Teaching Fellow in Philosophy

Department of Philosophy

Grade: U0E7

Closing Date: Wednesday 21st November 2018

Interview Date: TBC Dec 2018

Vacancy Number: 045907
The School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences is seeking to appoint a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Philosophy.

The post-holder will be responsible for preparing and delivering teaching and assessment at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, with a particular focus on the key areas of philosophy of mind and cognitive science.

The position will be available full time, on a fixed term basis, for a period of 6 months, starting January 2019.

Interviews are anticipated to take place in mid to late December and we aim to contact shortlisted candidates at least two weeks in advance. Interviews via Skype can be arranged.

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

Preparing, teaching and assessing at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in philosophy of mind and cognitive science. This includes preparing and delivering lectures, seminars, and tutorials.

Main Responsibilities

1. Preparation and teaching of lectures, seminars and tutorials. We anticipate the Teaching Fellow will be asked to teach a Year 3 philosophy of mind course and an MSc course in philosophy of mind and cognitive science. (Approx 65% of time).

2. Provision of supervision for undergraduate and MSc level dissertations. (Approx 15% of time).

3. Assessment at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including the provision of detailed feedback to students. (Approx 10% of time).

4. Sharing in the administrative responsibilities of the subject area. The Teaching Fellow will be expected to play a part in the collegiate life of the Philosophy subject area and the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences. This includes attending meetings, training and briefing sessions organised by the School and as directed by the Course Organiser(s). (Approx 10% of time).
Responsibility for own time management.

Preparing, organising, delivering, and assessing relevant undergraduate and postgraduate courses and meet relevant deadlines. This includes providing training and guidance, where appropriate, for tutors on these courses.

Responding to student feedback on teaching and assessment through changes in course design and course content as appropriate.

Deciding on the best way to deal with student queries, including when to approach other key School contacts for further support.

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.

UG and PG students.
Other teaching colleagues within Philosophy.
Head of subject area.
UG Teaching Director.
MSc Programme Directors.
Professional Services staff across the School.
The successful applicant should have:

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<th>Essential</th>
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<td><strong>E1</strong> A postgraduate degree in Philosophy or closely cognate field, with relevant postgraduate research and/or teaching experience, normally a PhD or equivalent (pending assumed complete can be considered).</td>
<td><strong>D1</strong> Experience in design and delivery of effective postgraduate university teaching and/or supervision.</td>
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<td><strong>E2</strong> Postgraduate research experience in Philosophy of Mind and/or Cognitive Science with evidence of outstanding potential.</td>
<td><strong>D2</strong> Experience with on-line pedagogy</td>
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<td><strong>E3</strong> Experience in design and delivery of effective undergraduate university teaching and supervision.</td>
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<td><strong>E4</strong> Excellent oral and written communication skills.</td>
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<td><strong>E5</strong> Excellent interpersonal skills.</td>
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<td><strong>E6</strong> Ability to manage time and to work to strict deadlines.</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 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 Philosophy

Dr Nick Treanor
Head of Philosophy

Before coming to Edinburgh Dr Treanor was the Newton Trust Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Churchill College. He works in epistemology, the philosophy of mind, and metaphysics. He received his PhD in 2009 from Brown University.

In 2017, Nick was awarded the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Student Experience. He became Head of Philosophy in July 2018.

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 Elinor Mason
Postgraduate Teaching Director

Dr Elinor Mason joined the university in 2004, moving from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is the author of numerous articles in journals such as Ethics and Philosophical Studies, and her research is focused on moral philosophy, free will, responsibility, and feminism. She regularly teaches courses on morality & value, feminism, and free will & moral responsibility.

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.

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 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
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 one of 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
- Find this job using the unique Reference Number 045907
- 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.