assessed by the Digit Co-Directors and other members of Digit.

The application process aims to ensure maximum equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). This will be done by 1) requiring assessors to ensure their EDI training is up-to-date 2) adhering to the evaluation criteria and 3) by challenging each other on any signs of unconscious bias in the assessment procedure. Reviewers will be required to follow [University of Sussex Equality & Diversity policy](#) by ensuring that applicants are assessed solely against the guidelines, and not according to “age, disability, gender reassignment or trans identity, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, trade union membership or non-membership, socio-economic background, or any other inappropriate distinction.”

Key dates

- Call issued: Thurs, 19 October 2023
- Application closing date: Mon, 4 December 2023 by 17:00 (GMT)
- Decision to applicants anticipated: in week commencing 11 December 2023
- End date of Fellowship: no later than 30 September 2024

For further information and to apply

Please contact digit@sussex.ac.uk for any information or questions.

Please email the application form, research plan and CV in *one* .pdf document to digit@sussex.ac.uk by the closing date: Mon, 4 December 2023 at 5pm (GMT)