



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



**School of Government  
Institute of Local Government Studies**

**Academic posts available:  
Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor  
appointments**

## Role Profiles and Person Specifications

The School of Government at the University of Birmingham is seeking to appoint outstanding academics with research and teaching interests in Public Policy, Public Administration, Public Management or Political Institutions. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants with teaching and research expertise in the following sub-disciplines:

- Governance, Devolution or Federalism
- Policy Processes and Challenges
- Co-production, Democratic Participation and Social Innovation
- Public Sector Economics, Strategic Management and Performance Management
- Evidence, impact and innovative research methodologies

### **Professorial level appointments**

At Professorial level, we are seeking outstanding candidates who will provide significant strategic leadership which will positively strengthen the profile of the university. The successful candidate(s) will be expected to have an outstanding reputation and recognition from key stakeholders in research and education activities, based on significant and sustained achievements which have had, and continue to have, a major quantifiable influence in the discipline, policy and practice. All appointees will contribute to teaching and learning, academic leadership and management and citizenship. A full job description and person specification is available in the link given below.

<https://bham.taleo.net/careersection/external/jobsearch.ftl?lang=en&portal=101430233>

### **Associate Professor level appointments**

At Associate Professor level, we are seeking outstanding candidates who will provide high level contributions to education and research. The successful candidate(s) will be expected to have an established reputation and recognition from key stakeholders in research and education activities, based on substantial achievements which have had, and continue to have, a quantifiable influence in the discipline, policy or practice. All appointees will contribute to teaching and learning, academic leadership and management and citizenship. A full job description and person specification is available in the link given below.

<https://bham.taleo.net/careersection/external/jobsearch.ftl?lang=en&portal=101430233>

## Assistant Professor level appointments

At Assistant Professor level, we are seeking outstanding candidates who will contribute to the development of the discipline. The successful candidate(s) will be expected to have demonstrable achievements in research and education, which are recognised as such by stakeholders. All appointees will contribute to teaching and learning, academic leadership and management and citizenship. All Assistant Professors are required to undertake a five year Academic Development Programme by the end of which they are expected to be promoted to Associate Professor. A full job description and person specification is available in the link given below.

<https://bham.taleo.net/careersection/external/jobsearch.ftl?lang=en&portal=101430233>

### How to apply

To apply, please complete an application and attach your CV and covering letter.

Informal discussions are welcome – please contact Jason Lowther (Director of INLOGOV) at [J.Lowther@bham.ac.uk](mailto:J.Lowther@bham.ac.uk) or Rene Lindstaedt (Head of School) at [R.Lindstaedt@bham.ac.uk](mailto:R.Lindstaedt@bham.ac.uk)

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. Their views may be sought on your suitability for shortlist and they may also be invited to be involved in the interview process. If you have any queries or concerns about this, please contact Daljit Smith on [d.smith.9@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.smith.9@bham.ac.uk) (College HR Business Partner) on to discuss further.

## The School

The School of Government consists of the Department of Political Science and International Studies, the Institute for Local Government Studies, and the International Development Department. We are one of the largest Schools of Government in the United Kingdom – home to more than 80 full-time academic staff, more than 1,200 undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, and more than 70 doctoral researchers. The School is intellectually vibrant with an excellent record in both research and teaching - a diverse and inclusive community that is united by a passion for innovative education and research to make a difference to our city, region, country, and the world. Proud to be part of the UK's first civic university, we are committed to using the study of government to find solutions to the most pressing local and global challenges and to deliver an education to our students that will allow them to continue on this quest in their chosen profession.

## The College

The College of Social Sciences is a vibrant community of scholars, with over 500 academics, and more than 280 Professional Services staff across a range of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields. Our work impacts all areas of society as evidenced by our diverse international staff body, our 100,000 alumni from more than 185 countries and our research which has a global reach. Our influence dates back to the University's civic roots over a 100 years ago when we pioneered business and social work education.

We respond to the rapidly changing society as we seek to unravel some of the world's most pressing issues, from the economic and societal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, creating more sustainable, inclusive and responsible cities and businesses, understanding the causes of poor mental health and helping to find the solutions.

Our education portfolio is large and diverse, and we offer a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across the broad spectrum of social sciences with a growing range of online programmes and modules, including our highly ranked online MBA.

For more details about the College of Social Sciences visit:

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/socsci](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/socsci)

## The University

We have a long and proud history of firsts at the University of Birmingham; we were the first – and are now one of the largest - civic universities in the UK. More recently, we were the first university to establish a fully comprehensive secondary school, and the first Russell Group and Global Top 100 university to open a campus in Dubai. Research England's inaugural Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) ranked the University of Birmingham's contribution to the regional economy between August 2016 and July 2019 as first amongst all UK universities for local growth and regeneration. Income generation for the region accounted for 21% of total sector income which totalled over £41m – more than four times that of the next institution.

We are a leading member of the [Russell Group](#) of universities and our heritage is combined with one of the most compelling and ambitious agendas in Higher Education.

With more than 8,000 staff, 38,000 students and 300,000 alumni across the globe, we think, recruit, and compete worldwide. Ranked in the top 100 universities globally and the top 25 in all domestic league tables, the quality of what we do at Birmingham is widely recognised.

As the first civic university, we remain committed to working with a wide range of stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds. Thus, we take equality, diversity and inclusion seriously and recognise that such work will never be complete. Therefore, we are particularly interested in working with those that are committed to helping us improve society and the university in this area. We are highly ambitious and work collaboratively to deliver our agendas.

More information about the University is available [here](#).

### **Global Outlook**

The University has a significant international presence. Birmingham was one of the founding partners of, and remains highly active in, the [Universitas 21 global](#) network of research intensive universities. In China, we have developed a broad range of activities, including a signature collaboration with the Guangzhou Municipal Government, and have well developed research collaborations in many parts of the country; we also have a dedicated China Institute to further these partnerships. Having established ourselves in Dubai, we have a new campus to house our growing staff and student population..

Our decade of partnerships with key Brazilian institutions through our Brazil Forum has helped to advance research into sustainable cities, communicable diseases and smart transportation. In North America, the University has a major collaboration with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign underpinned by a flourishing network of faculty-to-faculty relationships. In partnership with Siemens we are combining digital sensor and analytics technologies, artificial intelligence, decentralised energy generation and storage plus renewable energy and concepts that help change users' behaviour, to transform the University's Edgbaston and Dubai campuses into the world's smartest global campus, creating a 'Living Lab' where research, teaching and learning all benefit from access to new data and connectivity. More information about our strategic global engagements and international research focus can be found on our [website](#).

### **Investing for the future**

At Birmingham, we have a clear vision, ambitious leadership, world-leading academic strengths, and a secure financial base. With an annual turnover exceeding £650 million, we use our financial strength to invest in the intellectual and physical future of the University. Our £1 billion estates plan is well underway and our staff, students and wider community are already benefiting from a number of signature buildings, including a best-in-class library, a showpiece sports centre, a major new Teaching and Learning Building, The Exchange city-centre hub, a spectacular School of Engineering, a state-of-the-art student services hub, an extensive addition to the University Business School, a stunning Green Heart parkland area at the centre of our campus, a modern Hotel and Conference Park, a multi-award-winning Collaborative Teaching Laboratory, and a "one of its kind" National Buried Infrastructure Facility. Significant capital investment continues and further flagship developments include the Birmingham Health Innovation Campus, which will open in 2022. A virtual tour of our campus is available [here](#).

### **Exceptional Research**

The University is one of the UK's most successful institutions in terms of attracting research funding. Our research record speaks for itself; the total value of research funding won by the University in 2019/2020 was £220 million, and we are looking to double our research income by 2026. The majority of our research is internationally excellent or world leading and our global impact is apparent in a broad range of areas, from Psychology, History, and Education to Chemical Engineering. We also enjoy robust industrial partnerships. We have strengthened our commitment to tackling the issues of energy and climate change by launching the Birmingham Energy Innovation Centre at Tyseley. Part-funded by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GSLEP), the Centre's cutting-edge work in waste, energy and low-carbon vehicles will help to create a greener and cleaner ecosystem for Birmingham and the West Midlands.

## **Outstanding Students**

We have been encouraging bold, independent thinking and providing exceptional academic programmes that stretch and challenge for more than a century. We are proud of our excellent teaching which was recognised in the University's outstanding performance in the Quality Assurance Association's (QAA) Higher Education Review. Having been recognised many times over the years for the quality of our education provision, in *The Graduate Market in 2021* we achieved first place on the list of universities most frequently targeted by top employers seeking to recruit graduates. The *Guardian University Guide 2021* ranked us 11<sup>th</sup> in the UK for employability while we were placed 85<sup>th</sup> in the world for employer reputation in the 2021 QS World University Rankings.

We understand that every student is individual with a unique learning style and have invested in the latest learning facilities and technologies. As a result, we attract students with the finest academic credentials. Year on year, applications for our undergraduate places are growing rapidly and more impressively than they are nationally or for comparable universities. We are committed to delivering a first-class experience for our students in every aspect of their university life.

## **Sport**

Sport is integral to life at Birmingham (we are regularly ranked in the top five in the UK for the quality of student sport) and we are proud to count Olympians and Paralympians amongst our current students and alumni. Our new sports development includes the City of Birmingham's first 50-metre swimming pool – an asset not only for our students and staff but for the wider community. We worked closely with partners regionally and nationally to secure the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham as well as the 2023 International Blind Sport Federation World Games. As the official partner of the Birmingham 2022 Games, we were delighted to be chosen as the venue for the Hockey and Squash events and that our Student Vale facilities will be used as one of the competitors' villages.

## **Structure**

The University structure comprises five Colleges - [College of Life and Environmental Sciences](#), [College of Medical and Dental Sciences](#), [College of Engineering and Physical Sciences](#), [College of Social Sciences](#), and [College of Arts and Law](#) – each with a distinctive identity and areas of renown. Each Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College is a member of the University Executive Board (UEB).

## **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

A diversity of perspectives and lived experiences is key to the exchange of ideas, innovation and debate that is at the heart of our academic mission. The University is committed to a programme of activity to increase its diversity, address under-representation at all levels and remove the structural barriers that can prevent the achievement of individual potential. We strive to create an organisational culture in which issues of equality, diversity and inclusion are central and where understanding these issues is a key competency for all of our staff and students.

We support flexible and hybrid working.

Find out more about our work to promote equality, diversity and inclusion:

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/equality>

## **The City of Birmingham**

Birmingham has undergone a major transformation in the last decade. A city of historical interest and contemporary vision, it has a rich and diverse community that creates a vibrant and exciting place to live and work.

The city is home to the internationally renowned Birmingham Royal Ballet and one of the world's greatest concert venues: Symphony Hall. The City Museum and Art Gallery houses the world's finest collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings, alongside other major collections, 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 tennis, 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 hosts an international airport and is within an hour's drive of Stratford-upon-Avon and the Cotswolds. The University has its own dedicated railway station recently upgraded for the 2022 Commonwealth Games while 50 million passengers a year use the newly revamped Birmingham New Street Station, and the city will be a major hub for the high-speed rail network. London is 80 minutes away by shuttle service, with trains every 20 minutes.