



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

The University

The University of Birmingham is one of the largest civic universities in the UK with over 7,000 staff and 32,000 students. Our research, education, worldwide reach and reputation, combined with our purposeful, pragmatic and pioneering approach, are making us the standard against which others are measured. Our heritage as the original 'redbrick', is combined with one of the most compelling and ambitious agendas in higher education. Quite simply, at Birmingham we are making important things happen. Home to world-class researchers, whose work in everything makes a real difference to people's lives, from developing next generation engine technologies to spreading better understanding of poverty, mental health, and religious behaviour in the modern age, we provide innovative solutions to big problems. We think, recruit and compete worldwide.

Being named University of the Year for Graduate Employment in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2015-16 places Birmingham as the UK's number one university for securing a graduate-level job and comes just two years after being named University of the Year in 2013-14. These coveted accolades recognise a transformative time in our history characterised by our bold, ambitious strategy and innovative approach to the challenges facing the sector. The University is a pioneer in sector-leading initiatives, including our 'Birmingham Fellows' programme, which has so far seen around 70 of the world's best early career academics join us; and the much-emulated unconditional offers strategy for exceptional students. We have a clear vision for the future, ambitious leadership, world-leading academic strengths and a secure financial base. With an annual turnover of more than £520 million, we use our financial strength to invest in the intellectual and physical future of the University. Judicious planning has enabled us to embark on a £500 million capital development programme including a new library, a major sports centre, outstanding new student accommodation and a state-of-the-art student services hub.

The spirit of innovation which is a key feature of the University's history continues today, exemplified by the new University of Birmingham School; providing an outstanding academic education for the city's young people and serving as a centre of teacher education in the region.

Birmingham is a leading member of the Russell Group and a founder member of the Universitas 21 global network of research universities (www.universitas21.com) of which our Vice-Chancellor is the current Chair.

The University's Strategic Framework – Making Important Things Happen builds on the aims and achievements of the last five years and sets out our ambition to 2020.

www.birmingham.ac.uk/strategy2020



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

Exceptional Research

At the University of Birmingham we have created a research environment in which academic rigour, innovation and delivery are made possible by brilliant people, outstanding facilities and strong collaborative networks. The University is one of the UK's most successful institutions in terms of attracting research funding. We have a portfolio of over 2600 live projects with an award value to the University of £594 million.

More than 81 per cent of all research carried out at Birmingham is rated as internationally excellent or world-leading, according to the latest UK-wide research quality survey (REF 2014). The results also showed that 87 per cent of our research activity has a global impact, confirming our position among the world's top universities for research in a broad range of areas, from History and Education to Chemical Engineering and Psychology.

The University's arts and humanities researchers are among the very best in the UK, highlighting our world-class research programme. Philosophy, History, Classics, Theology and Religion, and West African Studies are amongst the top ranked departments in the country and recognised for bringing significant benefits to society.

In the Physical Sciences we boast outstanding academic and research credentials, including in Chemical Engineering, in which we were recognised with a Queen's Anniversary Prize in the Jubilee year, and in Physics, where we have just received investment of £80 million to develop Quantum Technologies. Our substantive links with industry include receiving a £60 million investment from Rolls-Royce and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) for the world-leading High Temperature Research Centre.

In Medicine the University has a long established record in pioneering work, combining cutting edge laboratory work, clinical expertise and first-class surgical facilities all housed in one vast life sciences campus. This tradition continues today in the form of the Institute of Translational Medicine due to open later this year.

In the Social Sciences we have developed a broad range of initiatives, focused on enhancing, supporting and developing public sector services across the city and nationally. The Public Service Academy (PSA) brings together the University's teaching, research, consultancy and knowledge transfer expertise in public services with a focus on key themes including cohesion, health and wellbeing and localisation.

Our research helps to shape the national political agenda too. The ground-breaking Birmingham Policy Commissions bring together key figures from the public, private and third sectors with our academics to generate new thinking on contemporary issues of global, national and civic concern. Commissions to date have included reports on the shape and nature of local public services in a 'big society', the future of nuclear energy in the UK, the security impact of drones and an investigation into doing cold energy smarter.

Our research strength is founded on an established and developing network of collaborations including a signature collaboration with the University of Nottingham, important relationships with partners in the university, health and public sectors, close links with companies such as Rolls-Royce and a global network of partnerships in Europe, Brazil, China, India and the US.

The University of Birmingham's award winning reputation campaign Birmingham Heroes: Research that matters communicates our areas of excellence and highlights our leading academics can be viewed here www.birmingham.ac.uk/heroes

Over the past five years we have delivered a programme of major academic investments and established signature collaborations at home and overseas. Our goal now is to do more and better research, tackling the great challenges facing the world.



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Outstanding Students

At Birmingham we support our exceptional and ambitious students to become independent problem solvers and natural leaders, enthusiastic about knowledge and learning and able to get things done. Our graduates are in demand across the world. As a result we attract students with the finest academic credentials and year on year applications for our undergraduate places are growing rapidly and more impressively than they are nationally or for comparable universities. This year we will welcome approximately 8,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students. We are committed to delivering a first-class experience for our students in every aspect of their university life. This is also why the University was ranked in the Top 20 of the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2015 and 18th out of 123 UK universities in The Complete University Guide for 2016 and in The Guardian University Guide 2016. These latest league table results further strengthen Birmingham's position as a Top 20 university and reflect our recent performance in other highly-regarded league tables, such as The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016, which ranked the University in 17th place overall.

Global Outlook

Rated 76th in the QS World University Rankings 2015-16, the University has a significant international presence. The breadth of our research in China, and particularly in the Guangzhou region, is testament to the success of our collaboration with the local government and universities there. In Brazil, the Universities of Birmingham and Nottingham are working together in a unique collaboration to develop a network of strategic partnerships with Brazilian universities, as well as the oil and gas industry. In North America, the University has a major collaboration with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign underpinned by a flourishing network of faculty-faculty relationships. Our partnerships in India continue to develop and have been strengthened by our Chancellor, Indian-born entrepreneur and Cross-Bench Peer Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea. We also have partnership agreements with many of the world's leading universities; an office in New Delhi and a presence in Brussels. More information about our strategic global engagements and international research focus can be found on our website (www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/global-engagement/index.aspx)

Cultural Assets

The University's many cultural assets take in the Shakespeare Institute at Stratford-upon-Avon, which has direct working links with the Royal Shakespeare Company; the Ironbridge Institute in Shropshire, and the Barber Institute of Fine Arts - our own art gallery that houses works by many of the greatest artists in the western tradition. The Edgbaston campus also includes Winterbourne House and Garden, a unique Edwardian heritage attraction that is home to more than 6,000 plant species from around the world. Our cultural profile was significantly enhanced with the opening of the Bramall Music Building in 2013. This houses the Elgar Concert Hall, named after our first Professor of Music, Sir Edward Elgar, and is a striking venue that complements our global reputation in music, attracting some of the most talented musicians from across the world to study here.

Sport

Sport is integral to life at Birmingham and we are ranked third in the UK for the quality of student sport. Our new sports development, also due to open early next year, will include the city of Birmingham's first 50-metre swimming pool – an asset not only for our students and staff but for the wider community.

Future Investment

Our plans for the future are underpinned by long-established financial probity. We contribute more than £1 billion a year to our region's economy. Our surpluses and substantial philanthropic support are re-invested into the intellectual and physical fabric of the institution, enabling us to plan with confidence for the future and to continue to invest in the facilities and services that are required for high-quality research, and an outstanding student learning experience.



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

Future Investment continued...

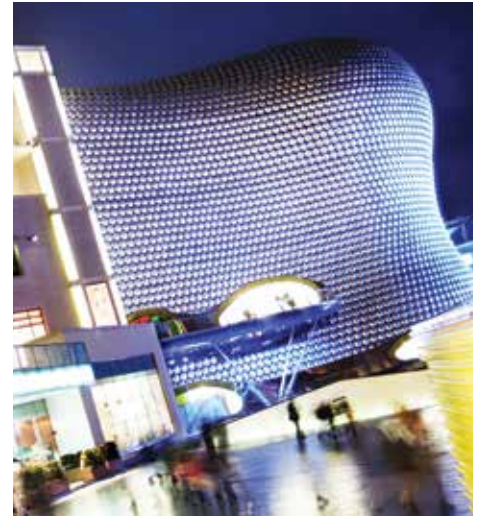
Led by our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Eastwood, the University is structured for swift decision-making, enabling us to capitalise on our academic range and financial strength as well as the opportunities that emerge in the fast-changing global HE environment.

The City of Birmingham

Birmingham is the UK's second city and a major European centre as well as being the only place in the UK listed in the Rough Guide's Top 10 places in the world to visit in 2015. It is a city of historical interest and contemporary vision and has a rich and diverse community that creates a vibrant, multicultural and exciting place to live and work. In the recent Sunday Times/Zoopla report 'Best Places to live in Britain' three areas of Birmingham, Harborne, the Jewellery Quarter and Moseley all made the top 50 best places to live in Britain with Moseley being voted the overall winner.

It is home to the internationally renowned Birmingham Royal Ballet and one of the world's greatest concert venues, the Symphony Hall. 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, while the iconic Bullring is one of the largest dedicated shopping facilities in Europe. Sports and recreation are also well served; the city offers international Test cricket, top-flight football, international championship golf and top-class rugby. As a multicultural city, Birmingham is also renowned for the breadth of its cuisine and has more Michelin starred restaurants than any other English city outside London.

Birmingham is within an hour's drive of Stratford-upon-Avon and the Cotswolds, and little over an hour from Oxford. From Birmingham International Airport, more than 50 different airlines operate scheduled services to 100 destinations worldwide. The University has its own dedicated railway station, while 50 million passengers a year use Birmingham New Street Station, which will be at the centre of the proposed high-speed rail network. London is 80 minutes away by shuttle service, with trains every 20 minutes.



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

College of Arts and Law

With over 5,000 students and in excess of 400 staff, the College of Arts and Law encompasses an extensive range of subject areas from philosophy to drama, and from history to music, as well as world-renowned research centres such as the Shakespeare and Ironbridge Institutes.

The College's results in the UK Research Excellence Framework (REF) of 2014 show its research to be amongst the best in the world. History was rated 1st of all such departments in the UK, Philosophy 2nd, and Theology 2nd (by GPA of output profile). Overall we have one of the largest and best concentrations of Humanities researchers in the UK.

Arts and Law consists of the following five Schools, making it the second largest College in terms of student numbers:

- Philosophy, Theology and Religion
- Birmingham Law School
- English, Drama and American and Canadian Studies
- History and Cultures
- Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music

Each School offers a varied suite of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and a vibrant and supportive environment that allows research to flourish. The College also possesses excellent facilities including several libraries and collections, a number of dedicated computer clusters and a cybercafe.

Located centrally on the University campus is the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, a collection of international significance. The newly opened Bramall Music Building has a 450-seat auditorium and is the most flexible performance space to be found at a UK university – suitable for performances from solo voice and early music to a full symphony orchestra. When not used for music, it is a high profile location for the performance of drama and dance and for prestigious lectures.

The diversity of the College's activities is one of its biggest strengths. Its academic reach spans established groups with rich heritage (such as its 80-year-old Law School and a Music Department whose first Professor was Edward Elgar) through to emerging strengths and new interdisciplinary areas of study (in, for instance, global ethics, analytic philosophy and digital humanities).

Further information about the College, including additional details about its departments, research institutes and facilities, can be found at www.about.bham.ac.uk/colleges/artslaw

The Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy, during a period of substantial investment by the University, has attracted some of the best scholars worldwide to its staff and already enjoys a strong international reputation

as a centre of excellence for research in analytic philosophy, especially in metaphysics and philosophy

of language, mind and psychology, in philosophy of religion, and in ethics and ethical theory.

This dynamic and fast-growing department now ranks second in the country in the recent Research Excellence Framework assessment and has succeeded in newly establishing a creditable place in the Philosophical Gourmet Report.

A wide range of central and important areas for rigorous research characterises the Department, the complex overlaps of whose interests is naturally rather belied by the following. Professor Rumfitt is well known for his work on fundamental questions of logic and on the philosophy of mathematics, Professor Sturgeon for his researches into epistemological questions. Work on the philosophy of mind, stretching as far as neuroscience, psychology and mental health is conducted by Dr Spener, Professor Bortolotti, and Dr Pickard. A strong interest in ethics and metaethics is displayed in different ways by many members of the Department, notably Dr Suikkanen, Dr Law, and Dr Silk, as well as by those particularly engaged in Global Ethics (below). Philosophy of religion is central to Professor Nagasawa and forms



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy continued...

part of the portfolio of Dr Effingham (together with metaphysics). On top of all this, there are two further dimensions. First, the University has invested in three Birmingham Research Fellows, bringing the best of young scholars to enrich our environment. Dr Williams contributes to ethics and issues raised

by global conflicts, and Dr Jones to numerous issues in metaphysics, language and logic, while Dr Wilson is at home in physics and metaphysics. Secondly, we are proud to have on our team seven distinguished international scholars (Professors Boghossian, Field, Fine, Jagger, Neale, Siegel and Wedgwood), whose expertise makes a special contribution to our research students, the research of our staff, and our research events.

The Centre for the Study of Global Ethics is an organic and indivisible part of the Department of Philosophy and of its current expansion. The Centre was set up in 2001 to address the key ethical issues of our time and was the first of its kind in the UK. While based in the Department of Philosophy, the Centre is multidisciplinary by both conviction and methodology and members are drawn from disciplines across the University. Its starting point is that current global challenges cannot be resolved solely within one nation state, one academic discipline, one political outlook, one belief-system or one evaluative framework. The Centre's work focuses on research, impact and teaching.

Staff engaged in Global Ethics produce world-leading publications across the Centre's four principal themes: justice and development (led by Dr Scott Wisor); environment and health (led by Professor Lisa Bortolotti); gender justice (led by Dr Sheelagh McGuinness); and conflict and security (led by Dr Jeremy Williams). Collaborative work and research funding is also central to the work of the Centre, whose staff currently hold grants from major funders (AHRC, EU, ESRC and Leverhulme). The Centre goes beyond the production of philosophically and academically excellent work, and aims to affect real world policy and practice. To this end the Centre's staff collaborate, and habitually work, with practitioners, policymakers, and activists. Global Ethics research provided powerful 'impact case studies' for the Department's return in the recent Research Excellence Framework assessment, with the result that for impact Philosophy came joint top in the UK, both of its case studies being deemed 'outstanding' and rated 4*.

The Department of Theology and Religion

The Department of Theology and Religion plays a world-leading role in areas of research such as textual scholarship; inter-religious relations; intercultural theology; Pentecostal/Charismatic Studies; and it has extensive formal and informal links with academic institutions on five continents. Various research projects, centres and postgraduate programmes operate within these units, including the Institute for Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing, the Centre for Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies, and the John Hick Centre for the Philosophy of Religion. It too has now entered on a phase of expansion and renewal, following the recognition of its inherent excellence in the Research Excellence Framework 2014.

As part of its strategy for renewal, the Department has adopted two particular directions for enhancement and development.

1. The development of the newly established Edward Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion. This Centre seeks to enhance the public understanding of religion regionally, nationally and internationally through distinctive, strategic and engaged interdisciplinary research.
2. Philosophical Theology. This rigorous area is attracting much interest amongst researchers currently and allows Theology & Religion to build on the strengths of Philosophy.



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

We have made major appointments, at all levels, in both areas and have attracted substantial interest from policymakers and the profession.

Job outline

Fte: Full-time

Duration of post: permanent

Post is open to: internal/external candidates

Salary: Reader: Starting salary is normally in the range £47,801 to £55,389.

With potential progression once in post to £72,224 a year.

Professor: an appropriate package will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Enquiries – Dr Nikk Effingham, Head of the Department of Philosophy. (N.Effingham@bham.ac.uk).

The appointment

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Birmingham invites applications from strong candidates with any area of specialisation in Philosophy. The appointment will be either to a Chair in Philosophy or to a Readership in Philosophy. The appointee will be expected to: play a central role in academic leadership at University, College and School level; produce internationally recognised research (including securing large scale research grants); mentor junior staff; contribute to the undergraduate, taught postgraduate, and research programmes in the Department.

The successful applicant for either this post or the concurrently advertised post for lecturer/senior lecturer will be the Director of the Department's new Centre for Nature and Norms (CNN). CNN aims to foster world-leading philosophical research at both the individual and collaborative levels. The activities of CNN will focus on areas of departmental strength (e.g. philosophy of mind and psychology, ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, logic, philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of science, philosophy of language, and philosophy of religion). The Director will also be responsible for using research initiatives in the creation of a world-class training platform for postgraduate research students and junior staff. Applications are therefore warmly encouraged from individuals interested in directing the Centre.

Main Details

1. Contributing to the ongoing development and expansion of the Department of Philosophy by playing a significant leadership role and successfully collaborating with colleagues (both within the Department and without).
2. Delivering internationally recognised research as part of a strong REF submission (which may include activities contributing to impact cases).
3. Successfully soliciting large scale research grants.
4. Providing high quality teaching and supervision to students at all levels.



Chair/Reader in Philosophy

5. Either this appointee, or the appointee to the concurrently advertised post, becoming Director of the Centre for Nature and Norms and building an ever stronger graduate programme at the University of Birmingham.

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications and Experience Required

1. Outstanding track record of research activities, including publications in internationally recognised journals.
2. Significant experience of leadership in an academic environment, including the ability to think strategically, to be imaginative, and to anticipate trends and opportunities.
3. Extensive teaching experience at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including supervision experience.
4. An interest and willingness to work closely with School, College, and University colleagues and a commitment to good citizenship, service to the profession, and engagement with the University's strategic policies.
5. Understanding and experience of the administrative requirements of higher education.
6. A range of generic skills to support the student experience, including excellent organisational, communication, and person-management abilities.

How to apply

Applicants are invited to submit their application online to us via www.hr.bham.ac.uk/jobs

As part of our senior recruitment process your application may be shared in confidence with two external assessors (these will typically be professors within a related academic field, but external to the University of Birmingham). Therefore your application may need to be sent outside the EEA.

