Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Visual Cognition/Perception

Department of Psychology

Grade: UE08/UE09

Closing date: 5pm Thursday 17th January 2019
Interview Date: TBC March 2019
Vacancy Number: 046277
The School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences is seeking a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Visual Cognition/Perception to our Psychology department. The post holder will contribute distinguished teaching, research, public impact, and leadership in the field of visual cognition or perception. 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. The anticipated start date for the position is expected to be July/August 2019. 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 in March 2019. 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 Psychology 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 successful candidate will conduct research in Visual Cognition or Perception, to complement existing areas of research excellence within the School. S/he will be expected to supervise and recruit PhD students working in her/his area of research. S/he will also be expected to build external collaborations and to demonstrate potential for attracting external grant funding. S/he will engage in research of international excellence, and will contribute to the development of Psychology as a center of international excellence within the School.

The successful candidate will contribute to teaching in visual cognition at all levels of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. S/he will have normal teaching and administrative duties.

Main Responsibilities

1. Contribute to the research work of the subject area (Psychology), by pursuing a clearly independent research programme in Visual Cognition or Perception. This should complement existing areas of research excellence within the subject area. Desirable research specialisms include, but are not limited to, brain imaging, brain inactivation, and eyetracking. This research should be at an international level that leads to regular publication and presentation of results and to successful applications for external funding. S/he should apply knowledge derived from research to teaching in Visual Cognition and related areas, including the supervision and recruitment of PhD students in the relevant area of research (Approx % of time 35%)

2. Teach, supervise, and assess at all levels, including undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Visual Cognition. Take responsibility for design of course units 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. Teaching duties may include the delivery of lectures and small group tutorials and the supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate projects and dissertations. This includes provision of high-quality assessment feedback in a timely fashion (Approx % of time 35%)

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

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

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

6. Undertake further 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.
- Organising activities associated with any administrative role carried out on behalf of the subject area or School.

Problem Solving

- Solving 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 Relationships

- UG & PG students
- Teaching colleagues within subject area and across the school
- Support staff across the school
- Other College/University representatives
- Head of School
- External contacts such as organizers of research conferences, representatives of learned societies or other professional organizations
- Representatives of research funding bodies
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<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td><strong>E1</strong> Ability to teach in the subject specialism across both UG and PG levels supported by relevant qualifications, normally a PhD or equivalent qualification in this area or a closely related area except where exceptional experience can suffice as an equivalent.</td>
<td><strong>D1</strong> A track record of high impact publications in journals having international standing.</td>
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<td><strong>E2</strong> Experience teaching within subject area, including experience of curriculum design and development.</td>
<td><strong>D2</strong> Ability to demonstrate evidence of having applied for external research funding.</td>
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<td><strong>E3</strong> Prior experience of team-working in delivery of teaching and learning objectives.</td>
<td><strong>D3</strong> Prior experience of e-Learning.</td>
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<td><strong>E4</strong> Evidence of previous research publication success.</td>
<td><strong>D4</strong> Evidence of engagement with Open Science principles.</td>
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<td><strong>E5</strong> Proven skills in leading, motivating and supporting others, with a particular focus on students and teaching teams.</td>
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<td>Essential</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>E1</strong></td>
<td><strong>D1</strong></td>
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<td>Ability to create and deliver new programmes and courses across both UG and PG levels supported by relevant qualifications, normally a PhD or equivalent qualification in this area or a closely related are except where exceptional experience can suffice as an equivalent.</td>
<td>Demonstrable success in winning research funding from external sources.</td>
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<td><strong>E2</strong></td>
<td><strong>D2</strong></td>
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<td>Prior experience of team-working in delivery of teaching and learning objectives.</td>
<td>Demonstrable experience of supervising PhD students to completion.</td>
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<td><strong>E3</strong></td>
<td><strong>D3</strong></td>
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<td>A developed area of research and a track record of high quality publications in journals of international standing.</td>
<td>Prior experience of e-Learning.</td>
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<td><strong>E4</strong></td>
<td><strong>D4</strong></td>
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<td>A proven track record of applications for external research funding.</td>
<td>Evidence of engagement with Open Science principles.</td>
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<td><strong>E5</strong></td>
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<td>Ability and willingness to take on leadership roles within PPLS.</td>
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<td><strong>E6</strong></td>
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<td>Demonstrable ability to supervise PhD students.</td>
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<td><strong>E7</strong></td>
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<td>Proven skills in leading, motivating and supporting others, and a willingness to act as a research mentor to junior colleagues.</td>
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<td><strong>E8</strong></td>
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<td>Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, good team-working abilities, the capacity to work on their own initiative, and leadership abilities.</td>
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Established in 1906, Psychology at Edinburgh was one of the first departments of psychology in the UK. We currently have around 40 academic staff, 40 research staff, and 70 PhD students. The department enjoys a world-wide reputation for its research, covering a range of topics from the psychology of language to individual differences. Psychology at Edinburgh ranks 2nd in the UK and 20th in the world (Times Higher Education – World University Rankings 2018 by subject: psychology).

We are home to world-class research groups in human cognitive neuroscience, individual differences, psychology of language and developmental psychology. Psychology also houses the Centre for Cognitive Ageing and Cognitive Epidemiology (CCACE), which is an international leader in the field, and the Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Research Centre. In the Times Higher Education rankings of the Research Excellence Framework 2014, our research is placed 1st in Scotland as part of a joint submission for psychology, psychiatry and neuroscience.

We have excellent facilities for research and teaching, including a cognitive neuroscience facility with EEG/ERP, NIRS, TMS, eye and motion-tracking technologies, a developmental facility with infant eye-tracking capabilities, a psychometric test library, and general computing and experimental research facilities. Staff have access to the Welcome Trust Clinical Research Facility and the Scottish Brain Imaging Research Centre, as well as a large volunteer panel to assist the recruitment of normal adult subject samples.

Students from around the world study Psychology at Edinburgh, with 35% of our students coming from outside the UK from over 40 different countries. We have a well-established postgraduate programme, offering seven taught MSc programmes as well as PhD study. Undergraduate class sizes range from around 350 in first year (including a first year intake onto Psychology single and joint honours degree programmes of around 110 students), to more specialist third and fourth year classes of around 50 students. Small-group teaching is a feature throughout the curriculum, with students taught in groups of 6-15 by academic staff and postgraduate tutors. The Psychology student society, PsychSoc, runs a wide series of social and scientific events and also coordinates a PsychPALS scheme, in which first year students are mentored by older students.

Psychology’s unique role as part of the School of Philosophy, Psychology, and Language Sciences has fostered rich teaching and research collaborations in cognitive science, moral psychology, and the psychology of language. We have links across the University with world-class researchers in related disciplines such as business studies, economics, sociology, neuroscience, neuroinformatics, and genetics. We have extensive national and international collaborative links in all of these disciplines.

www.ppls.ed.ac.uk/psychology
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 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.
Who’s Who

in Department of Psychology

Dr Martin Corley
Head of Psychology

Dr Corley joined Edinburgh in 1995 following a PhD at Exeter. He became Head of Psychology in July 2016. Martin's research focuses on the production and comprehension of human speech, using methods that range from ultrasound imaging of tongue movements to eye tracking and EEG. He currently teaches research methodology to MSc students, as well as contributing to undergraduate teaching.

Prof Wendy Johnson
Research Director

Professor Johnson has held a Chair in Differential Development since August 2015, having joined the department in 2007 from the University of Minnesota. Her research interests encompass intelligence, personality, health and aging, with a particular focus on lifespan development. Wendy is currently research director in Psychology, as well as teaching and tutoring on undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Dr Tom Booth
Director of Teaching

Dr Booth has been a member of the department at Edinburgh since 2011, and is currently Senior Lecturer in Quantitative Research Methods. His research sits at the intersection of individual differences, health and organisational psychology. Tom has played a central role in the redesign of the methodology curriculum in PPLS. He teaches quantitative methods at all levels.

Who’s Who

in The School of PPLS

Prof Holly Branigan
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 children. Professor Branigan was made Deputy Head of School in February 2016.

Prof Matthew Chrisman
Deputy Head of School

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.

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.
The University

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
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 – 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. It's 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 providing a local community feel. Explore all of Edinburgh’s districts on our website.

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 the unique Reference Number 046277
- 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?

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