

Job Description

Post Title and Post Number	Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography (Water Sciences) 1448
Organisation Advertising Description	School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Post Number	1448
Full Time/Part Time	Full Time
Number of hours / weeks to be worked	Full-time
Duration of post	Open
Post is open to:	Internal and External Candidates
Grade	8/9
Salary	Lecturer - Starting salary £37,756 a year in a range up to £45,053 a year with potential progression to £50,688 a year Senior Lecturer - Starting salary £46,400 a year in a range up to £53,765 a year with potential progression to £70,106 a year
Additional Information	Informal Enquiries to Professor David M. Hannah (Head of School; d.m.hannah@bham.ac.uk) Professor Alexander Milner (Head of Water Sciences; a.m.milner@bham.ac.uk) Professor Eugenia (Eva) Valsami-Jones (Director of Research for GEES; e.valsamijones@bham.ac.uk)
Terms and Conditions	Academic Teaching (Non-Clinical)
Closing Date	2 May 2014 Interviews will be held on Thursday 22 May 2014

Job Summary

The University of Birmingham is continuing to make strategic investments across its research base in the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences. We are seeking to appoint a

Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography. Applications are invited from candidates to strengthen further and expand the expertise in **Water Sciences**. This research theme advances understanding of river basin systems through interdisciplinary work (across multiple space-time scales, in a range of environments) that bridges hydrology, hydroclimatology, geomorphology, biogeochemistry, hydrogeology and hydroecology/ ecohydrology. The team develops new approaches to monitor, analyse and model water-dependent system dynamics and processes, which allows us to address major fundamental science challenges and make research impacts of direct societal relevance.

It is expected that the successful candidate will have expertise in one or more of: **hydrology, hydroclimatology, macro-scale hydrology, river catchment processes** and/ or **hydroecology/ ecohydrology**. The appointee will have **technical skills to deliver innovative science** by using state-of-the-art methods (e.g. numerical modelling, statistical tools, novel sensing techniques, laboratory and/ or field experimentation).

Evidence of a strong track record in publishing work of the highest academic quality and impact is essential, and (for a senior appointment) obtaining external research funding is important. In addition to demonstrating (or showing potential for) internationally excellent research, applicants must have a commitment to delivering excellent **teaching and learning in Physical Geography** at all levels (i.e. undergraduate, postgraduate, and higher research degrees) and communicating the relevance and impact of their research to stakeholders. The successful candidates will be involved in administrative tasks (appropriate to their appointment grade) to support delivery of research and teaching within the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Main Duties

Research

To plan and carry out research, using appropriate methodology and techniques. This may include, where appropriate to the discipline:

- Pursue independent research including developing research ideas and winning support.
- Plan, publish and/or execute high quality research
- Secure external funding to deliver research
- Project manage research activities, and/or supervise other research staff
- Present findings in high quality publications and conference proceedings
- Develop novel methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research being pursued
- Supervise and examine PhD students, both within the institution and externally
- Provide expert advice to staff and students within the discipline
- Apply knowledge in a way which develops new intellectual understanding
- Willingness to engage in interdisciplinary collaborations
- Plan and pursue knowledge transfer and enterprise activity that is of manifest benefit to the College and the University

In addition at Senior Lecturer level:

- Provide leadership of research that contributes to the progression of the discipline
- Referee and peer review articles for peer reviewed academic journals and grant applications by research councils and/or other major funding bodies
- Lead substantial and sustained high value impact activity in knowledge transfer and enterprise, as appropriate for discipline

Learning and Teaching

To use a variety of methods in teaching and advising individuals and groups of undergraduates, postgraduates, or CPD students. Where appropriate to the discipline this may include:

- Teach and examine courses at a range of levels
- Plan and review own teaching approaches and act as a mentor to encourage others to do the same
- Develop programme proposals and make substantial contributions to the design of teaching programmes more widely in the Department or School, as appropriate
- Where appropriate, undertake and develop the full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining (including summative assessment and formally assessed work)
- Use appropriate approaches to learning and teaching in their field
- Disseminate appropriate practices through suitable media
- Develop and advise others on learning and teaching tasks and methods
- Develop and make substantial contributions to knowledge transfer on own specialism that is of manifest benefit to the College and University
- Devise and supervise projects, student dissertations and practical work
- Act as a personal tutor for academic and pastoral issues

In addition at Senior Lecturer level:

- Lead the development of new and appropriate approaches to learning and teaching. This may be underpinned by research and evaluation of teaching methods and systems.
- Act as adviser for teaching and learning methods through excellent practice and mentoring other colleagues
- Contribute to the development of teaching and learning policy, methods and standards, more widely than the School
- Contribute to the development and management of assessment strategies within the School/Department
- Contribute to impact activity in knowledge transfer and enterprise that enhances learning and teaching and in the College and the University

Management/ Administration

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

- Participate in the administration/management of research and/or teaching across the Department/School;
- Lead and manage a team to devise and implement a new and/or revised process (e.g. new programme or a recruitment drive);
- Advise on personal development of colleagues and students;
- Make a major contribution to some administrative activities within the University (e.g. through working groups and committees);
- Contribute to widening participation, schools outreach, and/or public understanding of the discipline.

In addition, at Senior Lecturer level:

- Make important contributions to the development of the School research strategy and/or learning and teaching strategy
- Lead funding bids which develop and sustain research support for the specialist area and advance the reputation of the School and University
- Develop and manage staff and resources in support of major research and/or teaching activities
- Provide expert advice to colleagues, students and external bodies
- Act as a coach and role model through excellent practice and mentoring of colleagues

- Promoting and market the work of the School in the subject area both nationally and internationally
- Contribute significantly to the development and delivery of enterprise, business development and public engagement activities to the College and the University

Scope of the Role

Contribute 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).

Planning and Organising

- Plan for and set teaching programme objectives over a number of years
- Plan and manage own teaching courses at a range of levels (including design, delivery, assessment) as agreed with the Head of School
- Plan high quality research
- Manage research activities and/or supervise other research staff
- Organise meetings/conferences/symposia
- Contribute to the administration/management of research and/or teaching across the Department/School
- Lead/manage a team to devise and implement a new and/or revised process (e.g. new programme or a recruitment drive)

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

- Contribute to recruitment of students
- Act as external examiner
- Develop links with external contacts (such as other educational bodies), external clients in other organisations, and/or public engagement relationships generating public understanding of the discipline

- Provide expert advice internally and externally in specialist area
- Referee and peer review of articles for peer reviewed academic journals and grant applications by research councils and/or other major funding bodies
- Maintain contact (including membership of) appropriate professional bodies
- Liaise with the relevant external research community

Person Specification

Lecturer

- Normally, a higher degree relevant to the research/teaching area (usually PhD) or equivalent qualifications
- Extensive research/teaching experience and scholarship within subject specialism
- Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning/ research
- Skills in managing, motivating and mentoring others successfully at all levels

Research

- Experience and achievement reflected in a growing reputation
- Extensive experience and demonstrated success in planning, undertaking and project managing research to deliver high quality results
- Extensive experience of applying and/or developing and devising successful models, techniques and methods

Teaching

- Ability to design, deliver, assess and revise teaching programmes
- Extensive experience and demonstrated success in developing appropriate approaches to learning and teaching, and advising colleagues

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

Senior Lecturer

A Senior Lecturer should demonstrate competence in Research; Learning and Teaching; and Management and Administration; and excellence in at least two of these areas.

Research requirements

An excellent national reputation and a developing international profile through original research work and a clear record of impact. There should be evidence of success under the following headings, as appropriate to the discipline:

- High level peer esteem as evidenced by
- Excellent reputation in the UK and often internationally, reflected in sustained high quality output, level of innovation, impact on subject and recognition
- An excellent and sustained record of peer reviewed research publications
- Successful and sustained supervision of doctoral students to completion
- Substantial and sustained research income generation, e.g. through research grants, contracts, research consultancy or other external funding

Learning and teaching requirements

An excellent teaching profile and performance in terms of both impact and quality. The teaching quality must also be demonstrated to be informed by an appropriate level of scholarship. There should be evidence of success under the following headings:

- Successful and sustained use of a range of appropriate teaching methods, and assessment strategies that promote high quality learning, including learning that is flexible, distinctive and current and stimulates learners' natural curiosity
- Significant and sustained contribution to one or more of the following: strategic development of new programmes; approaches to learning; the development of learning resources
- High quality and sustained contributions to fostering excellence in teaching activities more widely, i.e. in the Department/School or College and/or externally
- Mentoring and expert advice which develops the skills of colleagues in teaching and in fostering learning

Management and administration-related requirements

The role-holder should demonstrate significant achievement in management and administration-related activities, which may include leadership of activities/initiatives. There should be evidence of success under the following headings:

- Successful and sustained performance in significant administrative/managerial role (s) (e.g. exams officer)
- Significant and sustained high quality innovative contributions to the management/administration of the Department/School/College or University
- Successful and sustained contribution to the corporate life of the School/College/University, displaying willingness to contribute actively to committees, collaborative teaching and administrative tasks