Lecturer in the Histories of Russia and Communism

Department of History

Closing date: 06 June 2018
Interview date: 02 July 2018
Vacancy reference: 6638
INTRODUCTION

The University of York is one of the finest institutions in Europe for the advanced study of History, combining groundbreaking research with teaching programmes of incredible chronological breadth and geographic and thematic scope. The Department of History is one of the largest in the UK, with a present complement of over 45 academic staff, over 900 single-subject or combined-honours undergraduate students, and a graduate school of more than 150 students on various postgraduate programmes.

Times Higher Education’s ranking of the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014) placed the Department second overall for research performance, as well as top 10 for both the quality of its outputs (papers) and the impact of its research outside academia. We were also ranked in the UK’s top 15 in the 2017 Complete University Guide and Times Good University Guide. The current Head of Department is Professor Lawrence Black, who can be contacted at lawrence.black@york.ac.uk.

Following the award of a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to Dr Hugo Service, the Department is seeking to appoint a Lecturer in the Histories of Russia and Communism. You should have a PhD in a field of Russian History or a cognate field relevant to the post, and ideally hold an appropriate teaching qualification. You will have an emerging publication record in a relevant field with proven experience of taking responsibility for teaching and learning at undergraduate, and preferably, postgraduate level. The post is fixed term and available from 10 September 2018 to 9 September 2019.

The Department is committed to equality and diversity and strives to ensure the working and learning environment is welcoming, fair, and inclusive for staff and students alike - somewhere everyone can fulfil their potential. This is reflected in staff and student recruitment, and in departmental posts, career development, and promotion. The Department is currently working towards an Athena Swan award.

Women and BME staff are under-represented in the field of Modern History within the Department of History and for this reason we particularly welcome applications from these groups.

The Department of History is open to considering applications for flexible working.
**Main purpose of the role**

- To develop research objectives, projects and proposals and carry out individual or collaborative research projects
- To lead on and/or contribute to the production of research outputs and research outcomes.
- To design, develop and deliver teaching across a wide range of modules and/or within a particular programme or subject area
- To undertake effectively a range of administrative and managerial responsibilities

**Key responsibilities**

**Research and Scholarship**

- To develop and promote the research activities of the department by developing a personal research plan independently and/or in collaboration with others as part of a larger research team
- To plan, manage and undertake research activities in accordance with a specific project plan, and to manage and guide the work of staff and research students on own specialist area
- To develop innovative research proposals, identify and obtaining external sources of funding
- To publish original research in appropriate journals or other relevant media as appropriate and attend international conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results or for personal development

**Teaching and Promotion of Learning**

- To develop innovative teaching materials, techniques and module design and take responsibility for the quality of the provision
- To plan, deliver and critically review a range of teaching and assessment activities. To design and/or teach modules which are both intellectually challenging and attractive to students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

The post holder will also be expected to teach modules relating to the following courses:

**Undergraduate**

- Histories and Contexts: Russia under the Tsars
- Comparative History: Communisms
- Explorations: Communist Europe - Crisis, Transformation and Memory after the Second World War
- Thinking Through History II
- Disciplines of History II
- Debating Historical Practice

The post holder will also be expected to design and deliver a Period Topic to Stage 1 undergraduate students

Further information about the undergraduate teaching programmes is here

**Postgraduate**

The post holder may also be required to teach on the MA programme

Further information about the MA in Modern History can be found here and the MA in Contemporary History and International Politics here

The post holder will also contribute seminars, workshops and lectures to skills courses, lead discussion groups and advise both undergraduate and postgraduate students on their dissertations for taught courses.

- To undertake academic supervision of students (including research students) and act as a research supervisor within own specialist subject area.
- To set and mark practical sessions, supervisions, fieldwork and examinations and provide constructive feedback to students
- To identify areas where current teaching provision is in need of revision or improvement and propose and implement improvements

**Management and Administration**
JOB DESCRIPTION

• To undertake the duties of a Module Convenor or Module Tutor and be responsible for the development and management of departmental teaching modules
• To contribute to the recruitment and selection of research and teaching staff
• To contribute to the administration and management of the department
• To advise, supervise and give guidance to other departmental staff as appropriate
• To develop and build internal and external contacts
• Enter departmental specific responsibilities that aren't covered by the key responsibilities of the role.
# Person Specification

## Qualifications
- PhD in Russian History or a cognate field relevant to the post
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Appropriate academic professional and teaching qualifications or a willingness to undertake the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐

## Knowledge
- Specialist knowledge in subject area
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methodologies
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Knowledge of a range of teaching techniques to enthuse and engage students
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Advanced and specialist IT knowledge
  - Essential: ☐
  - Desirable: ☒
- Has research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the department’s research strategy and goals
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐

## Skills, abilities and competencies
- Ability to develop research objectives, projects and proposals
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Well-developed analytical skills
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Highly developed oral and written communication skills, including ability to write and/or contribute to publications and/or to disseminate research findings using other appropriate media
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Ability to deliver presentations at conferences or exhibit work at other appropriate events internally and externally
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Ability to extend, transform, and apply knowledge from scholarship
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Ability to design teaching material and deliver either across a range of modules or within a subject area
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Ability to supervise the work of others, for example in research teams or projects or as an MA/PhD or postdoctoral supervisor
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
- Excellent IT skills
  - Essential: ☒
  - Desirable: ☐
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<td>Proven ability to contribute to high quality research which is publicly evidenced</td>
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<td>Experience of taking responsibility for teaching and learning at undergraduate and ideally post-graduate level</td>
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<td>Evidence of successful course planning, design and delivery across a range of modules, with exemplification of teaching materials</td>
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<td>Evidence of dissemination of research findings which may include: the presentation of papers at conferences and workshops; participation in public engagement events to disseminate research; the publishing of chapters in text books; the publishing of papers; articles or reviews in academic journals or elsewhere; the construction of websites</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Show attention to detail and commitment to high quality</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>
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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>
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<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

The Department has an international reputation for research and teaching over a chronological span from Late Antiquity to the Twentieth-First Century. Its strengths are organized into nine research clusters: Medieval, Early Modern, Eighteenth Century, Modern Europe, Asia & Middle East, Religion, Public History, Science, Technology, Environment & Medicine, and the Americas. The Department’s PhD programme is one of the largest and best-funded in the UK with around 70 PhD students currently registered.

The Department has a strong commitment to interdisciplinarity. Members of the Department are leading participants in the University’s interdisciplinary Centres: for Medieval Studies (CMS), for Renaissance and Early Modern Studies (CREMS), Eighteenth-Century Studies (CECS), Women’s Studies (CWS), for Modern Studies (CMODS) and Historical Economics and Related Research (CHERRY). Most of these centres offer interdisciplinary MA and PhD programmes. The Department’s commitment to interdisciplinarity is further evidenced in the wide range of undergraduate combined programmes, the MA in Contemporary History and International Politics as well as individual modules at the undergraduate and postgraduate level.

Launched in October 2009, the interdisciplinary Centre for Modern Studies, has quickly established itself as a thriving locus for research and pedagogical activity in the Modern period, hosting numerous research events, fostering research bids, and building on existing offerings to develop its own interdisciplinary MA, on Culture and Thought after 1945 to which history staff contribute. The Centre seeks to promote innovative, significant, world-class research across the fields of literature, film, history, politics, philosophy, sociology, music, media studies, performance studies and the fine and applied arts in the period after 1830, and from a wide variety of theoretical, methodological and historiographical perspectives.

Within the Department of History itself there are also research centres, including the Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture, the Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past (IPUP) where the MA in Public History is based; and the Centre for Global Health Histories (CGHH), which is at the forefront of the Department’s research in medical humanities, collaborates with the WHO and offers an MA in Medical Humanities and History.

The University provides systematic and sustained support to the development of research facilities and resources for the Humanities. The Raymond Burton Library, a purpose-built facility within the University Library, houses a series of important research collections and supports an extensive
THE DEPARTMENT

collection of on-line electronic research resources. The Borthwick Institute for Archives, adjoining the University Library, is a major public record office with particularly strong holdings on the social, economic and religious history of northern England and other more diverse collections, including medical history; many staff make active use of these archival resources in their teaching. The new Humanities Research Centre, which provides first-class facilities for research projects, PhD students, conferences and seminars, was opened in autumn 2009, with a strong representation from the History department.

Further information about the department is available at:
http://www.york.ac.uk/history/
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2018 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 are ranked 16th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2017). 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 is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, flexible working arrangements, staff engagement forums, campus facilities and services to support staff from different backgrounds.

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 6638
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 06 June 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 3 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to Professor Lawrence Black, Head of Department at lawrence.black@york.ac.uk

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

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