Senior Lecturer/Reader in Sociology

Department of Sociology

Closing date: 4 March 2018

Interview date: Thursday 12 April 2018

Vacancy reference: 6353
The Department of Sociology at the University of York seeks to appoint a Senior Lecturer/Reader in Sociology from 1 August 2018. You should have demonstrable skill in the use of quantitative methods in research and publication, as well as a track record of teaching quantitative research methods at university level. You should also have research interests that complement the strengths of one or more of the Department’s research clusters: Culture, values and practices; Gender, sexuality and inequalities; Language and social interaction; and Science, health and technology.

You should be an internationally recognised scholar who can play a role in the Department in terms of sustaining and enhancing our strong 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 income-generating activities. You will also teach on our undergraduate and masters programmes (including quantitative research methods), be expected to recruit and supervise research students, and to take an active role in the administration of our collegial Department which places a strong emphasis on collaboration and mutual support.

You will join a team of colleagues whose commitment to research resulted in the Department being ranked 1st in the UK’s national review of research quality (REF 2014) (sustaining its premier position established in the previous RAE 2008) and who are committed to achieving excellence in learning and teaching.

Professor Paul Johnson
Head of Department
Main purpose of the role

- To generate new research approaches and identify, adapt, develop and use research methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research and development undertaken

- To lead on and/or contribute to the production of research outputs and research outcomes

- To publish high impact research in quality journals, either as a sole author or in collaboration with others, and to devise, direct and develop research projects generating external research funding

- To take responsibility for overseeing, developing and promoting innovative teaching and learning approaches and material, which create interest, understanding and enthusiasm amongst students, including the teaching of introductory and advanced quantitative research methods

- To lead the design, development and delivery of a range of academic modules including introductory and advanced quantitative research methods. To ensure that design and delivery comply with the quality standards and regulations of the Department and University

- To undertake effectively a range of administrative and managerial responsibilities

Key responsibilities

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

Research and Scholarship

- To obtain new knowledge by theoretical and/or practical methods. To engage actively in research at a high level and to demonstrate intellectual leadership and achieve high visibility in the field, at national and international level

- To lead innovative research proposals, identify sources of funding, submit funding bids, and plan the research activities to be undertaken

- To ensure appropriate dissemination of research to a national or international audience by scholarly publication or other outputs appropriate to the relevant academic discipline

- To develop national and international research links and use expertise, experience and judgement to decide how to design and execute research work

- To engage in external academic activities in accordance with the department/university research strategy and to monitor research findings with a view to maximising impact and opportunities for commercial exploitation

- To plan, co-ordinate and lead research activities in accordance with a specific project plan through a research team or a group of staff involved in research. To manage the financial and physical resources of research activities and make decisions on the appointment of research staff and students

Teaching and Promotion of Learning

- To continually update knowledge and understanding in the field or specialism. To extend, transform and apply knowledge acquired from scholarship

- To contribute to innovations in teaching and learning through the development of academic programmes and by developing innovative and appropriate teaching techniques and materials which create interest, understanding and enthusiasm amongst students

- To set and mark programme work, practical sessions, supervisions, fieldwork and examinations according to
own area of subject specialism, and provide appropriate feedback to students

- To supervise, mentor and guide the work of staff and research students

**Management and Administration**

- To contribute to the wider academic community general life and work of the University through, for example, editing journals, refereeing papers, external examining, and involvement in professional bodies

- To support, supervise, train and direct students and other staff, as necessary, to maximise the research activity and outputs. This may include the line management of staff, including performance management and development responsibilities

- Contribute to the recruitment and selection of research, teaching and other staff

- Contribute to the administration and management of the department to facilitate the effective operation of the department and programmes of study
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PhD (or equivalent experience) in Sociology (or allied discipline)</strong></td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential / Desirable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate academic professional and teaching qualifications or a willingness to complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Lecturer: Outstanding qualities and achievements in scholarship and research that bestow recognition at national and international levels</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reader: Exemplary and sustained qualities and achievements in scholarship and research that bestow considerable recognition at national and international levels</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Knowledge

- Knowledge in Sociology to design and develop teaching programmes and the provision of learning support
- Well-established national and international reputation in Sociology (or allied discipline)
- Specific knowledge of Sociology that would enable supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students and research staff
- Research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the department’s research strategy and goals
- Knowledge of advanced techniques of quantitative research methods and data analysis
- Knowledge of the external funding environment

### Skills, abilities and competencies

- Reader: Ability to provide academic leadership in research area and to lead a research team where appropriate
- Experience in using advanced techniques of quantitative data analysis, such as: complex regression modeling, longitudinal and multi-level analysis, structural equation modelling, latent class analysis, multiple correspondence analysis, and network analysis. Knowledge of sampling theory and complex survey design. Ability to use SPSS, or STATA, or equivalent statistical software package. Appropriate level of skill in the use of IT.
- Ability to motivate other staff in the areas of teaching and research
- Highly developed oral communication skills, including the ability to teach at any level within area of expertise, and across a range of subjects at a more introductory level, and demonstrate enthusiasm and commitment in the process of teaching
- Proven ability to take a leading role in the supervision of research students
- Ability to demonstrate major research leadership both internally and externally
- Ability to write and deliver presentations at conferences or exhibit work at other appropriate events internally and externally
- Excellent written communications skills, to write or contribute to publications or disseminates research findings using other appropriate media
- Ability to extend, transform, and apply knowledge from scholarship
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Ability to design teaching material and deliver either across a range of modules or within a subject area</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in teaching introductory and advanced quantitative research methods</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td><strong>Reader:</strong> Significant (invited or plenary) presentations at international conferences</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>A proven track record in research with high quality journal publications and conference presentations</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Publication of research monographs</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>An extensive track record of teaching and learning in HE at undergraduate and postgraduate level or in a demonstrably similar context</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of using different delivery techniques to enthuse and engage students</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of successful planning and course design</td>
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<td><strong>Reader:</strong> experience in a leadership role in teaching and/or research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Success in accessing research grants and other external funding</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<th>Leadership skills</th>
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<td>Show attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Display creativity, initiative and judgement in applying appropriate approaches to teaching, learning support and scholarly activities</td>
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<td>Positive attitude to colleagues and students</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
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<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines</td>
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<td>Show commitment to the department/university outside of their chosen field, for example undertaking management and administration duties</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Collaborative ethos</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:
THE DEPARTMENT

- 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 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/
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 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](http://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](https://jobs.york.ac.uk)
- Find this job using reference 6353
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 4 March 2018.

What will I need?

You will need to upload:

- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of three referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to 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