Lecturer in Language & Linguistics

School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture

Closing date: 10 December 2021
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: LAN120A
Lecturer in Linguistics

The School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture seeks to appoint a Lecturer in Linguistics from 1 January 2022. The appointment will teach on the School’s undergraduate MA programme in Language & Linguistics, and taught postgraduate MLitt in English Language & Literature, as well as undertaking research in Linguistics and supervision of research postgraduates in these areas. Applicants should hold a PhD in a relevant area; have a track record of research and publication appropriate for the career stage; and have experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Candidates with a wide range of interests in the field of Linguistics are invited to apply, with preference given to those with a specialisation in first language acquisition, bilingualism, bilectalism, or Scottish language. The role will be undertaken within the School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture. More information on the School can be found below.

Linguistics at Aberdeen is a rapidly expanding unit within the School, with a wide research and teaching portfolio produced by dedicated and collegial staff. The Times Good University Guide recently ranked Aberdeen Linguistics first in the United Kingdom. Our research interests inform the design and content of courses at all levels of the programme, and at Honours and Postgraduate level students have the chance to study a wide range of topics which reflect the diverse areas of expertise in the department. Staff profiles in Linguistics can be viewed here:

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sll/people/index.php#panel1291
JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The successful candidate will undertake research in Linguistics. An interest in first language acquisition, bilingualism, bilectalism, or Scottish language may be an advantage in the role. They will teach on the undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes offered by Language and Linguistics, including introductory courses and research-informed specialist options; will undertake supervision of postgraduate research students; will contribute to the work of the School’s research centres; and will pursue external funding opportunities. Responsibilities will also include administrative roles as agreed with Undergraduate Programme Co-ordinator and the Head of School in Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

**Lecturer in Language & Linguistics**

- Research in a relevant area, including publication, grant application, public engagement and impact-related activity
- Teaching, examination and assessment at undergraduate and taught postgraduate levels in Linguistics, including introductory courses and specialist options
- Recruitment and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research students
- Administrative duties as agreed with the Head of Cluster 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

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

**Lecturer in Linguistics**

You will have a PhD in an area of Linguistics related to first language acquisition, bilingualism, bilectalism, or Scottish language. You will have a record of excellent research and publications appropriate to your career stage, a clear plan of research activity for the coming years, including plans for obtaining external research funding and research impact, and experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level. You will have native or near-native competency in English language, 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 making a contribution to Language & Linguistics at Aberdeen.
TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on Grade 7 of the University salary scale, (£42,149 - £50,296 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

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.

The candidate appointed to this post may be eligible for homeworking on an occasional or regular basis. For more information please refer to our Homeworking Policy.

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Clark, HR Adviser (e-mail: h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 7
£42,149 - £50,296 per annum

HOURS OF WORK:
37.5

CONTRACT TYPE:
Substantive

LOCATION:
Aberdeen
# Person Specification — Lecturer in Linguistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th><strong>Essential</strong></th>
<th><strong>Desirable</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Academic, technical and professional education and training | • A PhD in an area of Linguistics relevant to the requirements of the undergraduate Linguistics MA and postgraduate MLitt English Language & Literature programme. | • PG Certificate in Higher Education or equivalent qualification  
• Fellowship of the UK Higher Education Academy |
| Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research | • A track record of excellent research and publication in a relevant subject area appropriate to the career stage  
• A well-developed plan of research, including plans for publication, external research funding, and impact-related activity  
• Experience of teaching activity at undergraduate and postgraduate level in an area or areas relevant to the post | • Experience of teaching in UK Higher Education  
• Experience of course co-ordination at Honours and pre-Honours level  
• Experience of teaching students from a range of international backgrounds  
• Background in first language acquisition, bilingualism, bilectalism, or Scottish language |
| Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills | • Native or near-native competence in English language  
• Excellent communication skills (oral and written)  
• Ability to work independently and as part of a team  
• Ability to build a rapport with students and impart enthusiasm for the subject  
• Ability to teach across a range of areas in Linguistics | |
| Other e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc. | | |
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 its achievements. 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.

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.

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

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

- **Sustainable**
  We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances. 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.

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.

IMPACT
Our dedication to building a sustainable future is reflected in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021 where we were ranked in the top 60 Universities worldwide for positive impact on society.

In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2021 we were listed in the global Top 50 for 6 of these goals and in the UK Top 20 for all 17³.

¹ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021
² QS World University Rankings 2021
³ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021
Language & Linguistics is one of nine disciplines in the School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture. The School brings together a broad range of arts and humanities disciplines, including Celtic & Anglo-Saxon Studies, English Studies, Modern Languages (French and Francophone Studies, Gaelic Studies, German Studies and Spanish & Latin American Studies), Language & Linguistics and Film & Visual Culture. The School welcomed the Department of Music and the Elphinstone Institute (previously within the School of Education) in September 2015, consolidating a number of links and collaborations established over the years.

The School is home to one of the largest undergraduate cohorts in the University, with around 1,000 students enrolled on our courses, and runs a diverse series of Masters programmes reflecting the research and teaching interests of its staff, including TESOL and Professional Communication (both taught largely by staff from Language & Linguistics). It has a long history of excellent research across all its disciplines, with English and Language & Linguistics being recognised jointly as two of the UK’s leading departments in the REF 2014 research assessment exercise. The School’s research strengths and interests are reflected in its various research centres. It holds approximately fifty academic posts, accompanied by a further fifty part-time and temporary staff (including language assistants), and is supported by ten administrative and secretarial staff.
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 businesses 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 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 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

HOW TO APPLY

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

The closing date for receipt of applications is 10 December 2021

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Dr Elspeth Edelstein, Head of Cluster for Language & Linguistics
01224 272677
elspeth.edelstein@abdn.ac.uk

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

Please quote reference number LAN120A on all correspondence