Teaching Fellow in Philosophy

SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY AND ART HISTORY

Closing date: 28 September 2022
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: DHP114A
INTRODUCTION

The School of Divinity, History, Philosophy and Art History seeks to appoint a Teaching Fellow in Philosophy on a three-year, 0.45 FTE contract. The successful candidate will have a PhD in Philosophy and broad teaching experience and be available to take up post as soon as possible.

The Teaching Fellow will join a small, friendly, and dynamic Philosophy team, contributing to our highly rated undergraduate teaching programme and our new MLitt in Philosophy and Society. All departmental staff are engaged in teaching and student support. Philosophy staff collaborate with others across and outside the University on teaching, research grants, publications, and outreach activities. In 2018, the unit established the interdisciplinary Centre for Knowledge and Society (CEKAS), with academic and non-academic members from across the University and beyond. For Philosophy, CEKAS acts as the primary vehicle for forging interdisciplinarity connections and collaborations, and for achieving societal impact.

Philosophy is located in a historic building on Aberdeen’s King’s College campus. The department sits within a School that incorporates Divinity and Religious Studies, History, and Art History.

The Philosophy department is strongly committed to equality and diversity. As members of the BPA/SWIP Good Practice Scheme, we have several initiatives to ensure a fair work and study environment for all students and staff. Philosophy staff led the School’s successful application for the Athena SWAN Bronze award in 2017.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The Teaching Fellow will contribute to teaching across the curriculum, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. At UG level we have particular teaching needs in ethics, social philosophy, introductory formal logic, and ancient philosophy. Teaching activities include course coordination as well as course development, delivery (e.g. lecturing and leading tutorials), and assessment. The Fellow will also teach in the MLitt in Philosophy of Society. They will liaise effectively with academic and support staff and will make positive contributions to the University’s practices of student monitoring, academic support, pastoral care, personal tutoring, and student retention and recruitment activities. The Fellow will be expected to undertake some administrative duties as determined by the Head of Discipline, and to participate in departmental activities including student recruitment events.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teaching Fellow
• Contribute to the coordination, development, delivery, and assessment of courses across the curriculum, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels
• Teach an advanced UG course, preferably in social philosophy
• Supervise undergraduate dissertations and independent study projects
• Teach in the MLitt in Philosophy and Society
• Support students through student monitoring, academic support, and personal tutoring
• Departmental administration associated with course delivery and as determined by the Head of Discipline
• Participate in the activities of the department, including the Centre for Knowledge and Society
The successful candidate will have a PhD in Philosophy as well as broad knowledge and teaching experience in Philosophy at university level, including ethics, introductory formal logic, and ancient philosophy. They will have experience in course coordination and supervising UG dissertations or independent study projects. An ability to teach an advanced UG course in ethics or social philosophy is essential, as is the ability to contribute to the MLitt in Philosophy and Society.

We welcome applications from individuals whose background or characteristics have historically been under-represented in Philosophy.

**TERMS OF APPOINTMENT**

Salary will be at the appropriate point on Grade 6, £35,333 – £42,155 per annum (pro rata), 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](http://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](#).

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.

**AT A GLANCE**

**SALARY:**

Grade 6
£35,333 - £42,155 per annum (pro rata)

**HOURS OF WORK:**
0.45fte

**CONTRACT TYPE:**
Available for 36 months

**LOCATION:**
Aberdeen
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic, technical and professional education and training</td>
<td>e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• PhD in Philosophy</td>
<td>• Broad knowledge and teaching experience in Philosophy at university level, including ethics, introductory formal logic, and ancient philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Experience in course coordination and assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Experience in supervising UG dissertations or independent study projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ability to teach an advanced UG course in social philosophy or ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ability to teach in the MLitt in Philosophy and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ability to support students through student monitoring, academic support, and personal tutoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Perform administrative as determined by the Head of Discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ability to co-supervise postgraduate dissertations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal qualities and abilities</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</td>
<td>e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 31st in the world for International Outlook². The University of Aberdeen is proud to be the first UK University to deliver programmes on a dedicated campus in Qatar in partnership with AFG College. Phase 1 has successfully recruited over 600 students and 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 QS World University Rankings 2022
² Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022
³ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021
Philosophy at Aberdeen is a small, friendly, and research-active unit. Our research is focused on three disciplinary fields (epistemology, history of philosophy, and metaphysics / philosophy of science), each pursued by several researchers. In 2018, the unit established the interdisciplinary Centre for Knowledge and Society (CEKAS), with academic and non-academic members from across the University and beyond. CEKAS aims to address societal problems by applying philosophical tools and notions drawn from all the sub-disciplines of theoretical and practical philosophy in collaboration with specialists from other disciplines. For Philosophy, CEKAS acts as the primary vehicle for forging interdisciplinarity connections, and for recommending and developing interventions that have societal impact.

Our highly rated undergraduate teaching programme offers single- and joint-honours Philosophy degrees, and a range of innovative, student-oriented courses. All departmental staff are engaged in teaching and student support. Departmental activities include student reading parties and pub nights, as well as research seminars and conferences. Philosophy staff collaborate with others across and outside the University on teaching, research grants, publications, and outreach activities.

Philosophy is located in a historic building on Aberdeen’s King’s College campus. The department sits within a School that incorporates Divinity and Religious Studies, History, and History of Art. The School offers a suite of taught undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and a strong postgraduate research programme, with over 250 PhD students. Academic programmes and activities are supported by the Head of School and the School support team.

The Philosophy department is strongly committed to equality and diversity. As members of the BPA/SWIP Good Practice Scheme, we have several initiatives to ensure a fair work and study environment for all students and staff. Philosophy staff led the School’s successful application for the Athena SWAN Bronze award in 2017.
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.

Aberdeen has ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, and was recently named the happiest city in the UK to live and work in⁴.

To find out more visit www.visitabdn.com

⁴ Shawbrook Bank Happiest Cities Index 2021
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 28 September 2022

Please include a CV and Cover Letter with your application. We also ask that you provide evidence of relevant qualifications.

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Dr Ulrich Stegmann, Head of Philosophy

Tel: 01224 273839

Email: u.stegmann@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Stegmann

Please quote reference number DHP114A on all correspondence