



1 Advertisement

Post Title: Lecturer in American and Media Studies

School/department: Media, Arts and Humanities / Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism

Hours: Full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum 1.0 FTE

Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

Contract: permanent

Reference: 8410

Salary: starting at £37,467 to £40,927 per annum, pro rata if part time

Placed on: 29 April 2022

Closing date: 27 May 2022. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected Interview date: To be confirmed

Expected start date: 1 September 2022

We are looking for an outstanding candidate with a profile in areas including:

- political communication,
- modern and contemporary political culture,
- digital economies
- politics and the media.

An area focus on the United States and/or North America is essential.

The successful candidate will be expected to teach into our renowned and high-ranking American Studies and Media and Cultural Studies degrees, and contribute to raising the profile of US-focused research within the School of Media, Arts and Humanities.

Please contact Dr. Katharina Rietzler, Director of the Sussex Centre for American Studies, at K.E.Rietzler@sussex.ac.uk and/or Dr. Pollyanna Ruiz, Head of Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism at P.Ruiz@sussex.ac.uk for informal enquiries.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the School of Media, Arts and Humanities at <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/schools/media-arts-humanities/>

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Lecturer in American and Media Studies

Responsible to: Head of Department, Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism

Job Title: Lecturer in American and Media Studies

Grade: Lecturer A (Research & Education focussed), Grade 7

School: School of Media, Arts and Humanities

Location: Falmer Campus

Department: Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism

Responsible to: Head of Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism

Direct reports: n/a

Key contacts: Students, other members of Faculty within the School and University, School Officers, academics in the field in other institutions.

Role description: Lecturer A is an early career-grade teaching and research position. Post-holders will be expected to teach in a developing capacity, establish an independent research portfolio, including publication and making applications for research funding.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To deliver and contribute to the design of high-quality teaching programmes to attract students.
2. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence; and develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.
3. To contribute fully to the School and University by participating in meetings, working groups, committees and other School and University activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Teaching & Student Support

- 1.1 Contribute to the planning, delivery and assessment of high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, in liaison with the relevant programme and course convenors.
- 1.2 Contribute to the development, design and management of new curriculum proposals that are attractive to students.
- 1.3 With guidance: develop high-quality inclusive teaching materials, methods and approaches using appropriate technology; take responsibility for their quality, and ensure that they meet defined learning objectives.
- 1.4 With guidance: set, mark, and assess coursework and examinations; select appropriate assessment instruments and assessment criteria; and provide constructive and comprehensive feedback to students.
- 1.5 Ensure that teaching materials remain up-to-date and relevant, incorporating advances in the subject area into the course of study.
- 1.6 Develop and maintain an understanding of appropriate pedagogy in the subject area.
- 1.7 Supervise the work of undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, providing them with advice on study skills.
- 1.8 Undertake and complete administrative duties required in the professional delivery of teaching.
- 1.9 Undertake academic advising duties, and provide first-line support for sensitive issues, referring on as appropriate to services providing further assistance.
- 1.10 Adopt an approachable and accessible attitude towards students, offering office hours, informal advice etc.

2. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 2.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
- 2.2 Conduct research projects individually and/or in collaboration with others.
- 2.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
- 2.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
- 2.5 Make research funding applications as appropriate, with assistance if required.

- 2.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, third stream income and/or consultancy.
- 2.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
- 2.8 Supervise doctoral students as part of a supervision team, as appropriate to the discipline.
- 2.9 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

3. Contribution to School & University

- 3.1 Attend and contribute to School meetings.
- 3.2 Engage in activities beyond day-to-day teaching duties, for example Admissions Days.
- 3.3 Assist with undergraduate and postgraduate recruitment.
- 3.4 Participate in School or University working groups or committees, as required.
- 3.5 Undertake additional administrative duties, as required by the Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

- 4.1 Teach undergraduate and postgraduate modules on Sussex' high-ranking American Studies and Media, Cultural Studies and Journalism degrees.
- 4.2 Produce research outputs in cognate areas including political communication, modern and contemporary political culture, digital economies or politics and the media.
- 4.3 Contribute to the vitality of teaching and research of the Sussex Centre for American Studies.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- High quality teaching performance across a range of teaching activities, at different levels (year 1 undergraduate to postgraduate) appropriate to the discipline; as evidenced by surveys, questionnaires and peer review.
- Evidence of skill in assessment and feedback techniques, and using a range of methods for evaluating the effectiveness of teaching.
- Demonstrable contribution to the planning and development of courses.
- Delivering a teaching load in line with School expectations.
- Evidence of applying knowledge arising from research and scholarship to enhance teaching practice.
- Evidence of active engagement in advising students and proactively responding to problems experienced by students.
- Completion, within a reasonable period of time, of a recognised higher education teaching qualification.
- A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity.
- Pursuing a line of high-quality independent scholarly research appropriate to the discipline.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
- Success in obtaining competitive/peer reviewed research support funding or collaboration in significant research projects with institutions of equivalent standing.
- Other forms of externally recognised professional practice or creative output, of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
- Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
- Evidence of successful engagement in PhD supervision as appropriate to the discipline.
- Efficient and effective contribution to academic support duties within the School or the University.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Must be able to demonstrate a research focus on the United States and/or North America.
2. Must be able to demonstrate capacity for delivering high-quality teaching with an area focus on the United States and/or North America.
3. Must be able to demonstrate capacity for delivering high-quality teaching in Media and/or Cultural Studies.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. A recognised higher education teaching qualification.
2. Experience of teaching at postgraduate level.
3. 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.