



## Reader/Senior Lecturer in History of Art School of Divinity, History and Philosophy

**Closing date:** 18 October 2019  
**Interview date:** 11 November 2019  
**Reference number:** DHP083A



# Introduction

As a result of a wide-ranging review and a recommitment to the discipline, History of Art at the University of Aberdeen is looking to grow its strengths and extend its provision with a number of hires over the coming academic year.

The discipline currently has a core interest in the modern and Medieval with specialism in Scottish Art, and visual and print cultures. It has a single honours programme and a number of joint honours programmes at undergraduate level, plus an MLitt in Art and Business. The discipline has an impressive research profile with a particularly strong impact profile and significant external grant capture. There is significant scope for interdisciplinary expansion with History, Anthropology and Museum Studies, Philosophy and the Medical Humanities.

The University houses a diverse and high-quality collection spanning late Antiquity to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century which includes rare archaeological objects, medieval manuscripts and art collections. This collection provides pivotal opportunities for using artefacts to forge new academic and civic partnerships. In addition, the University's new Qatar Campus provides opportunities for developing international networks and initiatives.



## Job description



### *Main purpose of the role:*

We are looking to recruit an individual who is well placed to take on the role of the Head of History of Art and to lead the process of reinvestment in the discipline at the University of Aberdeen. The individual will work with the Head of School to ensure that the discipline is well placed to contribute to the strategic aims of the School, in line with the University's emerging 2040 strategy around the workstreams: Inclusive, Interdisciplinary, Sustainable and International.

In addition to being central to strategic development, the successful candidate will contribute to the excellent teaching and high-quality research of the discipline.

### *Key responsibilities:*

#### **Senior Lecturer/Reader in History of Art**

- Conduct world-leading research, preparing and submitting research for publication in high quality journals and/or publishing houses.
- Add expertise to the research and impact profile of the discipline.
- Ensure that the discipline contributes to the achievement of the School's KPIs.
- Provide leadership to the discipline.
- Lead the process of setting the future direction of the discipline.
- Develop strong networks within the School, University and wider academic and non-academic communities.
- Provide outstanding and engaging teaching that is attractive to our students.
- Grow PGT numbers, either through existing or new programmes.

### At a glance

**Salary:**

£52,559 - £59,135 per annum

**Hours of work:**

Full time

**Contract type:**

Substantive

## Candidate background

The successful candidate will have an excellent personal research record and a wide-ranging teaching background in the discipline and, importantly, will have the vision and leadership skills to set the future course for History of Art at Aberdeen.

We imagine that the successful candidate will currently be in a mid-career appointment with ambition to drive change. The AOE is open but will likely fall within areas of disciplinary importance for Aberdeen, such as Scottish Art, Early Modern-Studies and New Connoisseurship and Material Culture. The candidate will be outward-looking, drawing connections with other disciplines, with University of Aberdeen Special Collections, with galleries and the cultural organisations within the surrounding area. The successful candidate will have an excellent personal research record and a wide-ranging teaching background in the discipline and, importantly, will have the vision and leadership skills to drive the future direction of History of Art at Aberdeen.



## Terms of appointment

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 8 salary scale (£52,559 - £59,135 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 12 month 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)

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](mailto:h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.



# Person specification

	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
<p><b>Education/Qualifications</b> Academic, technical and professional education and training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PhD in History of Art</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Qualification in Higher Education (such as PGDipHE or FHEA)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</b> eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Experience of University teaching and supervision of students at both UG and PGT level</i></li> <li>• <i>Demonstrable ability to produce world-leading research with a record of publications in excellent peer-reviewed journals and/or monographs.</i></li> <li>• <i>Demonstrable ability to secure external research funding.</i></li> <li>• <i>Leadership and team building experience.</i></li> <li>• <i>Experience of academic administration.</i></li> <li>• <i>Experience of securing external funding.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Experience of supervision of PGR students.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Personal qualities and abilities</b> eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Excellent team leadership skills.</i></li> <li>• <i>Innovative thinker with ability to see a project through to completion.</i></li> <li>• <i>Ability to engage a wide network within and beyond academia.</i></li> <li>• <i>Excellent written, oral and presentation skills.</i></li> <li>• <i>Excellent IT skills.</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other</b> eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</p>		

# The University



*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), Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) and Frankfurt 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](http://www.visitabdn.com)



## How to apply



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

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The closing date for receipt of applications is 18 October 2019

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Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact  
Dr Paula Sweeney, Head of School  
01224 272357  
p.sweeney@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Sweeney

**Please quote reference number DHP083A on all correspondence**

*The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.*