

Job Description

Post Title and Post Number	Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Human Geography 47462
Organisation Advertising Description	School of Geography Earth and Environmental Sciences
Post Number	47462
Full Time/Part Time	Full Time
Number of hours / weeks to be worked	100%
Duration of post	Open
Post is open to:	Internal and External Candidates
Grade	8/9
Salary	Lecturer - Starting salary £37,012 a year in a range up to £44,166 a year with potential progression to £49,689 a year Senior Lecturer - Starting salary £45,486 a year in a range up to £52,706 a year with potential progression to £68,725 a year
Additional Information	For informal discussion please contact Stefan Bouzarovski tel +44(0) 121 414 2943; email s.bouzarovski@bham.ac.uk or Jon Coaffee tel +44(0) 121 414 7421; email J.Coaffee@bham.ac.uk Alternatively you can contact Professor Ian Fairchild (Head of School) at i.j.fairchild@bham.ac.uk or call +44 (0)121 414 4181/4173.
Terms and Conditions	Academic
Closing Date	15 May 2012

Job Summary

The School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES) seeks to appoint a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Human Geography. Our current research in this field includes groundbreaking scholarship in urban resilience, energy justice and landscapes, political and socio-technical transitions, international migration, connected communities and diverse economies.

We are looking for an individual who will enhance our internationally leading research profile by developing their area of expertise as well as investing effort in collaborations with colleagues in the School, elsewhere in the University and beyond. Evidence of a strong track record in publishing work of

the highest academic quality and impact, and (for a senior appointment) obtaining external research funding is important.

The appointee will also be involved in the delivery and management of human geography teaching, and the supervision of postgraduate students within our thriving doctoral research community. We aim to attract an inspiring educator with a demonstrable ability to communicate effectively with researchers, learners, business, civil society and policy-makers.

Main Duties

Research

To plan and carry out research, using appropriate methodology and techniques, including:

- Pursuing personal research including developing research ideas and winning support, including financial support;
- Planning, publish and/or executing high quality research;
- Managing research activities, and/or supervising other research staff;
- Developing novel methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research being pursued;
- Supervising and examining PhD students, both within the institution and externally;
- Providing expert advice to staff and students within the discipline;
- Applying knowledge in a way which develops new intellectual understandings.

Learning and Teaching

To use a variety of methods teaching and advising individuals and groups of undergraduates, postgraduates, or CPD students, including:

- Teaching and examining courses at a range of levels;
- Planning and reviewing own teaching approaches and acting as a mentor to encourage others to do the same;
- Developing programme proposals and make substantial contributions to the design of teaching programmes more widely in the Department or School, as appropriate;
- Undertaking the full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining;
- Using appropriate approaches to learning and teaching in their field;
- Disseminating scholarship through suitable media;
- Developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods;
- Devising & supervising projects, student dissertations and practical work;
- Acting as a personal tutor for academic and pastoral issues.

Management/ Administration

To contribute to School administration or have a high level of responsibility for others. This may include:

- Participating in the administration/management of research and/or teaching across the Department/School;
- Leading and managing a team to devise and implement a new and/or revised process (e.g. new programme or a recruitment drive);
- Advising on personal development of colleagues and students;
- Making a major contribution to some administrative activities within the University (e.g. appeals panels, working groups);
- Contribute to widening participation, schools outreach, and/or public understanding of the discipline.

In addition at Senior Lecturer level:

- To lead major funding bids which develop and sustain research support for the specialist area and advance the reputation of the School and University
- To provide expert advice to colleagues, students and external bodies, e.g., government bodies;
- To lead the advancement of the development of programme curricula;
- To act as a coach and role model through excellent practice and mentoring of colleagues;
- To promote and market the work of the School in the subject area both nationally and internationally.

Scope of the Role

- Contributing to the whole range of research, teaching and administration.
- Research is likely to involve initiating, conducting and disseminating original research.
- Teaching is likely to include programme/module review and development as well as delivery and assessment at all levels. The role will typically also involve developing and advising others, including: (a) providing expert advice to staff and students, (b) supervising and examining PhD students, and (c) developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods.
- Management and administration is likely to involve contributions at Departmental and School level, and/or making an important contribution to some managerial/administrative activities within the University (e.g. working groups).

Person Specification

- Normally, a higher Degree relevant to the research/teaching area (usually PhD) or equivalent qualifications;
- Research/teaching experience and scholarship within subject specialism, with evidence of ability to attract external funding.
- Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning/research as appropriate
- Skills in managing, motivating & mentoring others successfully at all levels.

Research

- Experience and achievement reflected in a growing reputation as appropriate for career stage;
- Experience and demonstrated success in planning, undertaking and project managing research to deliver high quality results;
- Demonstrable experience of applying and/or developing and devising successful models, techniques and methods.

Teaching

- Ability to design, deliver, assess and revise teaching programmes;
- Experience and demonstrated success in developing appropriate approaches; to learning and teaching and advising colleagues as appropriate for career stage.

Management/Administration

- Ability to contribute to School/Departmental management processes;
- Ability to assess and organise resources effectively;
- Understanding of and ability to contribute to broader management/administration processes.

Planning and Organising

- Plan for and set teaching objectives over a number of years;
- Plan and manage own teaching and tutorials as agreed with the Head of School;
- Plan and deliver against own research objectives;
- Organise meetings/conferences/symposia.

In addition at Senior Lecturer level;

- Project manage research activities and supervise other research staff;
- Lead aspects of School/Departmental management processes e.g., course development.

Decision Making

- Develop learning and teaching approaches, including approach to mentoring
- Develop programme proposals and decide what contributions to make to the design of teaching programmes
- Develop research ideas
- Decide how to develop and undertake the research
- Decide where and when to present research findings and what publications and conferences to target for this purpose (with guidance, if required)
- Advise, supervise and examine PhD students
- Develop knowledge in specialist area
- Contribute to School/Departmental management processes

Internal/External Relationships

- Communicating complex and conceptual ideas;
- Participate in and develop external networks;
- Provide expert advice to staff and students within the discipline;
- Contribution to recruitment of students;
- Act as external examiner.

The Organisation

The University of Birmingham is a thriving and dynamic institution that combines over a century of heritage with one of the most compelling and ambitious agendas in higher education. Ranked amongst the world's top 100 institutions, the University is structured to promote faster decision making and to enable it to capitalise on its academic range and financial strength. The University is organised into five academic colleges, with a University Executive Board, led by our Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Eastwood.

Central to our agenda is the development of the University's five-year strategic plan 'Shaping Our Future: Birmingham 2015', that builds upon an existing and ambitious programme of change, 'Sustainable Excellence', developed to establish Birmingham as a leading global university.

The strategic plan is based around five mutually supportive goals: enhancing research power; providing students with a distinctive, high-quality experience; sustaining and utilising financial strength; enhancing performance as an engaged university; and becoming the destination of choice amongst our peers. The confidence of the University's ambition is, in part, underpinned by one of the strongest financial positions in the UK HE sector. The University is currently forecasting a turnover of £460 million for the financial year 2011/2012 and carries significant cash surpluses with no borrowings. This is enabling it to invest in high-quality research and to enhance still further the educational experience for its students, as well as to continue to improve its estate and infrastructure, despite the prevailing economic conditions.

Over 90% of Birmingham's research was rated as world leading or of international quality in the 2008 UK Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). With world-leading activity across a range of subjects, it remains one of the UK's most broadly-based research-led universities.

The University's cultural and intellectual assets include the Shakespeare Institute at Stratford-upon-Avon, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts on campus and the Ironbridge Institute in Shropshire. The University also boasts the internationally renowned Lapworth Museum of Geology and Winterbourne House and Garden, a unique Edwardian heritage attraction that is home to over 6,000 plant species from around the world. In total the University's economic value to its region is £780 million.

Founded in 1900 and believed to be the UK's first redbrick university, Birmingham established a new

model for higher education, breaking away from the Oxbridge tradition. Through the foresight of our founders we have inherited one of our greatest assets – our beautiful parkland campus, which is currently undergoing a £175 million enhancement programme that includes the new Bramall Music Building, a new sports centre containing the city's first 50m swimming pool and a proposed library development to provide outstanding facilities for students and researchers alongside an open access cultural hub with facilities available to the public.

The University was founded through philanthropy and fundraising. This is just as important today. Birmingham's 'Circles of Influence' campaign has raised over £60 million since its launch in 2009 and continues to provide funding for five priority areas – Health and Lifestyle; Children and Young People; Heritage, Culture and Sport; Student Support; and Innovation and Immediate Impact.

With 28,000 students from 150 countries, the quality of the student experience offered at the University of Birmingham remains of paramount importance. The University is one of the leading members of the Russell Group in terms of the size of its graduate school and the quality of its student experience as shown by the National Student Survey. As well as high-quality teaching, students also enjoy an enriched experience through other activities such as sport, for which Birmingham is ranked second in the UK.

As Birmingham seeks to extend its global footprint further it is investing in its international strategy, having established overseas offices in India, China and Brussels. These new offices are developing existing contacts and forging new partnerships with academic colleagues and businesses across the Asia Pacific Region and into Australasia. Birmingham is also building strategic partnerships in North America (notably Chicago) and through its membership of Universitas 21.

College of Life and Environmental Sciences

The College of Life and Environmental Sciences consists of four Schools: Biosciences; Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences; Sport and Exercise Sciences; and Psychology. Collectively, we have a faculty of about 200 and total staff in excess of 600. The College is home to approximately 3500 full-time students studying a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research programmes. The schools are encouraged to work in an interdisciplinary nature and have been proactive in initiating numerous cross-school and university wide projects on a range of cutting edge research areas. This is reflected in the areas of international excellence that the schools have achieved in the recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE).

School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences

The School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES) is a research and teaching division of the University, building on the long-standing foundations of our subjects at Birmingham – geology in 1881 and geography in 1924. GEES is now a large interdisciplinary school with around 65 academic staff, 30 technical and support staff, 30 research staff, 100 doctoral researchers and around 900 undergraduate and 140 taught postgraduate students. Together with the schools of Psychology, Biosciences and Sport and Exercise Sciences, it lies within the College of Life and Environmental Sciences. Staff have active and diverse links with other schools on campus, particularly Biosciences, Civil Engineering and the Business School, and with research organisations worldwide. The School has been proactive in responding to the *Shaping Our Future* agenda of the University, including an expansion of its research links, range of postgraduate courses, and international postgraduate student population.

Research in the School centres around five research groupings whose multidisciplinary nature responds to the current international research agenda. In addition to the Geosystems group, the other four groups within the School are in the areas of Environmental Health Sciences; Water Sciences; Society, Economy & Environment; and the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies. Together, they

embrace a wide range of natural science, social sciences and humanities, which also link across the College of Life and Environmental Sciences and to other colleges in the University. Other strengths, such as urban research and sustainability, are found within four of the five research groupings. The current external research portfolio is worth £12 million to the School, supported by its diverse and well-managed equipment and laboratory base.

Society, Economy and Environment research group

The SEE Research Group conducts theoretically and empirically informed scholarship aimed at understanding how social practices and relations are conditioned by space and place. The complex research challenges associated with such questions are explored at a variety of scales, with particular strengths in the European Union, post-Soviet Russia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The group's research interests include:

- Social and cultural geographies: coping strategies, diverse communities, migration, education;
- Urban geographies: regeneration, safety and security, inequality, resilience;
- Energy: vulnerability, sustainability and geopolitics;
- Enterprise and economic geographies: competitiveness, innovation, uneven development, and adaptation during periods of economic turbulence;
- Environmental risk and governance: research questions spanning the boundary between the physical and the social sciences.

We maintain a world-leading profile in several distinct thematic areas, including energy justice, socio-political transitions, connected communities, security design and diverse economies.

Our research has been funded by the UK's Research Councils, the EU's Framework Programmes, the Nuffield Foundation, the European Science Foundation, the United Nations, and a range of government bodies and charitable organisations from across the world.

We strongly engage with decision-makers, especially with regard to urban policies, renewable and low-carbon energy, nuclear waste management, fuel poverty, community resilience and climate change mitigation strategies.

Further details can be found at:

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/see>

Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS)

CURS was established in 1966, initially as a research institution in urban and regional studies, but has expanded its activities over the past 25 years. The group's work has an international perspective, drawing on extensive links with research and policy networks and aims to understand the dynamics of places in order to provide a constructive input to the development of policies to deliver more sustainable outcomes for cities and regions. A full merger of the planning component of CURS with the School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences (GEES) occurred in 2011 and has been supplemented by several new appointments in the area of resilience and urban living as part of a major University investment. Economic development activities of CURS are predominantly located in the Business School and focus on understanding of the development and re-organisation economic activity at different spatial scales. GEES research encompasses:

Spatial planning and sustainable urban development
Urban regeneration and resilience
Social inclusion and social cohesion
Neighbourhood change and responsiveness to communities
Governance and management of places and institutions

Further details of CURS and the Resilience and Urban Living Initiative can be found at:

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/gees/departments/curs/index.aspx>

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/resilience/index.aspx>

Further details of the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences can be found at <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/gees/index.aspx>

Geosystems research group

The Geosystems research group, led by Professor Tim Reston, tackles a range of scientific questions concerned with the dynamic behaviour of our planet and its complex history. It includes a range of activity in Quaternary science, led by Professor Ian Fairchild, which typically sits alongside other expertise, allowing novel insights to be applied. This includes for example the application of approaches to geochemistry and faunas from deep time to Quaternary problems, links between societal and physical environmental change, and connecting insights from modern climatology to the Quaternary history of critical climatic regions. The philosophy of our group and our School is to encourage innovative research ideas that make new links between subdisciplines or disciplines and individuals, so we are looking for someone with appropriate attitude and ability, rather than a very specific skill set.

The group as a whole contains scientists with diverse backgrounds and skills, including strong expertise in palaeobiology, geophysical and palaeoclimatic modelling, and geochemical and physical sedimentological approaches to understanding past environments. Our research is strongly grounded in geological field relationships on the continents and extends to the understanding of the structure of continental margins and contemporary processes thereon. A distinctive feature of this group is the broad range of timescales over which we work, which crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries. Hence we are concerned both with processes that occurred deep in geological history and those that happened on archaeological timescales, in addition to conducting experiments and field observations related to contemporary environments. Our research is funded from a range of sources including the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), the European Community, the petroleum industry and charities. We work with a wide range of collaborators in other institutions in the UK and overseas, particularly in western Europe, the USA and Australia. Joint activity with colleagues in the School's Water Sciences and Environmental Health Sciences groups are also flourishing. The School and the University have a wide range of equipment and facilities to support this work, including recent investments in computing, geochemical, petrological and palaeomagnetic areas.

Environmental Health Sciences research group

The Environmental Health Sciences research group represents a major grouping with exceptional expertise in aspects of applied atmospheric science and environmental nanoscience. Research in air pollution is nationally leading and in several aspects, internationally leading. Major strengths include both expertise in atmospheric physics and numerical modelling, atmospheric chemistry and links into studies of personal exposure and effects on human health. Studies of the physical, chemical and toxicological properties of airborne particulate matter are a particular strength. The EHS research group has two postdoctoral positions funded by the NERC National Centre for Atmospheric Science who are playing a major role in the NERC Urban Atmospheric Science Initiative (ClearfLo Project) and also have a leading position in single particle aerosol mass spectrometry. Complementing the work on air pollution, our studies of urban climatology are advancing both measurement and modelling of urban heat island processes with collaboration in University initiatives in Urban Resilience. Work on climate is also focussed on enhancing the climate resilience of transport systems, including an improved means of forecasting road surface temperatures for winter maintenance which is now widely applied within the UK. Another aspect of our pollution studies is work on persistent organic pollutants which involves studies both of 'legacy' pollutants such as PCB and more recent contaminants such as brominated and organophosphorus flame retardants, as well as perfluoroalkyl compounds, an area in which the group has an internationally leading position. Work on environmental nanoscience is in many aspects world-leading and has attracted major funding from NERC, including the Facility for Environmental Nanoparticle Analysis and Characterisation (FENAC). Work is focussed on nanoparticle characterisation and studies of the environmental pathways and impacts of nanomaterials in the environment. The group has modern and highly equipped facilities both for laboratory and field research and undertakes numerous international collaborative campaigns.

Water Sciences research group

Water is a cross-cutting research issue driving national and international research agenda, and the Water Sciences group at the University of Birmingham undertakes pure and applied research within this dynamic and fast-changing area, to address questions of immediate concern to society and environment. This research reflects the acceleration of environmental stresses, transformation of

national/international agendas and ecological and environmental degradation which require new understanding of the key processes governing all aspects of water environments. Measures of the environmental and societal value of water and new paradigms and policies for the integrated management of water to meet future needs are also required.

In this context the Water Sciences Research Group at Birmingham, is advancing our fundamental understanding of surface and ground water processes by undertaking research at multiple scales, which encompasses hydrology, hydroclimatology, biogeochemistry, geomorphology, ecology and modelling. The activities of the Group embrace the work of two long established research teams in Hydroecology and Hydrogeology, which were recognised as internationally excellent by the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. The core of our research in surface- and ground-water systems aims to i) quantify the physical, chemical and biological processes governing the quantity and quality of water, and the cycling and transfer of nutrients and contaminants and; ii) model the effects of changing water sources and these nutrient fluxes and contamination on aquatic biota.

The scale of the research ranges from pore-scale, through small-scale field sites and drainage basins to continental systems. Our field studies encompass a wide range of climatic conditions, from Arctic to alpine and tropical and a large spectrum of anthropogenic pressures from pristine to urban conditions. Research by the group is funded by national (eg, NERC, EPSRC, EA, SEPA) and international agencies (eg, IAEA, ESF) as well as industry and charities. The group works with a wide range of collaborators in other institutions in the UK and overseas, particularly in Europe, Asia and the USA.

The City of Birmingham

Birmingham is a major European centre and the second city of the United Kingdom. It is a city of business and ballet, canals and world class concerts, jewellery and jazz, historical interest and cosmopolitan atmosphere. Birmingham is also the ideal base for exploring one of Britain's most fascinating regions for tourism, being within an hour's drive of Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, the Potteries, and the Cotswolds.

The new heart of Birmingham is symbolised by Symphony Hall, within the International Convention Centre, considered one of the finest concert venues in the world. Symphony Hall forms part of the impressive International Convention Centre, which overlooks attractive canals at the hub of the UK's canal network. This setting is a very suitable venue for the CBSO, one of the world's finest symphony orchestras. The internationally renowned Birmingham Royal Ballet, based at the magnificent Hippodrome Theatre, adds further cultural depth to the city. In addition to regular tours by the major opera companies, Birmingham boasts the highest concentration of live theatre excepting London's West end.

The City Museum and Art Gallery houses the world's finest collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings, alongside a major collection of Old Masters, Modern and Contemporary pictures. The Barber Institute of Fine Arts houses one of the best UK University collections of Impressionist and Renaissance art. The restored Gas Hall Gallery has international touring exhibitions, while the Halcyon and Ikon galleries feature innovative contemporary works. National landmark sites abound, including the National Indoor Arena, the National Exhibition Centre, National Motorcycle Museum, National Car Heritage Museum and the National Sealife Centre.

The high quality new Bullring Centre is the largest dedicated shopping facility in Europe. Sports and recreation are well served, complemented by International Test cricket, Premier League football with Aston Villa, International Championship golf and top class rugby. The International Convention Centre and National Indoor Arena have spawned a whole new Downtown area at the centre of the City. The National Exhibition Centre, on the outskirts to the city, remains one of the largest exhibition facilities in Europe.

Birmingham is at the crossroads of the UK's motorways. From Birmingham International Airport, more than a dozen different airlines operate scheduled services to 60 destinations worldwide. Fifty million passengers a year use Birmingham New Street Station, which is at the centre of the high speed rail network. London is 90 minutes away by shuttle service, with trains every 30 minutes. There is a high standard of all types of private accommodation, with high quality affordable family housing in several attractive residential suburbs. Public parks and large domestic gardens are a special feature of this greenest of European cities. Quality public and private schools are widely available, with several consistently rated in the top 10 on examination performance in annual league tables of England and Wales.