

Job Description

Post Title and Post Number	Teaching Fellow in African Studies and Anthropology - 51232
Organisation Advertising Description	School of History and Cultures College of Arts and Law
Post Number	51232
Full Time/Part Time	Part Time – 70%
Duration of post	Fixed term for three years
Post is open to:	External and Internal candidates
Grade	7
Salary	Starting salary is normally in the range £28,132 to £36,661 pro rata, with potential progression once in post to £38,907 a year pro rata.
Terms and Conditions	Administrative and Other Related
Closing Date	18 April 2014

Job Summary

This appointment offers an opportunity to join the Department of African Studies and Anthropology (DASA) in the School of History and Cultures, and is intended as a three-year teaching appointment. The candidate should preferably be an anthropologist (although suitably qualified applicants in other disciplines will be considered) with expertise on any region of Sub-Saharan Africa.

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to courses at all undergraduate levels and, if appropriately qualified, to contribute to our postgraduate taught programmes. As part of their undergraduate remit the successful candidate will be expected to be able to teach anthropological theory and practice within the co-taught second-year module 'Theory, Ethnography and Research'; to convene the second-year dissertation preparation module 'Perspectives on Africa'; and to offer options on 'African Popular Culture' and 'African Religion and Ritual' to upper-year students (the materials for all of these modules are already prepared). In years two and three of the fellowship the successful candidate will have the opportunity to substitute suitable options of their own devising.

The successful candidate will also be asked to undertake administrative duties within the Department and School, and to enhance DASA's reputation and effectiveness as a hub of Africanist teaching and interest. S/he will be a colleague in the Department and encouraged to develop a scholarly Africanist research agenda that will inform their teaching.

Overview

To teach at undergraduate and (if appropriate) postgraduate level in line with the Department's teaching programme.

Main Duties

- To deliver a range of teaching and assessment activities within the specified subject area and within a subject specialism to undergraduates and (if appropriate) postgraduates, through allocated lectures and seminars, as well as dissertation supervision, so that the Department's teaching objectives are met
- To plan, design and develop course objectives and material
- To set, mark and assess work and examinations and provide feedback to students
- To design own teaching work including guidance notes and handouts in accordance with the objectives of the teaching programme
- To contribute to the accreditation of courses and quality control processes
- To identify with colleagues any need to develop the content or structure of modules and make recommendations on how this should be achieved
- To provide pastoral care for students within own area to ensure that issues are dealt with in a timely and effective manner
- To contribute to new teaching approaches and to curriculum development

Person Specification

Essential

- PhD awarded by September 2014
- Demonstrated experience of undergraduate teaching with a focus on Africa
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent IT skills in Microsoft Office
- Experience of and enthusiasm for using IVLEs in teaching
- Demonstrable skills in managing, motivating and advising students

Desirable

- Training in teaching in Higher Education
- Demonstrated experience of teaching at post-graduate level
- Teaching or research-related administrative experience in a university context
- A willingness to work to develop Africa's profile both in Birmingham and more broadly

The School of History and Cultures

The School of History and Cultures and the College of Arts and Law provide a lively and supportive research environment and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching and research, while retaining departmental identities for staff and students. The School of History and Cultures has over sixty full-time members of staff, and consists of four departmental units: African Studies and Anthropology; History; Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology; and the Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage. DASA administers a range of degrees at undergraduate level, including Single Honours African Studies and the JH Anthropology half degree.

The School has a lively postgraduate community, which it is determined to expand. In addition to the departments listed above, it is home to the Centre for War Studies, the Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies, the Centre for Modern and Contemporary History, the Centre for West Midlands History, the Centre for the Study of the Middle Ages, the Centre of West African Studies, and the Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies. Through the departments and centres it maintains close links with other schools and departments in the College of Arts and Law and elsewhere in the University.

The School's academic strategy has been led by a commitment to expanding our global reach, both in terms of teaching and research. This expansion has been directed by the following research themes: Diasporas and transnationalism; War, conflict and cooperation; History of religions, beliefs and ideas; Everyday life and popular culture; Environment; Political cultures.

Birmingham University's library is excellent and it has built up its African holdings particularly in the 50 years African Studies has been established at the University. Throughout the 1990s and until 2008 DASA's RAE rating was 5*/6*, and in 2008, 60% of publications by its staff were rated as internationally or globally significant.

For further information, please contact Dr Keith Shear, Dr Kate Skinner, or Prof Karin Barber at the Department of African Studies and Anthropology, School of History and Cultures, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT. Email: k.s.shear@bham.ac.uk ; k.a.skinner@bham.ac.uk; k.j.barber@bham.ac.uk