Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing
School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture

Closing date: 26 August 2019
Interview date: TBC
Reference number: LAN096A
Introduction

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing

The School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture seeks to appoint a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing. With a focus on creative writing, the post is aimed at further enhancing the School's profile in the domain of creative practice more broadly, as it looks to develop new teaching and research initiatives across programmes in Creative Writing, Film and Visual Culture, and Music. Taking this into account, preference may be given to candidates who are able to demonstrate practical and pedagogical expertise in screenwriting and/or script writing. The School fosters a strongly interdisciplinary ethos in teaching and research, reflecting wide-ranging expertise across the humanities and creative arts.

Located within English Studies (which includes Creative Writing), the appointee will contribute teaching to relevant undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes in the School. The appointee will undertake practice-led research in an aspect or aspects of creative writing, which may include screenwriting and/or script writing. Applicants should have postgraduate qualifications up to PhD level in creative writing or a closely related area; have a track record of practice-led outputs and/or publications appropriate for the career stage and suitable for submission to the UK Research Excellence Framework; a clear plan of research activity (outputs, publications, external funding, public engagement/impact); and experience of teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level. A willingness to contribute fully to the promotion and development of relevant research centres in the School, particularly the WORD Centre for Creative Writing, would be an advantage.

The School has a long tradition of excellence in the areas of English and Creative Writing. In the last national assessment of research (REF 2014), English was placed among the top units in the UK, with 93% of research activity rated as world leading or internationally excellent. It leads or contributes to a number of research centres hosted by the School, including the Centre for the Novel, the Walter Scott Research Centre, the Grierson Centre for Textual Criticism and Comparative Literary History, the Word Centre for Creative Writing and the Washington Wilson Centre for Visual Culture. Creative Writing is a particular strength at Aberdeen. It is taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels by three award-winning writers, and is consistently ranked amongst the top ten Creative Writing units in the UK.

Staff profiles in English and Creative Writing can be viewed here:

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sll/disciplines/english/staff-80.php

The School is proud to hold a Bronze Athena SWAN award since April 2019. The School and the University are committed to promoting and maintaining an inclusive and supportive working environment that assists all members of our University community to reach their full potential. Diversity brings strength and we welcome applications from all genders across the international, national and regional communities that we work with and serve.
Job description

Main purpose of the role:

The successful candidate will undertake research (including practice-led activity) in creative writing, ideally with some demonstrable expertise in screenwriting and/or script writing. S/he will contribute teaching to relevant undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes offered by the School; will develop new courses and programmes as appropriate in collaboration with other colleagues in the School; will undertake supervision of postgraduate research students; will contribute to the work of the School’s research centres, including public engagement and impact-related activities; and will pursue external funding opportunities. Responsibilities will also include administrative roles as agreed with the Undergraduate Programme Co-ordinator in English and the Head of School in Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture.

Key responsibilities:

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing

- Research (including practice-led activity) in a relevant area, to include publications suitable for submission to REF (internationally excellent or better), grant application, public engagement and impact-related activity

- Teaching, examination and assessment at undergraduate and taught postgraduate levels in relevant programmes in English, Creative Writing and other relevant programmes in the School

- Development of programmes and courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels as appropriate

- Recruitment and supervision of postgraduate research students

- Administrative duties as agreed with the Undergraduate Programme Co-ordinator and the Head of School

- Other relevant activities in the School and University as agreed with the Head of School

- See also the Person Specification below

At a glance

Salary:
Lecturer level £40,792 - £48,676 per annum; Senior Lecturer level £51,630 - £58,089 per annum

Hours of work:
Full time

Contract type:
Substantive
Candidate background

**Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing**

You will have postgraduate qualifications up to PhD level in creative writing or a closely related area relevant to the post. You will have a record of excellent research and publication appropriate for the career stage, a clear plan of research activity for the coming years, including plans for obtaining external research funding and for research impact, and experience of teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level. You will have excellent written and spoken communication skills, and be able to engage with students and promote student learning in a range of ways.

*Your covering letter should set out how you would envision helping to lead the development of the School’s activities in the domain of creative writing.*

Terms of appointment

Appointments made at Lecturer level will be paid at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 salary scale (£40,792 - £48,676 per annum), with placement negotiable according to qualifications and experience.

Appointments made at Senior Lecturer level will be paid at the appropriate point on the Grade 8 salary scale (£51,630 - £58,089 per annum), with placement negotiable according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 3 year probation period.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here)

Should you require a visa to undertake paid employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship and Tier 2 visa. As appropriate, at the time an offer of appointment is made you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of financial maintenance and competency in English. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Clark, HR Adviser on +44 (0)1224 273244 or email [h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.
## Person specification

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<td><strong>Education/Qualifications</strong>&lt;br&gt;Academic, technical and professional education and training</td>
<td>• PhD in creative writing or a closely related area relevant to the requirements of the School</td>
<td>• PG Cert in Higher Education or equivalent&lt;br&gt;• Fellowship of the UK Higher Education Academy</td>
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<td><strong>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</strong>&lt;br&gt;eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</td>
<td>• A track record of excellent research, publications and outputs in a relevant subject area, appropriate to the career stage&lt;br&gt;• A well-developed plan of research, including plans for publication, research funding and impact-related activity&lt;br&gt;• Experience of teaching activity at undergraduate level in an area of creative writing (which may include script writing or screenwriting) relevant to the requirements of the School</td>
<td>• Experience of teaching in UK Higher Education&lt;br&gt;• Experience of teaching and/or supervision at postgraduate level&lt;br&gt;• Experience of public engagement or impact-related activity</td>
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<td><strong>Personal qualities and abilities</strong>&lt;br&gt;eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</td>
<td>• Excellent communication and presentation skills (oral and written)&lt;br&gt;• Ability to work independently and as part of a team&lt;br&gt;• Ability to build a rapport with students and impart enthusiasm for the subject&lt;br&gt;• Excellent skills to develop strong relationships with academics and researchers from other institutions and/or non-academic partners and organisations</td>
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<td><strong>Other</strong>&lt;br&gt;eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</td>
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The University

Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland’s third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is ‘open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others’.

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 14,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world’s leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.

The School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture

The School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture is home to nine disciplines, including Celtic & Anglo-Saxon Studies, English Studies, Modern Languages (French and Francophone Studies, Gaelic Studies, German Studies and Hispanic Studies), Language & Linguistics and Film & Visual Culture. The School welcomed the Elphinstone Institute and the Department of Music (previously within the School of Education) in September 2015, consolidating a number of links and collaborations established over the years. It is home to one of the largest undergraduate cohorts in the University, and runs a diverse series of Masters programmes reflecting the research and teaching interests of its staff, including Creative Writing, Film and Visual Culture, Translation Studies, English Literary Studies and Professional Communication. The School's research interests are reflected in its various Research Centres, including the Washington Wilson Centre for Visual Culture, the Centre for the Novel, and the Grierson Centre for Textual Criticism and Comparative Literary History.
The city and the region

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the oil capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Gatwick, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) and Frankfurt as well as flights to other European destinations. http://www.aberdeenairport.com Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland’s most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to www.visitabdn.com

How to apply

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 26 August 2019

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact
Professor Michelle Macleod, Interim Head of School
01224 272548 m.macleod@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Macleod

Please quote reference number LAN096A on all correspondence

The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.