Lecturer or Senior Lecturer (Scholarship) in Computing Science
School of Natural and Computing Sciences

Closing date: 16 January 2023
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: NCS200A
INTRODUCTION

The Department of Computing Science within the School of Natural and Computing Sciences seeks to recruit one Lecturer (Scholarship) or Senior Lecturer (Scholarship) to support teaching in Aberdeen. The department is growing quickly, and with 24 members of academic staff has a long track-record of research in several areas of Artificial Intelligence and has more recently branched out into Cybersecurity research. Teaching revolves around general Computer Science, as well as more specialized UG and PGT degrees covering Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity; we strive to embed our research within our teaching.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The post-holder will undertake teaching related duties across the Discipline. These include, but are not limited to the design and delivery of lecture materials; assessment design and marking; student supervision and administrative tasks related to teaching. The successful candidates will be expected to teach across the undergraduate curriculum and may also be asked to support our highly successful MSc in Information Technology, MSc in AI, or MSc in Cybersecurity programmes. The appointees will also be expected to assist with our international teaching commitments. Note that this post is focused on education rather than research.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Lecturer (Scholarship) or Senior Lecturer (Scholarship)

- To contribute to the design, development, delivery, assessment and administration of a broad range of existing and new undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses and programmes.
- To contribute to teaching across Computing Science programmes such as our BSc in Computing Science, MSc in Information Technology, MSc in Artificial Intelligence, and MSc in Cybersecurity. This may include course (module) coordination, development of teaching and assessment material, marking, and teaching-related administration.
- To plan, prepare, adapt and deliver own or existing teaching material with the goal of defined learning objectives for the course.
- To undertake a full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining of student dissertations, providing a high standard of support and help.
- To identify the learning needs of students and define learning objectives.
- To contribute to transfer of knowledge and skills in Computing Science pedagogy and educational best-practice within the department.
- To undertake administrative duties, as determined by the Head of School and Academic Line Manager.

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CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

You will have a PhD in Computer Science, and be able to demonstrate that you are an enthusiastic, passionate and experienced educator. You will demonstrate experience at teaching at the undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, and have the ability to work independently.

For a Senior Lecturer position, candidates should demonstrate an extensive track record of teaching and teaching-related administration, and evidence of engagement with subject-specific pedagogical research or networks.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 (£43,414 - £51,805) or Grade 8 (£54,949 – 61,823 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.

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. Please do not hesitate to contact Lucy, HR Adviser (lucy.redmayne@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 7/ Grade 8
£43,414 - £51,805 / £54,949 - £61,823

HOURS OF WORK:
Full time: 37.5

CONTRACT TYPE:
Substantive

LOCATION: Aberdeen
# Person Specification

## Education/Qualifications

**Academic, technical and professional education and training**

- PhD in Computing Science.
- FHEA
- PGCE or other teaching qualification

## Work and Other relevant experience (including training)

**e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research**

- Evidence of Higher Education institution teaching, both undergraduate and postgraduate.
- Ability to design and deliver course material successfully.
- Active engagement with recent subject-specific pedagogical thought. [At Senior Lecturer, evidence of engagement with pedagogic research or networks.]
- Evidence of teaching both large and small classes.
- Experience in module (course) coordination. [Essential at Senior Lecturer.]
- Experience of degree programme coordination or leadership in teaching. [Essential at Senior Lecturer.]

## Personal qualities and abilities

**e.g., initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills**

- Excellent interpersonal skills including oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to relate well to colleagues and build a rapport with students.
- Enquiring, critical approach.
- Good time-keeping abilities, and, in particular, evidence of being able to meet deadlines.
- Ability to think creatively and innovatively and impart enthusiasm for the subject.

## Other

- Willingness to be involved in the development of new modules for campus, blended or online delivery.
- Willingness to travel and deliver modules overseas.

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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 uphold the principals of the foundational purpose. We remain committed to delivering positive change both locally and globally. We work together and with our partners in an interdisciplinary way, catalysing world-leading research in our areas of strength: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing. We are investing in our future and have committed £100m to upgrading our campus, including the new fully digitised Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King’s Quarter and a new Business School building. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction.

1 The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023
2 National Student Survey (NSS) 2022

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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 around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students³.

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³ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021

Updated October 2022
IMPACT
In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2022 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals⁴.

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland’s best institution for environmental research⁵.

THE SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND COMPUTING SCIENCES
The School of Natural and Computing Sciences is a vibrant and dynamic centre, internationally renowned for excellence both in teaching and research. It currently comprises four academic units, namely: Chemistry, Computing Science, Mathematics and Physics. Hosting over 95 academic and research staff, 60 research students, 120 postgraduate taught students and 690 undergraduates; it is a close knit and friendly community, based on the main campus at King’s College.

Computing Science currently has 24 members of academic staff, together with around 40 doctoral researchers and PhD students. The University and the School have begun to execute ambitious plans that will see Computing Science grow rapidly over the next few years. The School offers a range of undergraduate and taught postgraduate degree programmes. Successful applicants for this post will be expected to undertake teaching across the Computing Science teaching portfolio. Computing Science runs three highly-successful taught MSc programmes: a specialist MSc in Artificial Intelligence, an MSc in Information Technology, and a specialist MSc in Cybersecurity. At the undergraduate level, teaching revolves around the 4-year BSc (Hons) degree, as well as multiple joint-degrees taught with other disciplines. These are supported by newly redesigned and refurbished

⁴ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022
⁵ QS World University Rankings 2022
teaching facilities. International partnerships include a 2+2 articulation programme in Computing Science with South China Normal University, with students from SCNU joining the Aberdeen Honours programme in third year, and a joint-degree programme running in Qatar. Computing Science additionally benefits from cooperation in a UK-China Joint Institute focused on education.

**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 out more visit [www.visitabdn.com](http://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

Applications should include:

- A cover letter outlining your motivation for the role and your fit to the person specification (2 pages maximum)
- A statement of teaching philosophy, to include a summary of a new course/module you would introduce at honours level given a free choice. (1 page maximum)
- A CV

The closing date for receipt of applications is **16 January 2023**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:
**Dr Matthew Collinson, Head of Computing Science**
01224 272298
Matthew.Collinson@abdn.ac.uk  

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

**Please quote reference number NCS200A on all correspondence.**