Job Description: Assistant Professor (Education)

Post title and post number	Assistant Professor in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (Education)
College/Budget Centre	Life and Environmental Sciences
School/Department	Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences
Full time/Part time	Full time (job share applicants welcome)
Duration of the Post	Permanent
Salary	Grade 8 - £47,389 to £56,535 with potential progression to £63,606
Additional information	
Terms and Conditions	Academic Teaching Staff
Closing Date	
Grade	8

Information for applicants

Academic Development Programme - new Assistant Professors will undertake a 5-year development programme, at the end of which they are expected to be promoted to Associate Professor. The programme consists of a variety of development opportunities and the time to reflect and develop.

Summary of Role

About you

The School of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences is seeking to grow our team by appointing a full-time Assistant Professor in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (teaching focused) who will contribute to a range of education-related and administration activities within the school across our pre and post registration physiotherapy programmes.

As an education-focused assistant professor, you will be a passionate and inspiring educator, with significant experience in practice-based or classroom education who can facilitate learning in students of all levels. You will have an in-depth understanding of the UK healthcare context and an extensive background in musculoskeletal physiotherapy and/or sports exercise medicine practice with proven specialist clinical skills demonstrated across one or more of sport and exercise, healthcare and/or community settings. You will demonstrate a strong understanding of person-centred clinical reasoning and evidence-based management strategies in the contemporary musculoskeletal context that you are able to communicate and contextualise to support student learning. Your teaching will draw on your own clinical expertise and research evidence to deliver exceptional education and set our graduates up for future success throughout their career.

You may already have experience working in physiotherapy education or be looking to move from a clinical setting into higher education to continue your own career development. We would consider job share options for excellent candidates who wish to retain a clinical post alongside a teaching role within the school.

You will be looking to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of physiotherapy, leading and enhancing our programmes to ensure an outstanding educational journey for our students. Your enthusiasm for educating future physiotherapists will drive you to advance your own teaching and learning practices and develop those around you. You'll be a cornerstone in healthcare education, providing unwavering academic and pastoral support to students, ensuring they receive an exceptional learning experience.

In our vibrant and inclusive community, you'll champion diversity and uphold values of integration and support for all, regardless of abilities, sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, faith, or gender. Your commitment to these principles will be evident in every aspect of your role.

About the role

Working within the physiotherapy programme teams, you will make a substantial contribution to the leadership and delivery of musculoskeletal physiotherapy and sports exercise medicine education on the school's qualifying physiotherapy degree programmes and our postgraduate musculoskeletal physiotherapy and sports medicine programmes on our Edgbaston campus. You will lead and contribute to module teams which plan, prepare and deliver excellent engaging and challenging teaching, including assessment and feedback, that inspires students and prepares them for current and future practice and a career in physiotherapy. You will seek out opportunities to enhance student experience and employability outcomes, which may include the identification and enhancement of placement education, integrating simulation into the curriculum and using new technology to support teaching, learning and assessment.

In the realm of management and administration, you'll be a leader and a collaborator, providing expert guidance to colleagues and support the development of teaching practice within module teams and the wider School/University. Your contributions will be substantial, whether through curriculum development, public engagement, widening participation, or outreach initiatives. You'll embody academic citizenship, fostering respectful and supportive relationships with staff and students alike, positively influencing their roles.

About the school

The School of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences is a world-leading School that performs cutting-edge and translational research in all aspects of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation sciences. This unique platform allows us to address societal challenges from a multidisciplinary perspective and enrich our curricula with a research intensity that ranks us at 8th place in global league tables. The university has a long tradition in pre-qualifying physiotherapy education and our school's undergraduate physiotherapy programme is ranked number one in the UK in the Complete University Guide (2023, 2024 and 2025).

In addition to our postgraduate Manipulative Physiotherapy and Sport Exercise Medicine programmes in Edgbaston, we have recently launched these programmes in our Dubai campus, and there are opportunities to be involved in teaching on the Dubai campus as flying faculty.

You will be joining a thriving community of physiotherapists, health psychologists, physiologists, and sports scientists with access to excellent research and teaching facilities. The school is based in a purpose-built building with a range of teaching spaces and practical labs including simulation capture system. We work closely with clinical centres of excellence and are excited to extend our research and impact for the communities we serve via a new state-of-the art Exercise and Rehabilitation Facility, The Centre for Movement and Wellbeing, which opened in March 2024 and includes a physiotherapy clinic. Future developments include a new Clinical Skills Building with simulation spaces for including ward, clinic and home environments.

Having been awarded Athena SWAN Silver status, the school is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusivity, and therefore welcomes applicants from diverse backgrounds to join our global community. The University of Birmingham holds Advance HE Race Equality Charter and Athena Swan Charter bronze awards and is a Stonewall Global Diversity Champion. Further information about working at the University of Birmingham, including information about employee benefits and childcare provision is at https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/index.aspx

Main Duties / Responsibilities

<u>Education</u>
To contribute on a sustained basis to the delivery of musculoskeletal physiotherapy and sports exercise medicine education on our Edgbaston campus. Where appropriate, this will include:
• Undertaking a broad range of teaching activities;
  ○ Teaching and assessing courses at a range of levels
  ○ Planning and reviewing your own teaching approaches and encouraging others to do the same
  ○ Designing contemporary, inclusive, engaging and academically challenging curriculum content
  ○ Working collaboratively with colleagues to design and deliver teaching, learning and assessment
  ○ Using digital resources/environments effectively to support learning and assessment
  ○ Where appropriate, undertaking and developing the full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining
  ○ Leading the co-ordination of programmes or equivalent activities across the school
  ○ Devising and supervising projects, student dissertations and practical work
  ○ Providing academic support to students
• Frequently updating your subject expertise, and undertaking personal and professional development in teaching, including self-reflection on own teaching, using student and peer review feedback, to enhance own teaching and learning processes
• Contributing to the knowledge base of the subject to advance teaching through the enhancement of practice, the development of teaching resources and/or through practice-based research
• Actively engaging students in curriculum and assessment design and sharing evidence of "what works"
• Ensuring that your teaching practice is informed by discipline-based research, through participating in the research culture of the school
• Developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods;
• Developing an external profile evidenced through engaging in external quality assurance activities related to teaching, e.g., external examining and engaging with/supporting education in other institutions or national professional, statutory and regulatory bodies where appropriate.
• Contributing to the recruitment and admission of students to the school
• Contributing to the development of teaching, learning and assessment policies and strategies
• Supporting and developing impact activity in knowledge transfer and enterprise in physiotherapy that enhances the student experience and/or employability
• Contributing to the development of the school's education portfolio and making substantial contributions to the design of teaching programmes more widely
 	
<u>Management/Administration</u>
To contribute to Departmental /School administration. This may include:
• Contribute to the allocation and administration of student healthcare clinical placements
• Contributing to the administration/management of teaching across the Department/School;
• Where appropriate, leading and managing a programme 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;
• Contributing to administrative activities within the University (e.g. appeals panels, working groups);
• Managing enterprise, business development, and public engagement activities;

- Developing and making substantial contributions to knowledge transfer, enterprise, business engagement, public engagement, widening participation, Schools outreach;
- Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion through monitoring and evaluation and actively challenging unacceptable behaviour.

Citizenship

Contributing to an inclusive working environment:

- Pursuing your activities in a way that helps others to engage in their activities effectively and efficiently;
- Demonstrating a willingness to be involved in a variety of activities supporting University life (e.g., participation in Graduation, Departmental/School Committees);
- Demonstrating support for colleagues, such as sharing resources, providing advice;
- Willingness to volunteer for one-off duties (such as supporting School, Institute, and Departmental projects);
- Positively engaging in School strategic initiatives;
- Proactive support and involvement in activities specifically contributing to a positive and inclusive community spirit across the School/College/University.

Person Specification

- Qualified physiotherapist holding current HCPC registration.
- Postgraduate qualification (MSc/MRes or higher) relevant to the musculoskeletal physiotherapy or sports exercise medicine.
- In depth understanding of health care delivery in the UK context.
- Experience working at Advanced Clinical Practitioner (Musculoskeletal) level with demonstrable experience to four pillars of advanced practice (clinical practice, leadership, education and research)
- Significant clinical experience in a relevant area of musculoskeletal physiotherapy or sports exercise medicine.
- Significant teaching experience and scholarship within subject specialism (this may be in a clinical or education setting).
- Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning.
- Skills in managing, motivating & mentoring others.
- Excellent organisation and time-management skills including ability to work to tight deadlines.

Teaching

- Ability to deliver engaging, contemporary evidence-based teaching across the full spectrum of musculoskeletal physiotherapy and/or sports exercise medicine practice.
- Ability to design, deliver, assess and revise teaching programmes.
- Experience and demonstrated success in developing appropriate approaches to learning and teaching and advising colleagues.
- Experience and achievement in knowledge transfer, enterprise and similar activity that enhances the student experience or employability.

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.
- Experience of championing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in own work area.
- Ability to monitor and evaluate the extent to which equality and diversity legislation, policies, procedures are applied.
- Ability to identify issues with the potential to impact on protected groups and take appropriate action.