

Research Assistant – Islamic Finance, Economics, and Markets

Location: Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Marston Road, Oxford.

Contract: 15-month fixed-term appointment, full-time (37.5 hours per week); part-time arrangements may be considered.

Salary: £31,318–£37,338 per annum, pro rata for part-time appointments (Grade 5, including Oxford Weighting).

Start date: From August 2026. Exact date to be agreed with the successful candidate.

First consideration will be given to applications received by **12 noon on Friday 7 August 2026**. Thereafter, applications may be considered on a rolling basis until the post is filled. The Centre reserves the right to close the vacancy once an appointment has been made.

Probation period: The appointment will be subject to an initial probationary period of three months, with progress reviewed against agreed objectives. This period may be extended where additional time is reasonably required to assess performance, for example because of part-time working, absence, or the timing of project milestones.

The role

The Finance & Economics Unit at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies is looking for a Research Assistant to support multidisciplinary research led by Prof. Muhammad Meki and Dr. Abdulkader Thomas. The successful candidate will assist with a range of projects and activities, including research, events, and general project coordination. The postholder will join the Centre's research community and have access to internal seminars and other knowledge-sharing activities. The role would suit a proactive candidate with a strong interest in finance and economics.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Provide research and project management support across the Unit, including for annual roundtables, summer programmes, and seminars.
- Research regulatory and legal developments affecting financial markets.
- Assist with data collection and management, literature reviews, ethics applications, and quantitative and qualitative research.
- Conduct descriptive and exploratory analyses, produce visualisations, and undertake modelling as required.
- Maintain clear research records and contribute to reports, manuscripts, and presentations in accordance with high standards of transparency and reproducibility.

Selection criteria

- A bachelor's or master's degree in a social science or closely related discipline, or equivalent experience.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, including proficiency in quantitative methods, with a willingness to learn new methods and tools.
- Familiarity with financial markets and relevant academic literature and research.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills and the ability to work effectively in a team.
- Strong organisational and project management skills, including the ability to prioritise a varied workload and meet deadlines.
- Attention to detail and accurate record-keeping, research integrity and good data-management practices.
- Familiarity with Arabic would be desirable.

How to apply

Please submit a current CV and covering letter, including the names of two referees who may be contacted if you are shortlisted. Email applications to recruitment@oxcis.ac.uk, copying abdulkader.thomas@oxcis.ac.uk and muhammad.meki@oxcis.ac.uk. Any offer of employment will be subject to a standard UK right to work check.