

1 Advertisement

Post Title: Lecturer in American History (pre-1900)

School/department: History Department, School of Media, Arts & Humanities

Hours: Full time up to 1 FTE/37.5hrs. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

Location: Brighton, United Kingdom

Contract: Permanent

Reference: 20344

Salary: Lecturer B starting at £44,414 per annum, pro rata if part time [current salary scales can be found here](#)

Placed on: 25 July 2023

Closing date: 17 September 2023. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected interview date: Week Commencing 02 October 2023

Expected start date: 01 January 2024

The History Department at the University of Sussex is seeking to appoint a permanent Lecturer in American History (pre-1900).

This appointment will deliver teaching across our renowned BA and MA programmes in History and American Studies, and will undertake research in American history. With expertise in the area of North American history broadly conceived, the successful candidate will add chronological depth and, potentially, geographical breadth to our existing teaching and research strengths in US history and American Studies. The postholder will also contribute to interdisciplinary modules in American/US history, politics and culture. While candidates with expertise in any area of the history of North America pre-1900 are encouraged to apply, we particularly welcome applications from scholars of the history of race, ethnicity and/or slavery; the history of indigenous peoples and cultures; the history of the Black Atlantic.

You will join a thriving, innovative and collegial History Department with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary study, and an intellectually ambitious undergraduate and postgraduate student community. You will also contribute to the BA in American Studies, which is consistently ranked among the top three programmes in this subject in the UK and has a global reputation for excellence. Outstanding research, teaching experience, good communication skills, and an ability to work productively as part of a friendly, team-oriented department are essential skills for this position.

Please contact the Co-Heads of Department, Dr Iain McDaniel and Dr Claudia Siebrecht (historyhod@sussex.ac.uk) and/or the Head of American Studies, Dr Katharina Rietzler (K.E.Rietzler@sussex.ac.uk) for informal inquiries.

The University of Sussex celebrates and promotes diversity, equality and inclusion amongst our staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds. Applications are particularly welcomed from black and minority ethnic candidates and candidates with a disability, who are under-represented in academic posts in our department. You can find out more about our values and our EDI Strategy, Inclusive Sussex, on our webpages.

Please note: The University requires that work undertaken for the University is performed from the UK.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/schools/media-arts-humanities/>

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Lecturer B in History & American Studies (pre-1900)

Department: History

Section/Unit/School: Media Arts and Humanities

Location: University of Sussex campus

Grade: 8.1

Responsible to: Iain McDaniel / Claudia Siebrecht (Co-Heads of History)

Responsible for: n/a

Lecturer B is a career-grade teaching and research position. Post-holders will be expected to take full responsibility for the design, management and delivery of their own teaching, be able to demonstrate an established research portfolio, and a growing reputation in their field of study. They will also be expected to provide support and guidance to less experienced members of staff.

4. Person Specification

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To design and deliver high-quality teaching programmes that are attractive to students.
2. To engage in individual and collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence, and to obtain research funding and/or knowledge exchange income as appropriate to the discipline.
3. To contribute fully to the School and University by playing a significant role in working groups, committees, and other School and University activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Teaching & Student Support

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

2. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 2.1 Contribute to School research strategy and themes.
- 2.2 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research.
- 2.3 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 2.4 Assess, interpret and evaluate outcomes of research, and develop ideas for their application.
- 2.5 Produce high-quality research outputs that have impact in the field, 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.
- 2.6 Lead small research projects and/or identified parts of a larger project, including supervising the work of others and managing or monitoring a research budget, if appropriate.

- 2.7 Make presentations at conferences, or exhibit work in other appropriate events, and identify ways to disseminate research outputs informally via the internet, the media, and other forms of public engagement.
- 2.8 Identify sources of funding and secure or contribute to the process of securing bids.
- 2.9 Identify and secure opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy.
- 2.10 Actively build internal and external contacts, and play a key role in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to, for example, identify sources of funding, secure student placements, and build relationships for future activities.
- 2.11 Supervise doctoral students as part of a supervision team.
- 2.12 Contribute to a relevant national professional body or recognised events.
- 2.13 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.
- 2.14 Conduct risk assessments, and take responsibility for the health and safety of others, if required.

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 Play a key role in School or University working groups or committees, as required.
- 3.5 Advise and provide support to less experienced colleagues.
- 3.6 Undertake additional administrative duties, as required by the Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

- 4.1 Participate in the convening, planning and delivery of modules on the BA in History and BA in American Studies (and related Joint Honours degrees).
- 4.2 Engage with student support and student experience frameworks as set by the Subject Area and the School of Media, Arts and Humanities.
- 4.3 Produce research outputs in the subject area(s).
- 4.4 Attending and contributing to relevant meetings in the History Subject Group, and the School of Media, Arts and Humanities.

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

- A record of development of new modules/groups of modules, course or significant components of schemes of study or CPD courses.
- Proven and sustained track record of successful teaching at the levels appropriate for the post.
- A high standard of teaching performance as judged by standard evaluation methods.
- Evidence of using feedback information from a range of sources to improve the student experience.
- Evidence of using knowledge arising from research and scholarship to enhance teaching and curriculum development.
- Evidence of engagement in advising students and proactively responding to student problems.
- Regular published output of original research at international level (refereed journal papers, monographs, book chapters, text-books).
- Other evidence of original research contributions to the field, such as through invited conference contributions, membership of editorial panels etc.
- Evidence of successful postgraduate masters and doctoral research supervision i.e. to completion.
- Sustained success in obtaining competitively awarded research grants and contracts, and knowledge exchange income.
- Involvement in the creation, transfer and use of the results of research through a range of knowledge exchange activities.
- Success in transferring research results to commercial, professional, public sector or other practical use.
- Evidence of contributions to a relevant national professional body or recognised event.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. 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 different methods.
3. Experience of teaching at undergraduate and taught postgraduate level.
4. Evidence of significant independent contribution to the design and execution of research.
5. An emerging track record of publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
6. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
7. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
8. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
9. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
10. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
11. A willingness to participate in support activities beyond normal classroom duties.
12. Excellent IT skills, with the ability to produce high-quality learning support materials.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. A PhD in History.
2. Ability to deliver relevant, engaging teaching across multiple degree programmes (BA in History; BA in American Studies; and related Joint Honours degrees), in both disciplinary specialism and in interdisciplinary approaches.
3. An emerging, international research profile in the field of North American history before 1900, as demonstrated by a selection of: high-quality research articles; book chapters; monographs; edited collections; scholarly editions.
4. Ability to design new modules and to collaborate with colleagues in the redesign of BA and MA programmes.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience of successful curriculum design or re-design.
2. A recognised higher education teaching qualification.

3. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.
4. Experience of supervising postgraduate research students.