

Lecturer in Space Law

SCHOOL OF LAW

Closing date: 01 November 2021

Interview date: TBC

Reference number: LAW056A



Version: Jul21

INTRODUCTION

University of Aberdeen's School of Law is an ambitious School with a long history of high quality teaching and research. We regularly rank in the Top 10 UK Law Schools (rated 7 in the Good University Guide, 2020) and perform strongly in NSS (placing second in Law in the UK in 2021).

We are committed to equality and diversity and hold an Athena Swan Bronze Award. We have a supportive research culture that will encourage the successful candidate to pursue their research ambitions. We wish to appoint a lecturer capable of teaching and researching within the field of space law. We are open to appointing a high-quality candidate with expertise in either the commercial or regulatory dimension of the subject-area. The successful candidate will be expected to become a member of one or more of the School's Research Centres, namely the Centres for Constitutional and Public International Law, Scots Law, Commercial Law, Private International Law, and Energy and Resources Law. The successful candidate will also take on a leading role in the School's development of inter-disciplinary links both within the University (and in particular with the Planetary Sciences Department within the School of Geosciences), and externally.

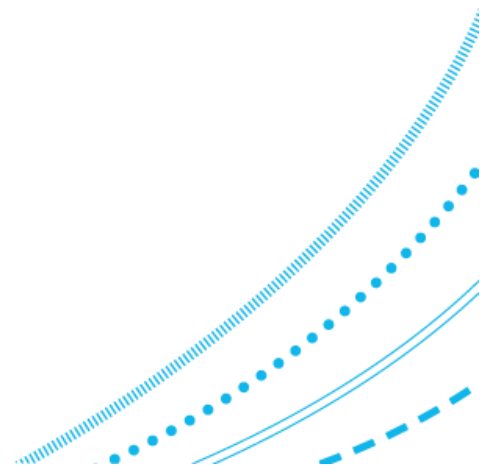
Our learning environment is one of support and personal development leading to well-rounded and highly employable graduates. The School of Law offers a range of LLB degrees, including programmes approved by the relevant Scots and English accrediting bodies, 5-year programmes involving language study and a year's study abroad, and a two-year accelerated degree for graduates. A varied Graduate programme is offered including a range of taught Masters' degrees (some of which are offered by online distance learning, as well as on campus) and research degrees.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The successful candidate will be expected to deliver student teaching and assessment in law at graduate and undergraduate level, to undertake and disseminate top quality legal research in accordance with the School's research strategy, to supervise graduate students and to participate in the academic administration of the School. It is anticipated that around 40% of the successful candidate's time will be spent on teaching, preparation and associated activities, 40% on research activities and 20% on administrative activities.

The University has an ambitious internationalisation strategy and although the successful candidate will generally be based in Aberdeen there may be a requirement for some international travel.



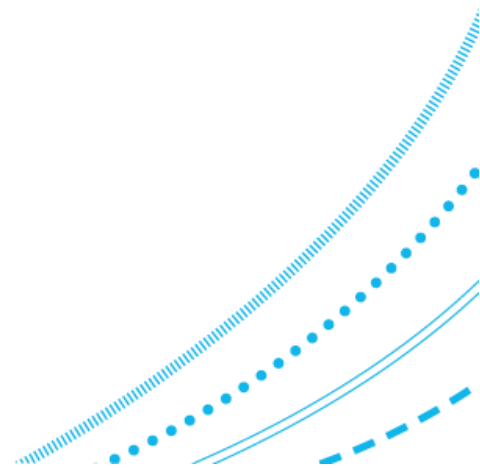
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- *Contribute to the planning, design and development of teaching and scholarship within the School of Law (in person and/or on the School's online distance learning programmes)*
- *Design teaching material and deliver it appropriately either across a range of courses or within a subject area*
- *Set, mark and assesses work and examinations and provide feedback to students*
- *Work towards membership of the Higher Education Academy (if not already a member)*
- *Develop legal research and scholarship projects and find ways of disseminating these projects effectively*
- *Identify and secure appropriate funding opportunities to facilitate research projects*
- *Undertake knowledge exchange activities including public engagement in research*
- *Contribute in a manner appropriate to experience and rank to the efficient and effective administration of the school*
- *Balance the pressures of teaching, research and administrative demands and competing deadlines.*

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

The School of Law wishes to appoint a lecturer in the field of space law who is able to contribute to teaching, research and the broader life of the School. There is some scope for flexibility in start date but it would be preferable if the candidate could be in place before the end of July 2022.

Applications will be welcomed from candidates at any point with the lecturer scale, including early career researchers seeking their first lecturing post



TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7, £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:

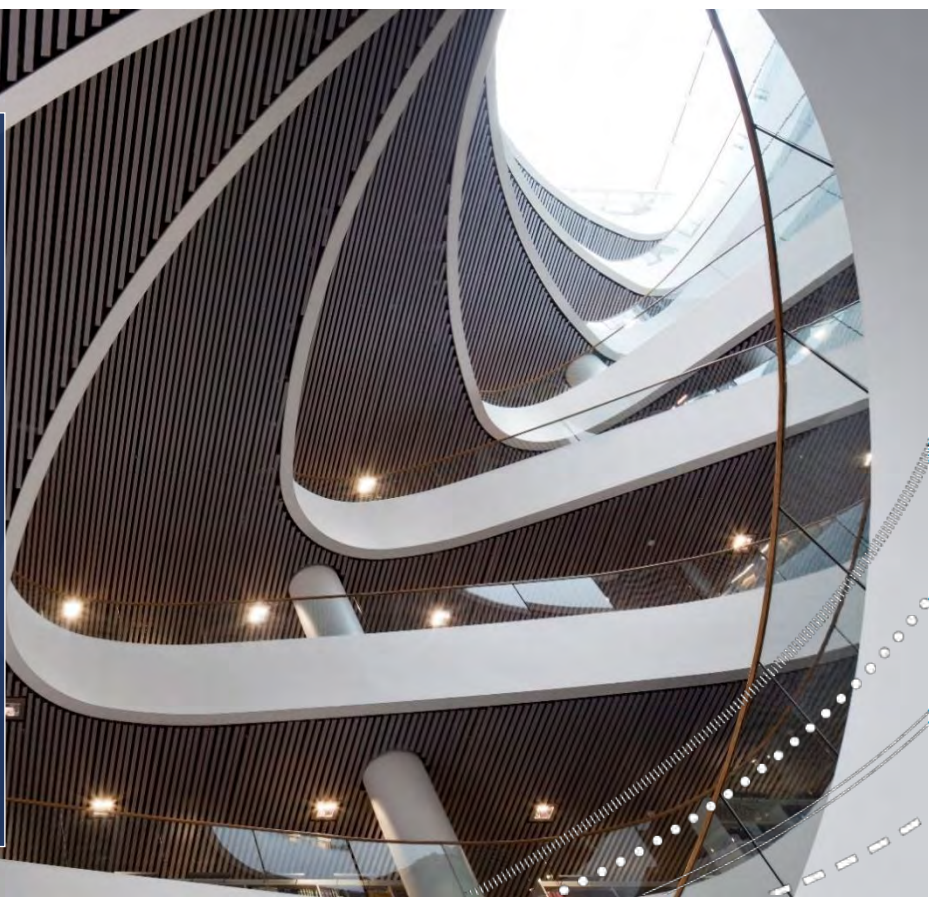
Full Time

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive

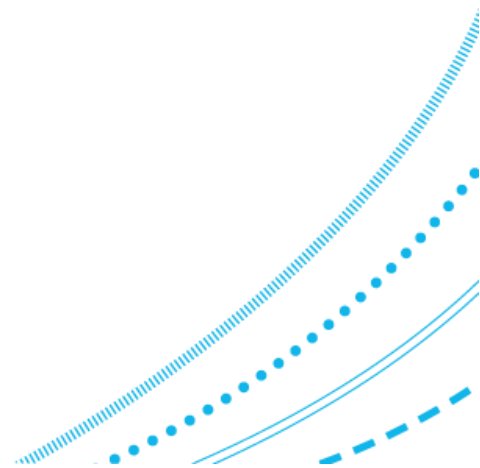
LOCATION:

Aberdeen



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A good upper second or first class bachelor's degree in law or equivalent</i> • <i>A postgraduate qualification in law, normally a PhD or equivalent</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Membership of the Higher Education Academy or equivalent</i> • <i>A relevant professional qualification</i>
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Record of research appropriate to the level of the post as evidenced by publications in leading legal academic journals</i> • <i>Record of, or evidence-based potential, for securing funding to support research appropriate to the level of the post</i> • <i>Demonstrable experience of effective teaching of law at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experience in postgraduate supervision, including that of doctoral students</i> • <i>Experience in academic administration</i> • <i>Evidence of Impact activities, knowledge exchange and public engagement generated by research and scholarship</i> • <i>Relevant post-qualifying professional experience.</i>
Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An ability to work independently and within groups managing ones time and prioritising as between tasks</i> • <i>An ability to identify and resolve problems</i> • <i>A willingness to work collectively with colleagues</i> 	
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.



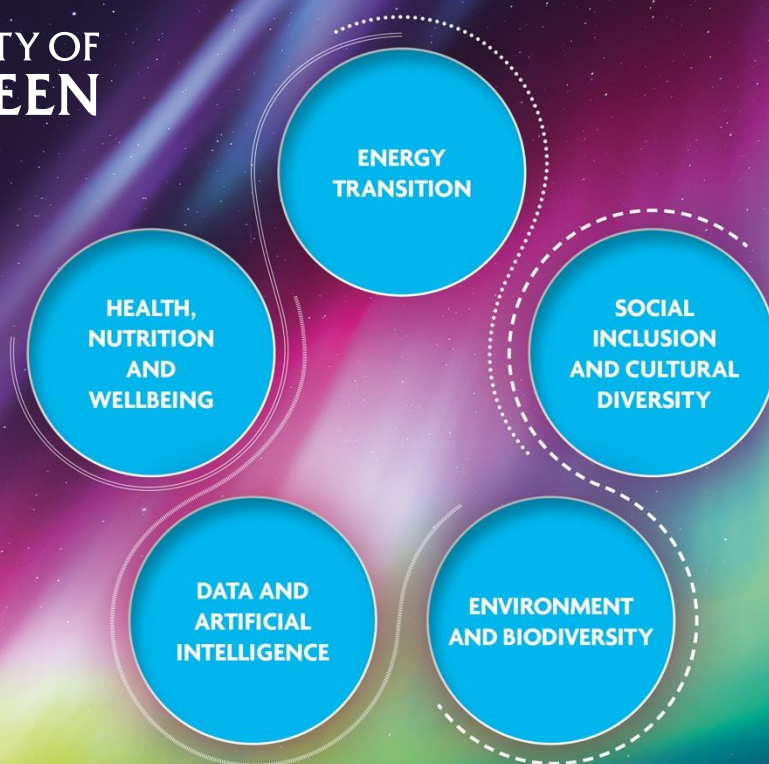
CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to build on 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

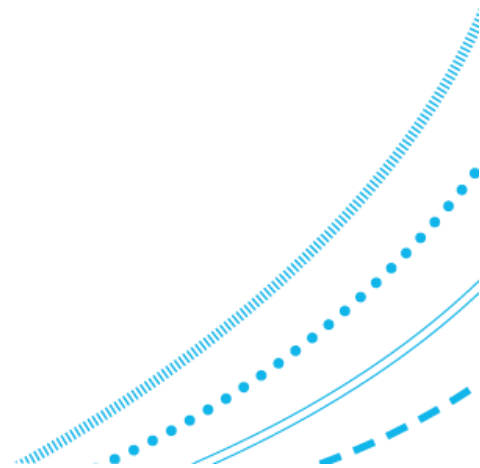


THE SCHOOL OF LAW

The School of Law, which is at present comprised of around 50 FTE academic staff, offers a range of LLB degrees, including programmes approved by the relevant Scots and English accrediting bodies, 5-year programmes involving language study and a year's study abroad, and a two-year accelerated degree for graduates. A varied Graduate programme is offered including a range of taught Masters' degrees (including Criminal Justice and Human Rights) and research degrees. It actively engages with other parts of the University in order to provide legal content on interdisciplinary programmes, including with Engineering (Decommissioning), with Social Sciences and Psychology (MA in Sociology and Criminology) and Natural and Computing Science (Information Technology). It is anticipated that the successful applicant for this post would be key in developing the School's relationship with the School of Geoscience's Planetary Science Department.

The School has a vibrant research culture, with the School's research activities organised primarily around five research centres, namely:

- Constitutional and Public International Law;
- Scots Law;
- Commercial Law;
- Private International Law; and
- AUCEL (Energy Law, Natural Resources and Sustainable Development).



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



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 **01 November 2021**

Informal enquiries about the post should be directed towards Prof Greg Gordon, Head of School, or Prof Matyas Bodig, Deputy Head of School

Prof Greg Gordon, Head of School

01224 272418 (not presently in use as working from home; contact by email)

g.w.gordon@abdn.ac.uk

Prof Matyas Bodig, Deputy Head of School

01224 272424 (not presently in use as working from home; contact by email)

m.bodig@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Profs Gordon or Bodig

Please quote reference number LAW056A on all correspondence

