Chair in Sociology
Department of Sociology

Closing date: 3 December 2017
Interview date: 8 January 2018
Vacancy reference: 6154
INTRODUCTION

The Department of Sociology at the University of York seeks to appoint a full-time, permanent Professor of Sociology from 1st April 2018 or a convenient time thereafter.

We are looking to appoint an outstanding sociologist whose research can contribute to and enhance our “Language and Social Interaction” research cluster. The study of language and communication is one of the Department’s core research areas and we have an international reputation for our work in basic and applied conversation analysis, embodied interaction, and the study of discourse and social interaction.

As an internationally recognized scholar you will play a leading role in the Department in terms of sustaining and enriching our existing research culture. In this respect you will be expected to publish original research of the highest quality and provide leadership in securing research funding by developing collaborative research income-generating activities. You will also be expected to teach on our undergraduate and masters programmes, to recruit and supervise research students, and to take an active role in the administration of the Department.

You will join a team of colleagues whose commitment to research resulted in the Department being ranked first in REF2014 (sustaining its premier position established in RAE 2008) and whose commitment to learning and teaching produces consistently excellent performance in a range of measures.

Professor Paul Johnson
Head of Department of Sociology
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 research and publication, teaching, networking and consultancy.

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 international standing, and other appropriate forms of dissemination, including national and international conference presentations
- 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 and mentor junior academic colleagues in order to promote quality of teaching and research and their career development

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
- 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 carry out teaching in Continuing Professional Development
- 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: Current minimum £62,585
Hours of work: 37 per week (flexibility available)
Contract type: Open
Based at: Heslington Campus
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>PhD in Sociology or other related discipline</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Membership of professional societies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Outstanding and internationally recognised knowledge of relevant subject area</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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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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<th>Experience</th>
<th>Essential/Desirable</th>
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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>
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<td>Significant and sustained success in accessing research grants and other external funding</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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<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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<td>Authorship of books</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Editorial duties with journals</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Activity as an invited examiner at other institutions</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Participation in national teaching initiatives or international equivalents</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Personal attributes</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrable capacity for strategic thinking and planning</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to take a lead in key administration functions within the department</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Self-motivated, pro-active and innovative</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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The Department of Sociology (founded in 1964) is one of the longest established and distinguished in the UK and has played an important role in the development of the discipline internationally. The Department was ranked 1st in the recent Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF 2014) and is a QS World Top 150 Department. Our research is recognised as amongst the most innovative and influential in the world.

We are a collegiate department with a vibrant, research-intensive group of staff. The Department has undergone a significant period of development and appointed a number of new staff in recent years. It includes 10 Professors, 2 Readers, 8 Senior lecturers, 9 lecturers, 3 full-time Associate Lecturers, and 8 Administrative staff as well as Research Fellows, Postdocs, emeritus colleagues and visiting scholars. Recent appointments have seen us expand our expertise in areas such as culture, urban sociology, criminology, ethnicity, migration, gender, sexuality, human rights, health, science and technology, and religion. It has also enabled us to develop our already strong international profile and research undertaken beyond the UK.

The Department is led by a Management Team which consists of: the Head of Department, Deputy Head of Department, Department Manager, Director of Research, Director of REF, Research Facilitator, Chair of the Board of Studies, Director of Teaching, Employability Coordinator, and the Director of the Department of Women’s Studies (CWS).

Research

Our strategic vision is to produce research that is internationally world leading. Our work aims to be theoretically innovative, empirically grounded, critically engaged and policy relevant. This is enabled by our proactive Director of Research and Research Facilitator, who are supported by the Department Research Committee and impact sub-committee.

Research in the Department is consolidated into four core clusters which engage in empirical and theoretical work: Culture, values and practices; Language and social interaction; Gender, sexuality and inequality; and Science, health and technology. Several members of staff work across as well as within these clusters, each of which supports the work of colleagues through activities such as regular reading groups and research development meetings.

The Department is also committed to interdisciplinary work and currently we have a number of links (both in teaching and research) with Departments such as Biology, Computer Science, English, Environment, Health Sciences and the Medical School (HYMS), History, Language and Linguistic Science, Law, Management, Theatre, Film & Television, Politics, and Social Policy and Social Work.
The Department also houses or has a substantial involvement in several research centres which intersect with the research clusters:

- Centre for Women’s Studies (CWS)
- Centre for Urban Research (CURB)
- Science and Technology Studies Unit (SATSU)
- European Centre for Cultural Exploration (ECCE)
- Centre for Advanced Studies in Language and Communication (CASLC) housed in the Department of Linguistic Science

**Teaching Programmes**

Although the Department is research intensive, we take teaching very seriously and are committed to providing a research-led, high quality experience to our undergraduate and postgraduate students. We currently offer three undergraduate BA (hons) degrees within the Department (typical A level offer ABB):

- Sociology
- Sociology with Criminology
- Sociology with Social Psychology

In addition we are central to joint degrees with Education and with Philosophy. We also contribute to the BA in Criminology, and to the School of Social and Political Sciences (with colleagues in the Departments of Politics and in Social Policy and Social Work) and are part of the interdisciplinary BA (Hons) in Social and Politics Sciences (SPS).

We currently offer six taught postgraduate degrees:

- MA in Criminology and Social Research
- MA in Social Media and Social Research
- MA in Culture, Society and Globalisation
- MSc in Social Media and Management (in partnership with the York Management School)
- MA in Social Media and Interactive technologies (jointly with Computer Science)
- MA in Sociology by Research

We are also central to the delivery of the MA in Social Research which is coordinated from the Research Centre for Social Sciences (RCeSS).

**Doctoral Programme**

Sociology has a vibrant research postgraduate community who are provided with first-rate facilities, including office space and a dedicated social space. The Department is part of the White Rose ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership, collaboration between the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York. The Research Centre for the Social Sciences (RCeSS) at York is also a focal point for postgraduate activity.

The Department is housed in Wentworth College, which is adjacent to the main University lake and served by a restaurant.

Further information about the department is available at [http://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/](http://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/)
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 home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and 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.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and 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 for 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.
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. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including 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 spaces, 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 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 our employee benefit pages.
THE CITY AND THE REGION

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 6154
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 3 December 2017.

What will I need?

- Your CV
- A letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job
- A statement of your research intentions (Academic Paper)

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

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to the Professor Paul Johnson (paul.johnson@york.ac.uk)

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

recruitment@york.ac.uk

+44 (0)1904 324835