



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job title</b>	Front-end Developer
<b>Division</b>	Social Sciences
<b>Department</b>	Oxford Martin School
<b>Location</b>	Eagle House, Walton Well Road / Oxford Martin School, Broad Street
<b>Grade and salary</b>	Grade 7: £31,604-£38,833 with a discretionary range to £42,418 per annum
<b>Hours</b>	Full time
<b>Contract type</b>	Fixed-term (until 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021)
<b>Reporting to</b>	Max Roser, Project Director, Our World In Data
<b>Vacancy reference</b>	134861

## The role

The post holder will ensure that the Our World in Data site is fast, visually elegant, and intuitive to use. You'll be redesigning the website to meet your own high standards of what makes a really good website, and working with the rest of the team to make sure everyone's work is visually consistent and professional.

Your designs should incorporate a deep understanding of web performance, responsiveness, and accessibility considerations. You'll be working on projects which reach wide audiences, including people in poorer countries who may not have access to fast internet connections. In the future, you'll be helping us to build progressive web apps which run especially well on mobile devices and slower connections.

In a small programming team, you'll have a lot of freedom to use the best available tools and libraries in your work. We currently make extensive use of React, Mobx, Webpack, TypeScript, and d3. We are especially excited about exploring static site generation using universal/isomorphic React,



## **Responsibilities**

- Designing and implementing beautiful, functional web layouts for ourworldindata.org and related projects
- Develop wireframes, specification documents, user scenarios and prototypes, along with thorough documentation and annotations of a variety of digital products and tools
- Work with the project team to design a new visual exploration tool which gives the public direct access to our database of 20,000+ variables
- Collaborate with other developers, designers, and project managers to ensure that all products function according to design specification and work with technical and front-facing teams across the University and institutions that are relevant to the project
- Migrating our existing visualization code into an open-source JS library we can publish on NPM
- Provide progress updates to project managers by regularly presenting at meetings and contribute to group discussions and decisions with suggestions of new ways to tackle problems and make recommendations on future technology choices for website development.
- Contribute to the planning and implementation of user experience tests, usability testing and focus groups. Provide reports on performance, explaining complex information to non-specialists. And Report and present relevant outcomes and recommendations.
- Designing and implementing new types of interactive data visualization, e.g. cumulative distribution plots, Sankey diagrams
- Working with the research team to improve our internal web tools for data communication and exploration

## **Selection criteria**

- Hold a bachelor's degree in computer science, software engineering, or have an equivalent qualification/experience
- Demonstrable portfolio of excellent web design projects you've worked on in the past
- Strong knowledge of web development fundamentals: HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- Demonstrable ability to organise and prioritise work efficiently whilst delivering results to the required standard and to an agreed schedule
- Ability to quickly learn new technologies and assess their suitability for solving a problem

## **Desirable selection criteria**

- Experience with the particular technologies used on the project, especially React and TypeScript
- Evidence of contribution to open-source projects in the past or involvement with the community
- Interest in global development and public access to research

## **About the University of Oxford**

The University of Oxford aims to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial

and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2015/16 exceeded £537.4m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit [www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation)

## Oxford Martin School

The Oxford Martin School ([www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk](http://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk)) is a research community of over 300 scholars, working across disciplines to address the most pressing challenges of the 21st Century and to harness its opportunities. From the governance of geo-engineering and the possibilities of nanotechnology, to the future of food and the implications of our ageing population, the Oxford Martin School supports Oxford-based research teams to consider some of the biggest questions that concern our future.

The School acts as a central hub in facilitating collaboration and exchange, not just within the University of Oxford, but also through its networks with policy makers, business leaders and other leading experts. The Oxford Martin School was founded 2005 through the vision and generosity of Dr. James Martin (1933-2013), who established the school with the largest benefaction made to Oxford in its history. The Oxford Martin School is a part of the University's Social Sciences Division.

## Our World in Data

*Our World in Data* is a non-profit, [creative commons](#) web publication which makes research about global issues freely available to everyone. We cover topics like [extreme poverty](#), [fertility rates](#), [income inequality](#), [polio](#), and [climate change](#), using data visualization to convey complex information in an accessible way.

The audience includes educators, journalists, policymakers, researchers, and the general public. Our work is accessed by thousands every day and has been cited in research articles in top academic journals and hundreds of media outlets.

For more information please visit [www.OurWorldInData.org/about](http://www.OurWorldInData.org/about)

## How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at [www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/).

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the ‘Job Details’ page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Please include a link to a sample of code you have written. This can be in any reasonable format: for example, a GitHub project or a tarball.

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

### **Information for priority candidates**

*A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.*

*If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)*

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email [recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk). Further help and support is available from [www.ox.ac.uk/about the university/jobs/support/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/). To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: [www.recruit.ox.ac.uk](http://www.recruit.ox.ac.uk).

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

## **Important information for candidates**

### **Pre-employment screening**

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University’s pre-employment screening procedures, found at:

[www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/).

### **The University’s policy on retirement**

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69<sup>th</sup> birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at:

[www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/.](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/)

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/.](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/)

From 1 October 2017, there is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

## **Equality of Opportunity**

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

## **Benefits of working at the University**

### **University Club and sports facilities**

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a bar, café and sporting facilities, including a gym. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool.

See: [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and [www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities](http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities).

### **Information for international staff (or those relocating from another part of the UK)**

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas, or elsewhere in the UK, the University's International Staff website includes practical information related to moving to and settling in Oxford such as advice on immigration, relocation, accommodation, or registering with a doctor. See: [www.internationalstaffwelcome.admin.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.internationalstaffwelcome.admin.ox.ac.uk/)

### **The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club**

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/)

### **Childcare**

The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details including how to apply and the costs, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare).

### **Family-friendly benefits**

The University subscribes to My Family Care

([www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/)) and staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a 'speak to an expert' phone line and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work + Family space.

### **Disabled staff**

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. Please visit [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff) for further details including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor.

### **Staff networks**

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/)

### **Other benefits**

Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits such as free visitor access to the University's colleges and the Botanic Gardens as well as a range of discounts.

See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits)