Teaching Fellow

School of Social Science (Sociology)

Closing date: 20 June 2021
Interview date: TBC
Reference number: SOC064A
INTRODUCTION

The University of Aberdeen is seeking applications for a part-time (0.8 fte) Teaching Fellowship in the Department of Sociology. The Department of Sociology is a lively and collegiate department with a strong emphasis on both teaching and research. This is a fixed term post for 12 months from September 2021.

The successful candidate would normally hold a PhD degree in Sociology and will have experience of teaching in higher education and the ability to make a contribution to courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. The successful candidate should be able to teach across the range of our programmes, but particular themes of interest for the post are globalization and quantitative methods, and although not essential, social theory and political sociology.

The focus of the post will include support for the development and delivery of our online and/or blended programmes and courses.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

- To undertake teaching in Sociology at undergraduate and graduate levels;
- To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate taught dissertations;
- To contribute to the academic administration of the School of Social Science;
- To contribute to regularly occurring events which are important to the successful running of Sociology and the School, such as regular Open Days.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Plan and deliver a range of teaching and assessment activities including lectures, tutorials and seminars, with particular focus on globalization and quantitative methods;
- Mark course work, practical sessions, and examinations in subject specialism, and provide timely and appropriate feedback;
- Supervising and marking undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations;
- Participating in the development and delivery of the School's strategic objectives;
- Contributing to the administration of the School as appropriate;
- Act as informal mentor for teaching assistants in subject specialism.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 6
(£33,797 per annum pro rata)

HOURS OF WORK:
80% of Full Time

CONTRACT TYPE:
Available for 12 months from September 2021

LOCATION:
Aberdeen
CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

The successful candidate should have completed their PhD in a relevant discipline and have experience of teaching in Sociology, with a particular focus on globalization and quantitative methods, and although not essential, social theory and political sociology.

They should have experience of 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 paid at the rate of £33,797 pro rata per annum on Grade 6 salary scale.

As this post is funded by the Leverhulme it is available for 12 months from September 2021.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

This post does not meet the minimum requirements for visa sponsorship under the Skilled Worker Route. We are therefore unable to consider applicants for this post that require sponsorship to work in the UK.
## Person Specification

### Education/Qualifications

**Essential**
- PhD degree in Sociology
- Commitment to high quality teaching and learning.
- Experience of undertaking lectures and tutorials at various levels of undergraduate and postgraduate study
- Experience of blended and/or on-line teaching, organisation and delivery

**Desirable**
- Associate Fellowship of the HEA or equivalent, or plans to gain in near future.

### Work and Other relevant experience (including training)

**Essential**
- Excellent organisation and communication skills, empathy, self-motivation and ability to work both as part of a team and individually.
- Knowledge of Sociology.
- Particular themes of interest must include globalization and quantitative methods.
- Excellent IT skills.
- Ability to act as mentor to teaching assistants.

**Desirable**
- Experience of undergraduate supervision
- Particular themes of interest include social theory and political sociology.
- Experience of software packages and IT systems for teaching, learning and assessment (e.g. MyAberdeen).

### Personal qualities and abilities

**Essential**
- Fluency in both spoken and written English.
- Ability to teach in close collaboration with colleagues.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- A proven track record of ability to manage time and to work to strict deadlines.
- Commitment to participate in relevant evening and weekend events i.e. Open Days; Widening Participation courses.
- Available to start early September 2021.

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### Other

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**Other**
- e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

The University of Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 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 and inspires.

CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to build on the achievements above. Underpinning our high performance and significant growth is a £100m investment in Aberdeen’s estate which will include the completion of a new Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King’s Quarter and a new Business School building. The University has also invested in 50 new academic posts and in 2020 launched five interdisciplinary, cross-institution Research Centres that will catalyse world-leading research in our areas of strength. Our five Interdisciplinary Challenges are: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing.

In 2017 we received the Queen’s Anniversary Prize, awarded to recognise the world-class excellence in innovation and practical benefit to people and society. The University was given this award for health service research leading to improvements in academic and clinical practice and delivery of health care.

INTERNATIONAL

Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships in e.g. Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students¹ and have been named 32nd in the world for International Outlook². The University of Aberdeen is proud to be the first UK University to operate on a dedicated campus in Qatar. Phase 1 of this partnership with AFG College has successfully recruited over 600 students. Phase 2 will see the creation of a substantially larger campus, with capacity for at least 5,000 students and research activity. For further information on our Qatar campus visit www.abdn.ac.uk/qatar.

¹ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021
² QS World University Rankings 2021
ABERDEEN 2040

On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched Aberdeen 2040, our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

**Inclusive**
We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.

**International**
We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.

**Interdisciplinary**
We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.

**Sustainable**
We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and our finance. We work responsibly.

**OUR EDUCATION**
Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

**OUR RESEARCH**
Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen’s Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.
ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

Scotland’s third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region, is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland’s top business are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty’s Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the P&J Arena, Museums, and Beach Leisure Centre. The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also 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.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find our more visit www.visitabdn.com
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

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 at [www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working-5607](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working-5607).

The University’s commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE’s Race Equality Charter, affirming the University’s commitment to the charter’s aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using contact SCOTLAND-BSL.

The University is delighted to be accredited as a Disability Confident employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment. [www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277).

HOW TO APPLY

Online application forms are available at [www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs).

The closing date for receipt of applications is 20 June 2021.

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Dr Gearoid Millar, Head of Department, e-mail: [g.millar@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:g.millar@abdn.ac.uk)

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Millar.

Please quote reference number SOC064A on all correspondence.