Chair in English (Modern Literature)
Department of English and Related Literature

Closing date: 8 May 2017
Interview date: 20 June 2017
Vacancy reference: 5656
INTRODUCTION

Following a recent retirement, the Department of English and Related Literature at the University of York seeks to strengthen the professoriate in the Modern School. Along with the other period-based Research Schools in the Department, the Modern School (the largest with twenty full-time staff) plays a vital role in curriculum development, PhD supervision, public engagement, and world-leading publications. The new appointment will contribute to the continuing and enhanced successes of the School, through dynamic and innovative research leadership in all areas of publication, teaching and citizenship, including grant capture. Applications will be considered in any of the following fields, singly or in combination: global, postcolonial or world literatures; the literature of empire from the Victorians to the present; international modernisms, with interdisciplinarity; film and literature; literature and philosophy, with literary theory. With the Department’s long-standing commitment to teaching the literatures of other languages alongside those in English, well-developed interests in the literatures of other languages would be an additional advantage.

Professor David Attwell
Head of Department
Main purpose of the role

Chairs at York are expected to advance their subject nationally and internationally and to contribute to maintaining the University as an international centre of excellence for the relevant subject area through publication, teaching, impact and public engagement.

Chairs are required to undertake the duties outlined below:

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

To support the research activities of the Department

- To carry out internationally outstanding research and scholarship
- To disseminate this research through monographs, articles in journals of high international standing, and other appropriate forms of dissemination, including national and international conference presentations including keynote and plenary addresses
- To play a leading role in the Department in identifying and securing external funding through research grants and contracts, and in developing collaborative research income-generating activities
- To attract and supervise research students, and, as appropriate, post-doctoral researchers and other support staff
- To support, comply with, and contribute fully to research plans and policies of the Department and the University

To support the teaching objectives of the Department

- To design and be responsible for delivery of modules and teaching programmes for undergraduate and graduate students
- To play a leading role in departmental and interdepartmental curriculum development and quality enhancement, including the development of new programmes where appropriate
- To coordinate team teaching, as required, including liaison with other staff and with postgraduates who teach
- To design and mark assessments, and give feedback
- To supervise undergraduate and graduate projects and dissertations
- To undertake pastoral support of students, as a personal supervisor or in another designated role
- To support and promote fully the University and Department teaching quality assurance standards and procedures

To contribute to the efficient management and administration of the Department

- To make an important contribution to the leadership and management of the Department, including supporting early career staff and developing new collaborative initiatives
- To attend Departmental meetings, meetings of the Board of Studies, and other committees and working groups within the Department and University
- To carry out relevant professional duties, commensurate with the Professorial grade
- To undertake specific departmental roles and management functions as may be reasonably required by the Head of Department

JOB DESCRIPTION

At a glance

Salary  Professorial Scale, current minimum £61,539

Hours of work  37 per week

Contract type  Open

Based at  Heslington campus
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD in English or Related Literatures</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership of professional societies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outstanding and internationally recognised knowledge of relevant subject area</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Skills, abilities and competencies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to define, lead, manage and attract funds for internationally excellent research, operating across disciplinary boundaries</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven leadership and managerial skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to manage and interact with staff and students at all levels and to contribute to broadening the strategic development of the Department</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of international collaboration</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of peer review activities</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td><strong>Experience</strong></td>
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<td>International leader in a major research field, leadership of research group/theme</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Substantial publication record in leading peer-reviewed journals</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Attraction and effective supervision of postgraduate students</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Significant and sustained success in accessing research grants and other external funding</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Exceptional achievement in curriculum development, course design and teaching, learning and assessment methods at UG and PG levels and in encouraging student access and engagement</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Invited presentations at major international conferences</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effective and sustained involvement in major administrative tasks or positions of responsibility within a department or research unit</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Experience..continued</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Authorship of books</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Editorial duties with journals</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activity as an invited examiner at other institutions</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in national teaching initiatives or international equivalents</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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## Personal attributes

| Demonstrable capacity for strategic thinking and planning  | Essential             |
| Ability to take a lead in key administration functions within the department | Essential             |
| Self-motivated, pro-active and innovative                  | Essential             |
The Department of English and Related Literature at York is one of the most successful departments in Arts and Humanities in the UK, ranked top for world-leading research in REF2014 and currently 24th in the QS world rankings (first in the UK on citations in English literature). Located in the beautiful, historic city of York, the department has a richly interdisciplinary research culture. The Department’s taught programmes cover the whole range of literature in English from Britain, Ireland, the United States, and post-colonial countries. With around forty members of staff, it is one of the largest and most active English departments in the country.

The Department currently has about 760 undergraduates, studying on our Single Honours degree programme in English, as well as on our Combined Honours programmes with History, Politics, Philosophy, Linguistics, and the History of Art. Teaching in the Department is by lectures, seminars (capped at 15 students) and workshops (capped at 30 students). The 70 taught postgraduate students study on one of nine Interdisciplinary MA programmes ranging from Medieval Literatures and Languages to Modern and Contemporary Literature and Culture. The Department has one of the largest cohorts of PhD research students in the UK, with the Modern School providing a significant proportion of the supervision. The Modern School is a vital constituent of the interdisciplinary Centre for Modern Studies and has a prominent role in the Humanities Research Centre.
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2017 it is the centre for almost 16,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. In over 50 years we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

The University has consistently been recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and is one of just six post-war universities which appear in the world top 100 (2013-14) and 15th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2016). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen's Anniversary Prizes.

We are proud of our association with Athena SWAN, holding ten awards in support of women in science, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology as well as a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th on the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
The University

Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. With a compact and easy to get around design, York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere. The campus offers a wealth of facilities, which includes bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal. Since 2000 we have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning space, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we've worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing all staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University aims to offer a nurturing and supportive environment as an employer. Flexible working hours, nursery facilities, childcare vouchers, cycle to work scheme, generous holidays and an attractive pension scheme all make the University of York one of the region’s leading employers.

For further information please visit Rewards Extra.
The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York’s bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford’s Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn’t just a great place to visit - it’s also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit www.visityork.org for more information on the city of York.

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain’s best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 5656
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (GMT) on 8 May 2017.

What will I need?

We will ask you for details of:

- Your CV
- A letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job
- A statement of your research and teaching intentions

You will also need details of three academic referees (one International) and one Employment referee.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to Professor David Attwell (david.attwell@york.ac.uk)

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835