1 Advertisement

Post Title: Lecturer in American Studies
School/department: MAH/Sussex Centre for American Studies
Hours: Full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).
Contract: Fixed term until 19 September 2022
Reference: 6455
Salary: starting at £33,797 to £40,322 per annum, pro rata if part time
Closing date: 31 August 2021. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.
Expected Interview date: ASAP
Expected start date: 20 September 2021

The Sussex Centre for American Studies is consistently ranked in the top five departments in this subject in the UK and has a global reputation for excellence. We deliver excellent teaching and cutting-edge research in American history, literature, culture, and politics.

The Department of History at Sussex enjoys an international reputation for excellence in research, teaching, widening participation, and impact. Consistently ranked among the top History departments in the UK by university guides, it is one of the most distinguished and innovative departments in the country.

The University of Sussex celebrates and promotes diversity, equality and inclusion amongst our staff and students. We encourage applications from women, disabled and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) candidates. We believe that the diversity of our staff and student community is fundamental to creative thinking, pedagogic innovation, intellectual exchange, and our interdisciplinary approach to research and learning.

The successful candidate for this fixed-term position will have a proven track record in American Studies of the 19th and 20th centuries. It is expected that the candidate’s expertise may rest on specific periods and/or thematic approaches within that longer time frame.

A focus on areas of American visual culture (especially photography); 19th/20th century literature; histories of race/civil rights; histories of the civil war; US foreign relations, in particular the Middle East, will be an advantage. An ability to teach in an interdisciplinary way will also be an advantage.

You will be able to give lectures and teach seminars, whether to students in place or learning remotely, mark different kinds of academic assessment, and perform administrative tasks.

The successful candidate will join a thriving, collegial School with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary study, and an intellectually ambitious undergraduate and postgraduate student community. Ability to teach, good communication skills, and an ability to work productively as part of friendly, team-oriented departments are essential skills for this position.

Please contact EITHER the Director of American Studies, Dr Doug Haynes (d.e.haynes@sussex.ac.uk) OR the Head of History, Dr Chris Warne (HistoryHoD@sussex.ac.uk) for informal enquiries.
2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at
https://www.sussex.ac.uk/schools/media-arts-humanities/
and
http://www.sussex.ac.uk/americanstudies/
and
http://www.sussex.ac.uk/history/

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Lecturer A in American Studies

Lecturer A (education focused) fixed term for 12 months. Post-holder will be expected to
teach across a range of modules in American Studies at UG level.
Fixed term for 12 months

Department: Sussex Centre for American Studies/History
Section/Unit/School: MAH
Location: Arts B
Grade: 7
Responsible to: Doug Haynes (Katharina Reitzler after 1/09/2021), Claudia Siebrecht/Iain McDaniel (both after 81/2)
Responsible for: N/a

Lecturer A (Education Focused) is an entry level teaching position. Post-holders will be expected to teach in a developing capacity.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Teaching & Student Support

1.1 Contribute to the delivery and assessment of high-quality undergraduate and
postgraduate teaching, in liaison with the relevant programme and course convenors.

1.2 Ensure that teaching content, methods of delivery and learning materials will meet the
defined learning objectives, including the use of appropriate technology.

1.3 Set, mark, and assess coursework and examinations; select appropriate assessment
instruments and assessment criteria; and provide constructive and comprehensive
feedback to students.
1.4 Ensure that teaching materials remain up-to-date and relevant, incorporating advances in the subject area into the course of study.

1.5 Develop and maintain an understanding of appropriate pedagogy in the subject area and respond to challenges.

1.6 Supervise the work of undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, providing them with advice on study skills and projects.

1.7 Undertake and complete administrative duties required in the professional delivery of teaching.

1.8 Adopt an approachable and accessible attitude towards students, offering office hours, informal advice etc.

1.9 Supervise the work of students, provide advice on study skills and help them with learning problems.

2. Contribution to School & University

2.1 Attend and contribute to School meetings.

3. Role-specific duties

3.1 Deliver high-quality teaching in the context of American Studies and History, working with the support of colleagues in the School.

4. Person Specification

- The candidate will have experience of teaching at undergraduate level and postgraduate level in the subject areas noted in the job advertisement. The post requires the ability to work without close supervision, although the candidate will be part of a team and receive any necessary support from colleagues and line management.

- The person will have research specialism and/or demonstrably detailed knowledge of 19th or 20th century American History and/or Cultural History, particularly in the areas of race/civil rights/Civil War/visual culture.

- The successful candidate will possess excellent organisational and administrative skills and have the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

An ability to teach across important historical and cultural moments in American history from the 19th century to the present.

A strong understanding of the history of race in America.

A demonstrable interest in American domestic politics and foreign policy, particularly regarding the Middle East.

An ability to teach across literary, cultural, and historical material.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).

2. Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage with students using a variety of teaching methods.

3. Experience of teaching at undergraduate level.

4. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.

5. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

6. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.

7. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.

8. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

9. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

10. A willingness to participate in student support activities beyond required teaching duties.

11. Excellent IT skills, with the ability to produce high-quality, inclusive learning materials.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. A recognised higher education teaching qualification.

2. Experience of teaching at postgraduate level.

3. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

4. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.