Lecturer in Sociology
School of Social Science

Closing date: 09 February 2020
Interview date: To be confirmed
Reference number: SOC059A
**Introduction**

*The Department of Sociology seeks to appoint a full-time lecturer to commence work in July 2020. While a broad knowledge of Sociology is essential, the department is particularly interested in applicants with a research focus on Social Movements and the capacity to teach classical and contemporary sociological theory.*

The department of Sociology is a relatively small department (10 members of staff) which is nonetheless distinguished by its exemplary research output and consistently high rankings both in the UK University league tables (currently ranked 7th by the Guardian and 19th by the Times) and internationally (top 200 in the QS rankings). We have robust undergraduate and postgraduate numbers, with a diverse and international student population.

The successful applicant will contribute to both undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes, develop their own and potential collaborative research agendas, and participate in the administration of the department and the School of Social Science where necessary.
Job description

Main purpose of the role:

• To undertake teaching in Sociology at undergraduate and graduate levels, including courses on sociological theory.
• To supervise undergraduate and graduate dissertations.
• To contribute to the academic administration of the Department and the School of Social Science.
• To undertake research in accordance with Sociology’s research strategy including preparations for REF 2021.
• To contribute to regularly-occurring events which are important to the successful running of Sociology and the School. These include Open Days, Summer School, and School events to welcome new students and mark graduations.

Key responsibilities:

Lecturer

• Delivery of lectures, tutorials and seminars to undergraduate and postgraduate students
• Teaching and assessing Sociology core courses (years 1-3)
• Contributing to the teaching of research methods in year 3 and in postgraduate courses
• Development of novel lectures and courses where appropriate and necessary
• Individual supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research and engagement activities
• Acting as mentor for students in the capacity of personal tutor and for teaching assistants
• Conducting independent and collaborative research, including grant acquisition and publication
• Establishing and maintaining links with other Departments and Schools
• Engagement with community, industry, and third sector partners in teaching and research
• Development of inclusive pedagogical and innovative assessment methods
• Participation in the administrative tasks of the Department and School as necessary
• Participation in the development and delivery of the School’s strategic objectives
• Maintaining and expanding knowledge and experience through continuous professional development

At a glance

Salary:
£41,526 - £49,552 per annum

Hours of work:
Full-time

Contract type:
Substantive, to begin in or before July 2020
Candidate background

The successful candidate should have completed their PhD in Sociology or a closely related discipline and have experience of researching and teaching in Sociology, with a specific focus on sociological theory and Social Movements. Experience with or interest in engaged or impact-oriented research for social change is preferred.

It is expected that the successful candidate will have experience undertaking tutorials and lecturing at various levels of undergraduate and postgraduate study. They should be self-motivated, flexible and have an ability to engage the interest and enthusiasm of students, inspiring them to learn. There should be a clear demonstration of an academic career trajectory, and a willingness to make a full contribution to the School’s activities.

Terms of appointment

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 salary scale (£41,526 - £49,552 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

This is a full-time, substantive 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

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 for further information.
# Person specification

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<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic, technical and professional education and training</td>
<td>• Undergraduate/PhD degrees in Sociology or a closely related field</td>
<td>• Experience of teaching classical and contemporary sociological theory</td>
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<td>• Clear demonstration of an academic and research career trajectory</td>
<td>• Professional recognition by the HEA, or other recognised teaching qualification</td>
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<th>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</td>
<td>• Excellent organisation and communication skills, empathy, self-motivation and ability to work both as part of a team and individually</td>
<td>• Experience of PhD supervision</td>
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<td>• Expertise in Social Movements</td>
<td>• Track record of securing grant funding</td>
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<td>• Expertise in Sociological Theory</td>
<td>• Expertise concerning social change in a domestic or international context</td>
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<td>• Experience of undertaking lectures and tutorials at various levels of undergraduate and postgraduate study</td>
<td>• Experience using inclusive pedagogical and innovative assessment methods</td>
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<td>• Experience of coordinating and teaching own course(s)</td>
<td>• Interest in engaging with community, industry, and third sector partners in teaching and research</td>
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<td>• Good IT skills</td>
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<td>• Ability to act as mentor for students in capacity of personal tutor and for teaching assistants</td>
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<th>Personal qualities and abilities</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td>eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</td>
<td>• Commitment to participate in relevant evening and weekend events i.e. Open Days; Widening Participation courses; Summer School</td>
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<th>Other</th>
<th>Essential</th>
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<td>eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</td>
<td>• Open Day participation includes Saturdays</td>
<td>• Experience of developing and delivering on-line teaching</td>
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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 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), and Paris (Charles De-Gaulle 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 09 February 2020

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact
Gearoid Millar, Head of Sociology
01224 273238
g.millar@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Millar

Please quote reference number SOC059A on all correspondence

The School of Social Science welcomes a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The Department of Sociology is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, sexual orientation, religion/belief, pregnancy/maternity, marriage/civil partnership).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found here:

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php

The University’s commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT equality and a Disability Committed Employer recognising our commitment to supporting disabled staff and students.

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277.php