Lecturer in Zoology (Teaching and Scholarship)
School of Biological Sciences

Closing date: 19 December 2023
Interview date: 21 or 22 December 2023
Reference number: SBS153A
INTRODUCTION

The School of Biological is a vibrant and dynamic centre, internationally renowned for excellence both in teaching and research. Hosting over one hundred academic and research staff, 120 research students, 30 postgraduate taught students and 400 undergraduates; it is a close knit and friendly community. Based on the main campus at Kings College, the School also has facilities at the Cromarty Lighthouse and a presence at the National Decommissioning Centre at Newburgh.

The School is proud of its legacy in delivering research led teaching in fields that include; Biology, Marine Biology, Zoology and Environmental Science. Teaching, training and research in the field highlight the locational advantage of Aberdeen.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The School of Biological Sciences is looking to appoint a full-time Lecturer (Teaching and Scholarship) in Zoology. This is a fixed term, six-month 1.0 FTE post; job share applications will also be considered.

We require an individual who can coordinate and deliver undergraduate courses in our biology, marine biology and zoology degrees. We are interested in applicants with expertise in one of these three areas.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teaching and Promotion of Learning

- The design, development, delivery, assessment, and administration of undergraduate and postgraduate courses,
- Co-delivery of a field course,
- Provision of pastoral care to students.
- Focus is primarily at level 2 in subject areas related to zoology and marine biology; the specific courses are comparative physiology, fundamentals of marine biology and marine biology field course.

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

Applications are invited from candidates who have specialist knowledge in Zoology and Marine Biology. We are also looking for candidates with a strong quantitative background and experience with teaching in Higher Education. The successful candidate will have good organisational skills.

Updated October 2022
Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7, £45,585 - £54,395 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.

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.

This role may be eligible for home working on an occasional or regular basis

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 7
£45,585 - £54,395 per annum

HOURS OF WORK:
37.5 hours per week

CONTRACT TYPE:
Fixed term: 6 months

LOCATION:
Aberdeen
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

### ESSENTIAL

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<tr>
<th><strong>Education/Qualifications</strong>&lt;br&gt;Academic, technical and professional education and training</th>
<th>• PhD in relevant discipline in Biological Sciences</th>
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| **Work and Other relevant experience (including training)**<br>e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research | • Teaching profile with an ability to deliver inspiring lessons to undergraduate/postgraduate students.  
• Specialist knowledge surrounding comparative physiology, and fundamentals of marine biology. |
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| **Personal qualities and abilities**<br>e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills | • Excellent written, oral and presentation skills.  
• Ability to think creatively and innovatively and impart enthusiasm for the subject.  
• Excellent organisational skills.  
• Ability to balance the pressures of teaching and administrative demands and competing deadlines.  
• Demonstrable ability to work well as part of team.  
• Ability to work with minimum supervision and act on own initiative.  
• Willingness and flexibility to respond to demands of the role. |
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| **Other**<br>e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc. | • Teaching qualification, such as Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA)  
• Experience of University teaching, supervision of students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels (commensurate with career stage).  
• Experience with marking and assessment of undergraduate work.  
• Experience with innovative approaches to teaching. |
| --- | --- | --- |
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 tables¹ and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction².

¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023
² National Student Survey (NSS) 2022
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 around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students³.

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 goals.

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

THE SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The School’s research portfolio is based on four pillars; Evolution, Ecology, Environment and Physiology and investigators are able to and are incentivised to work across these units. This leads to innovative science addressing local, national and international challenges. The School is partner in three Doctoral Training Partnerships (2 NERC funded – QUADRAT & SUPER and 1 BBSRC funded – EASTBIO) and is able to attract the highest quality research students.

The School has excellent molecular biology and analytical chemistry facilities, a Centre for Genome Enabled Biology and Medicine, a proteomics facility, FACS and Histology labs. The School also is home to a research aquarium (freshwater and marine); alongside a challenge facility and a zebrafish aquarium. There are extensive glasshouse research facilities to reflect a range of global climates.

In the last Research Assessment Exercise, the School was confirmed as one of the top UK institutions for research in the biological and environmental sciences. Over 55% of the School’s research activity...
was graded as being of world leading and internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour.

A key strength of the School is the breadth of coverage. For example, the pillar of Ecology includes Ocean Biology, Population Ecology, Community Ecology and Conservation Ecology. Physiological areas include Mammalian, Fish and Parasite host interactions. The Environmental pillar includes Plant/Soil/Microbial interactions and Environmental Change. A great deal of research operates alongside stakeholder and we cooperate closely with the James Hutton Institute, Marine Scotland Science, Various CEH stakeholders as well as other government agencies, charities and commercial companies. These organisations are all active members of our DTP.

**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 and celebrates a diverse working and learning environment and recognises the richness this brings, both in terms of contributing to the success of the University and creating safe and inclusive cultures. The University welcomes applications from individuals with diverse lived experiences.

The University supports flexible working, including hybrid working arrangements, and has policies in place to facilitate this where it is appropriate. The policies can be found at https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php.

The University is committed to progressing gender equality across all its functions and has been a proud member of the Advance HE Athena Swan Charter, achieving an institutional Bronze award, one Silver departmental award for the School of Psychology and eleven departmental Bronze awards.

LGBTQ+ equality is championed through the University’s membership of the Stonewall Diversity Champions Programme, where the University has achieved a Silver award in the Workplace Equality Index.

The University has progressed work to eradicate gender-based violence and is proud to be a signatory to the EmilyTest Charter.

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 staff and students who identify as belonging to a racialised group. The University launched its Antiracism Strategy in 2022, representing a bold framework for progress on race equality. Recognising the importance of addressing the under-representation of racialised groups in the senior team, the University’s new Recruitment and Selection Policy embeds specific positive action measures to address this.

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. The University’s Wellbeing Strategy commits it to progressing work to tackle stigma related to mental health and action to promote and improve health and wellbeing for staff and students.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using contact SCOTLAND-BSL

The University’s work on equality, diversity and inclusion is supported by a range of networks and engagement activities, designed to provide safe spaces and raise awareness of the support available and the steps everyone can take to create inclusive campuses. 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 **19 December 2023**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Professor Michelle Pinard, Chair & Director of Education, School of Biological Sciences
m.a.pinard@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Pinard.

**Please quote reference number SBS153A on all correspondence**