LECTURESHP/ SENIOR LECTURESHP IN METAPHYSICS & PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
Department of Philosophy
Grade: UE08/09

Closing date: 27th February 2018
Interview Date: Week Commencing 26th March 2018
Vacancy number: 042653
The School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences is seeking to appoint a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Metaphysics and Philosophy of Science to our Philosophy department.

The post holder will contribute distinguished teaching, research, public impact, and leadership in the field of metaphysics and philosophy of science. It is essential that the successful candidate present a research profile, in both experience to date and in future potential, which is at the forefront of the area of activity, relative to career stage.

He or she will also demonstrate experience, achievement and outstanding potential reflected in a growing personal teaching, supervisory and public-impact portfolio.

The post holder will also be expected to play a full part in the collegial life of the Subject Area and the School.

There is an opportunity for appointment at senior lecturer level, for which the post holder will be expected to have demonstrated leadership experience and to contribute actively to the management of the subject area.

Interviews are anticipated to take place week commencing 26th March 2018. We aim to contact shortlisted candidates at least two weeks in advance. Short-listed candidates will be required to give two presentations on their research and teaching to the department as well as an interview panel process. A full timetable will be issued in advance.

The department of Philosophy particularly welcomes applications from candidates belonging to groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in the subject, including, but not limited to, women and ethnic minorities.

For more information on our family-friendly policies please visit our HR web pages.

Applications can be made via our University vacancy pages.
Job Purpose

The post holder will contribute distinguished teaching, research, public impact, and leadership in the field of Metaphysics & Philosophy of Science. It is essential that the successful candidate present a research profile, in both experience to date and in future potential, which is at the forefront of the area of activity, relative to career stage.

Main Responsibilities

1. Take responsibility for design of courses and for their quality, and contribute generally to the development of teaching and enhancement of high quality teaching in the subject area. Contribute to the teaching objectives of the subject area and the School by applying knowledge derived from research to teaching in Metaphysics & Philosophy of Science by teaching, supervising and assessing at all levels, including undergraduate courses in Metaphysics & Philosophy of Science, our Masters programmes in Philosophy, and the supervision and recruitment of PhD students. This includes provision of high quality assessment feedback in a timely fashion (Approx % of time 35%).

2. Provide advice and support to students. This includes acting as a Personal Tutor for a set of students (Approx % of time 5%).

3. Contribute to the research work of the subject area, by pursuing a clearly independent research programme in Metaphysics & Philosophy of Science at an international level that leads to regular presentation of research at prestigious conferences and publication in peer-reviewed venues (Approx % of time 35%).

4. Represent the work of the University in the field locally, nationally and internationally in relevant networks and/or in public activities (Approx % of time 5%).

5. Involve external partners in teaching through knowledge exchange, collaborative studentships, student projects and by involving students in public engagement activities (Approx % of time 5%).

6. Contribute to subject area management of planning for Philosophy, Science & Religion Masters programme, and undertake further leadership and administrative duties, as specified by the Head of School or Head of Subject Area (Approx % of time 15%).
Planning and Organising

- Responsibility for own time management.
- Planning own research, use of resources, including applications for external funding.
- Preparing, organising, delivering, and assessing relevant undergraduate and postgraduate courses and meeting relevant deadlines. This includes providing training and guidance, where appropriate, for tutors on these courses.
- Supervising PhD students through timely and regular meetings.
- Planning relevant activities associated with the Personal Tutor role such as meetings once a semester.
- Organising activities associated with any administrative role carried out on behalf of the subject area or School.

Problem Solving

- Solve problems relating to own research, including seeking out appropriate external resources.
- Responding to student feedback on teaching and assessment through changes in course design and course content as appropriate.
- Developing appropriate responses to problems or issues that arise in respect of administrative roles.

Decision Making

- Deciding on own work patterns, and when key School contacts such as head of subject area or Head of School should be approached for support or advice.
- Deciding on an appropriate research strategy and how best to implement this, including selecting appropriate means and output locations for publishing research findings and how best to seek out external funding.
- Deciding on appropriate teaching material for courses at various levels and how best to present this material to students and how it is best assessed.
- Deciding on the best way to deal with student queries, including when to approach other key School contacts for further support.

Key Contacts and Relationships

- UG and PG students.
- Other teaching colleagues within the subject area.
- Head of subject area.
- Support staff across the School.
- Other College/University representatives.
- Head of School.
- External contacts such as organisers of research conferences.
- Representatives of learned societies or other professional organisations, representatives of research funding bodies.
The successful applicant should have:-

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# Knowledge, Skills and Experience Needed for the role of Senior Lecturer

The successful applicant should have:-

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<td><strong>E1</strong> Extensive research and/or teaching experience with subject specialism, supported by relevant qualifications (normally a PhD or equivalent).</td>
<td><strong>D1</strong> Evidence of experience of knowledge exchange and/or engagement with public bodies and stakeholders and wider publics.</td>
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<td><strong>E2</strong> A proven track record in teaching leadership, in curriculum development, and in enhancement of the student experience, indicative of excellence in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, and in the development of new courses/programmes at postgraduate and undergraduate levels, including online and distance learning.</td>
<td><strong>D2</strong> Evidence of experience of academic leadership and management.</td>
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<td><strong>E3</strong> Evidence of research and publications activities in Metaphysics and Philosophy of Science, meeting standards of world-leading excellence.</td>
<td><strong>D3</strong> Demonstrable success in winning research funding from external sources.</td>
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<td><strong>E4</strong> Evidence of skills sufficient for the mastery of a full range of supervisory activities from undergraduate dissertations to PhD theses inclusive.</td>
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<td><strong>E5</strong> Evidence of commitment to pursuing research funding from external sources.</td>
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<td><strong>E6</strong> Ability to engage effectively with the wider academic and professional community as well as foster a strong student-focused culture.</td>
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Philosophy at Edinburgh has a rich history, dating back to the establishment of the university in 1583 and the presence of David Hume and other Scottish Enlightenment philosophers in the 1700s. There are two traditional Chairs in Logic & Metaphysics and Moral Philosophy that have been held by philosophers such as Adam Ferguson and Dugald Stewart, Norman Kemp Smith, A. E. Taylor, Henry Walsh, Timothy Sprigge, Timothy Williamson, Huw Price and Rae Langton.

Philosophy at Edinburgh enjoys a vibrant and multinational philosophical community, including around 30 academic staff, 50 PhD students, 80 MSc students and 700 undergraduates (many of whom are pursuing one of twelve joint degree programmes). Our Philosophy department ranks 6th in the UK and 40th in the world (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017).

Undergraduate teaching, which draws on our well-established research strengths, ranges from first year classes of around 450 students from across the university to specialist fourth year classes of around 20 philosophy degree students.

The Philosophy Student Society, PhilSoc, was founded in 1871 and is the oldest continuously running society at the university. It is one of the largest and most active philosophy societies in Europe, with a regular programme of distinguished visiting speakers, reading groups and study support. We offer six taught MSc programmes (several of which are interdisciplinary and two of which are fully online) and an MSc by Research. Our PhD student community is very active, hosting regular conferences, workshops and work-in-progress series. Many PhD students also support our teaching by tutoring and contributing to extracurricular writing instruction in Philosophy.

Our research environment is rated as 100% conducive to producing world-leading or internationally excellent research in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014). We are supported by a dedicated research officer who manages the development of grant applications and large research projects. Our research specialisms include Epistemology, Ethics, History of Philosophy, Logic and Language, Mind and Cognition, and Philosophy of Science.

Eidyn research centre was established in 2012 and is focused on epistemology, mind and normativity. It is devoted to showcasing and developing the impact of our world-class research beyond academia. From ‘Perspectival Realism’ to ‘Embodied Prediction and the Construction of Conscious’, Eidyn hosts a range of large collaborative projects that are both international and interdisciplinary, majority of which are funded externally.

www.philosophy.ed.ac.uk
The School comprises Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences (Linguistics and English Language). We offer a rich and diverse learning and research environment for our staff and students, with close links between our three subject areas, alongside other world-class research areas within the University and beyond.

In all subject areas the School is recognised as world-leading, as shown in its excellent output across all areas in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework. In the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014), our research environment is rated as 100% conducive to internationally excellent research across all subject areas.

All of the School’s subject areas consistently rank in the top 50 in the world.

- Linguistics ranks 5th in the world and 2nd in the UK (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017).
- English Language is grouped with Literature in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017, where the University ranks 11th in the world and 3rd in the UK.
- Psychology ranks 20th in the world, and 2nd in the UK in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2018 by subject.
- Philosophy was covered in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2018 subject grouping ‘history, philosophy and theology’ where the University ranks 27th in the world and 5th in the UK.

The School is unique in offering outstanding opportunities for interdisciplinary teaching and in pioneering novel forms of research that reach across traditional boundaries. In 2016/17, the School welcomed nearly 2000 undergraduate and postgraduate students from around the world onto our diverse range of programmes.

The School has well established links with other areas of the University such Clinical Neuroscience, Medicine, Informatics and Edinburgh College of Art.

This large and diverse teaching portfolio is augmented by the breadth of our research portfolio, whereby we are able to secure large volumes and value of externally funded research grants. Our core income budget is circa £23m per annum.
There are over 150 academic staff within the School, and the breadth of expertise ranges from analytic philosophy and the study of English language, through theoretical and applied linguistics, philosophy of science and epistemology and experimental psychology, to cognitive neurosciences and genetic influences on human behaviour.

Alongside this, we have six research centres which further drive our research and help put our research into practice, connecting academia with industry, policy and the general public.

- Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Research Centre – dementia research centre in collaboration with Alzheimer Scotland.

- Angus McIntosh Centre for Historical Linguistics – research centre focused on historical linguistics and language change, centred on the history of English and Scots.

- Bilingualism Matters – a centre promoting bilingualism and language learning to the general public.

- The Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology (CCACE) – famous for its intelligence studies with the Lothian Birth Cohort.

- The Centre for Language Evolution – interdisciplinary centre focused on understanding the origins and evolution of language.

- EIDYN – Philosophy research centre focusing on epistemology, mind and normativity.

The School offers extensive professional service support for academics across a wider range of administrative operations, including:

- Dedicated undergraduate and postgraduate teaching offices.

- Research and knowledge exchange support team.

- A highly skilled and specialised IT team who provide support relating to learning technology, and extensive support and facilities for data collection and experimentation across cognitive science.

We are situated within the central University campus across two adjacent buildings which occupy the heart of University’s George Square Campus, with dedicated, specialist laboratory and experimentation areas across our buildings.

We are fully committed to recognising and supporting equality and diversity amongst our staff and students. In 2017 we were awarded an Athena SWAN Bronze award by the Equality Challenge Unit’s Athena SWAN charter in recognition of our efforts to promote a School culture of equality.
in Department of Philosophy

**Prof Matthew Chrisman**  
Head of Philosophy

Professor Matthew Chrisman joined the University in 2006 after completing his PhD at the University of North Carolina. He is the author of The Meaning of ‘Ought’ (Oxford 2016), and his research is focused on ethical theory, the philosophy of language, epistemology and political philosophy. He regularly teaches courses on morality & value, metaethics and environmental ethics.

**Prof Mike Ridge**  
Research Director

Professor Mike Ridge joined the University in 2001 after completing a postdoc at the Australian National University. He is the author of Impassioned Belief (Oxford 2014), and his research is focused on metaethics, ethics and the philosophy of games. He regularly teaches courses on morality & value, metaethics, and fun & games.

**Dr Bryan Pickel**  
Undergraduate Teaching Director

Dr Bryan Pickel joined the University in 2013 after completing at the University of Barcelona. He is the author of numerous articles in journals such as The Journal of Philosophy, Mind, and Noûs, and his research is focused on metaphysics, philosophy of language and the history of analytic philosophy. He regularly teaches courses on metaphysics, philosophy of language and history of analytic philosophy.

in The School of PPLS

**Prof Ronnie Cann**  
Head of School

Professor Cann graduated from UCL with a BA in Classics in 1976. After taking a diploma in Linguistics at UCL with distinction in 1979, he later moved to the University of Sussex, graduating with a DPhil in 1985. He joined the University of Edinburgh as a lecturer in January 1984, becoming Senior Lecturer in 1994, Reader in 2006, and then Professor in 2012. Professor Cann has been the PPLS Head of School since January 2016 and holds a Personal Chair in Linguistic Semantics.

**Prof Holly Branigan**  
Deputy Head of School

Professor Branigan joined the Psychology department at the University in 1999 after a BA in Language and Linguistic Science (York), an MSc and PhD in Cognitive Science (Edinburgh), and a British Academy Fellowship (Glasgow/Edinburgh). She has held a Personal Chair in Psychology of Language and Cognition since 2011. Her main areas of interest are language production and dialogue in monolingual and bilingual adults. More recently, she has also begun to carry out related research with typically and atypically developing

**Michael Murray**  
Director of Professional Services

Michael Murray joined the School of PPLS from the University of Glasgow in June 2015 and has worked in higher education for over a decade. As Director of Professional Services, Michael leads the organisation, planning and management of the comprehensive range of support services within the School, and works closely with senior academic managers to support School planning, strategy and financial management.
For more than four centuries, our people and their achievements have rewritten history time and again. They’ve explored space, revolutionised surgery, published era-defining books, paved the way for life-saving medical breakthroughs and introduced to the world many inventions, discoveries and ideas from penicillin to Dolly the sheep. We have believed that anything is possible, we still do.

The latest Research Excellence Framework highlighted our place at the forefront of international research. This adds to our international reputation for the quality of our teaching and our student experience excellence. The University is proud of its success with online teaching initiatives, with 2550 students currently studying its online distance learning postgraduate programmes, and a total to date of more than 2 million enrolments for Edinburgh Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

As a member of staff, you will be part of one of the world’s leading universities, with 20 Schools spread over 3 Colleges that offer more than 1600 undergraduate and 600 postgraduate programmes to over 35,000 students each year. Professional services are critical to this success as well as our world-class teaching, research and student facilities. In fact, we are one of the top employers in Edinburgh, with over 13,000 people spread across a wide range of academic and supporting roles.

As a world-changing, world-leading university, we offer an exciting, positive, creative, challenging and rewarding place to work.

We give you support, nurture your talent, develop and reward success and integrate academic, professional and personal career goals, as well as give your career the benefit of a great and distinguished reputation.

Pay, Benefits and Conditions

In addition to a competitive salary, our employees benefit from a competitive reward package and a wide range of staff benefits, which include:

• generous annual leave allowance
• defined benefits pension scheme
• staff discounts on a range of services
• on-campus nurseries

Access our staff benefits page for further information and use our reward calculator to find out the total value of pay and benefits provided.

Relocation

Edinburgh is one of the most diverse Universities in the UK, with staff and students from over 160 countries. Our Relocation Support website has been created to assist you, and your family, with settling into life in Edinburgh.

You can use the pages as a source of information but if you have any specific questions please contact relocation.support@ed.ac.uk
The City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh is a beautiful city that has something to offer everyone. Whether you prefer a quiet restaurant, a lively night out or something in between, you are bound to find it in Edinburgh. Regularly ranked as on the “Best Place to Live in the UK”, Edinburgh has many strings to its bow.

Culture and Entertainment

Home to the largest arts festival in the world, The Edinburgh International Festival brings the month of August alive in the city where residents are spoilt with first class theatre, music, performance art and comedy all on their doorstep. The abundance of galleries and museums such as The Museum of Scotland, Scottish National Gallery and Scottish National Portrait Gallery to name but a few, means that there is always opportunity to soak up some culture all year round.

For those who wish to feed their bellies as well as their minds, Edinburgh boasts the highest number of Michelin starred restaurants in the Scotland, and has more restaurants per head of population than any other UK city outside of London.

The historic appeal of the Athens of the North has led it to become renowned for its monuments and attractions including the Scott Monument, National Monument on Calton Hill and of course the Edinburgh Castle itself; which dominates the city skyline, no more so than on Hogmanay with the world’s biggest street party and fireworks extravaganza to match!

Transport and Districts

Air Links - Several airlines fly to the Edinburgh from the principal European cities, and there are very frequent services from London. If booked well in advance, travel to Edinburgh by air can be cheap, particularly from London. For more information check the Edinburgh Airport website. Bus and tram connections operate 24/7 and with an average journey time of 25 30mins form the city centre.

Rail Links - Travelling to Edinburgh from other parts of the UK is generally easy by train and both Waverly and Haymarket train stations are centrally located, with support routes provided by the bus and tram networks.

Transport Around Edinburgh – Edinburgh has an excellent level of public transport provision compared to many cities in the UK. We have our own Transport and Parking Department here in the University of Edinburgh. They provide lots of advice on getting around the city plus details on staff parking facilities on campus.
Edinburgh Districts

Edinburgh is a highly sought after place to live. Its beautiful city centre covers the Georgian splendour of the New Town, with its grand terraces, crescents, gardens, and upmarket shopping boutiques and bars, and the narrow closes, winding stairways, and historic charms of the Old Town. Nearby communities such as Morningside, Bruntsfield, Stockbridge and Newington remain in easy reach of the city centre as well provide a local community feel.

Explore all of Edinburgh’s distracts on our [website](https://www.vacancies.ed.ac.uk).

Nurseries and Schools

Based at King's Buildings, The University’s Arcadia Nursery, designed around the concept of ‘free play’ by award winning architect Malcolm Fraser, provides the perfect environment for children to blossom.

There is however, no obligation to place your child in University's nursery. There are many other childcare options in Edinburgh. The Edinburgh council website provides information about childcare across the City.

There are two main types of school in the UK, state and independent schools. State Schools make up the majority of schools and are funded by the government. There is no fee for your children to attend these schools. Independent schools require a fee for your child to study there, although there are bursaries available. The school your child can attend is usually dictated by the area in which you live. You cannot apply for a school place until you have an address in the area (this is not the case for fee paying/independent schools). The council has ‘catchment areas’ for each school and have a duty to provide schooling for your child, but if your first choice school has no places left, they may have to recommend a school further away. As Edinburgh is our capital city, many of the schools fill up quickly. Some families consider living a commutable distance from the city in order to have a larger choice of schools. East Lothian and West Lothian Councils cover school areas a commutable distance from Edinburgh.

How to Apply

Apply online via our University of Edinburgh Vacancy pages

- [https://www.vacancies.ed.ac.uk](https://www.vacancies.ed.ac.uk)
- Find this job using Reference 042653
- Complete the online application form as set out
- There is also space to upload a CV and another supporting document that you may wish the panel to consider

Any questions?

Informal enquires should be directed to Head.of.Philosophy@ed.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application or the recruitment process please contact ppls.hr@ed.ac.uk