

## **FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND LAW**

### **Department of Politics and Public Policy**

#### **Lecturer in Politics and Research Methodology**

**Full Time, Permanent**

**Grade F: £31,331-£34,223**

The Department of Politics and Public Policy is delighted to announce that it wishes to appoint a Lecturer in Politics and Research Methodology, starting in January 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter.

This appointment is focussed on strengthening the Department's teaching expertise in Research Methodology and to contribute to the overall teaching and research within the Department. Successful candidates need to demonstrate a clear research focus that is capable of making a significant contribution to a future REF exercise.

Although the Department welcomes applications from suitably qualified candidates across a broad range of specialisms, applicants with expertise in Development Politics, Comparative Politics, Urban Politics and Development, Housing Studies and Global Governance are particularly encouraged to apply.

Alongside your application form you should also submit a covering letter which includes a statement of research and teaching interests, including plans for the next 3 years and a current CV with a list of publications.

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Alasdair Blair, Head of Department  
Email: [ablair@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:ablair@dmu.ac.uk) or Tel: 0116 2577209

**Please quote**

**reference:** 8106

**Closing Date:** 27 November 2013

**Interview Date:** To be confirmed

## JOB DESCRIPTION

### Lecturer in Politics & Research Methodology

#### KEY INFORMATION

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Faculty/Cost Centre:</b> Business and Law                       | <b>Location:</b> Leicester City   |
| <b>Department/School:</b> Department of Politics and Public Policy | <b>Responsible To:</b> Head of Department of Politics and Public Policy |
| <b>Grade:</b> Lecturer   | <b>Responsible for:</b> N/A   |
| <b>Role Profile Ref.:</b>  |   |
| <b>Contract Type:</b> Full Time, Permanent                         | <b>Date of Issue:</b> November 2013                                     |

#### OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

This appointment is focussed on strengthening the Department's teaching expertise in Research Methodology and to contribute to the overall teaching and research within the Department. Successful candidates need to demonstrate a clear research focus that is capable of making a significant contribution to a future REF exercise. Although the Department welcomes applications from suitably qualified candidates across a broad range of specialisms, applicants with expertise in Development Politics, Comparative Politics, Urban Politics and Development, Housing Studies and Global Governance are particularly encouraged to apply.

#### JOB CONTEXT

Teaching and research in Politics and Public Policy has a long tradition at De Montfort, stretching over 40 years. The Department of Politics and Public Policy comprises a group of twenty members of staff, covering a broad range of subject areas. The Department has 5 Professors and 2 Readers. The Head of Department is Professor Alasdair Blair. The Department is located in the state-of-the art £35 million Hugh Aston building that was built in 2010 and colleagues benefit from excellent teaching and research facilities. The Department has a dedicated research administrator.

The Department has a healthy research environment that includes the Centre for Comparative Housing Research (CCHR), the Health Policy Research Unit (HPRU) and the Local Governance Research Unit (LGRU). The Department is home to the De Montfort University Jean Monnet Centre of European Governance. In addition, the Department has strong research strengths in the area of International Relations as well as teaching and learning. The Department has an established research culture, with colleagues having considerable success over the last three years in securing external income generation from such bodies as the ESRC, AHRC, British Academy, European Union and Higher Education Academy. The Department has also been successful in securing internal research awards, including early career research leave support and University funded Ph.D bursaries.

#### JOB FACTS AND FIGURES

Applicants will have specific expertise in the area of Politics and Research Methodology. The successful candidate will contribute to teaching in the following areas as well as developing their own area of specialism:

- 1<sup>st</sup> year Introduction to Politics
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year Political Analysis and Research Methodology
- MA Research Methodology
- Contribute to the supervision of dissertations and research students

The Department's undergraduate and postgraduate provision currently includes: -

- BSc Housing Studies (incorporating the Foundation Degree in Housing, Communities and Regeneration)
- BA International Relations
- BA Politics
- BA International Business and Globalisation
- BA joint honours programmes involving International Relations and Politics
- BA Public Administration and Management
- MA International Relations
- MA Diplomacy and World Order
- MSc Project Management
- MSc Housing Studies (distance learning)
- MSc Business for Housing
- Executive Masters in Public Administration (starts 2014)
- Supervision of MPhil and Ph.D students

The Department also works with City University SCOPE in Hong Kong where it also delivers the BA Public Administration and Management degree.

## **MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The post holder will contribute to the development of teaching and research in Politics and Research Methodology and, where appropriate, take leadership responsibility for such developments as indicated below.

### **Main Duties and Responsibilities**

1. To fulfil the research, teaching and administrative duties as a lecturer in Politics and Research Methodology.
2. To develop the teaching of research methodology in the Department of Politics and Public Policy and the Faculty of Business and Law.
3. To expand the research profile of the Department of Politics and Public Policy.
4. To attract and supervise undergraduate and postgraduate research students.
5. To liaise and engage in collaborative work with colleagues in the Department of Politics and Public Policy.
6. To play a full role as an academic member of staff and to contribute to the overall success of the Department, Faculty and University.

### **Research**

1. To produce and maintain a high record of research outputs to contribute to future research excellence and funding exercises.
2. To develop successful projects and grant applications.
3. To take an active role in the Department's research activities by contributing to the research culture.
4. To work with members of the Department to build collaborative research projects as appropriate.
5. To enhance the Department's profile by contributions to conferences, learned and professional bodies as appropriate.
6. To supervise postgraduate research students.
7. To undertake duties as an internal and external referee for research funding applications and peer reviewed journals.
8. To conduct applied research and knowledge exchange activities.

9. To engage in consultancy and identify opportunities for knowledge exchange activities.

### **Teaching and Learning**

1. To undertake research informed teaching, including contributing to the development, delivery and evaluation of cutting edge learning and teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level.
2. To engage in initiating, supervising and assessing student projects.
3. To develop the subject, courses and modules with the staff team.
4. To develop innovative approaches to learning and teaching.
5. To enhance the Department's profile by appropriate professional activity.
6. To provide pastoral and curriculum support to students.

### **Academic Administration**

1. To contribute to and where appropriate take a lead in the administration of courses and the local management of student experience and support.
2. To set and mark assignments and examination questions.
3. To constantly seek to enhance performance through such mechanisms as student feedback, peer observation and mentoring.
4. To assist with student recruitment including contributing to interviews, open days and other recruitment and promotional events.
5. To engage in academic leadership commensurate with the grade.
6. To act as a mentor to colleagues with less experience.
7. To participate in Department and Faculty meetings as and when required.
8. To undertake other duties as may from time to time be specified by the Head of Department.

### **General**

1. To undertake staff development to develop both subject knowledge and pedagogic practice.
2. To network with relevant colleagues inside and outside of the University to build relationships conducive to the overall success of the University.

## **KEY CONTACTS**

- Professor Alasdair Blair – Head of the Department of Politics and Public Policy
- Professor David Wilson – Dean of Faculty and Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- Mr Andy Rees – Deputy Dean, Head of the Department of Strategic Management and Marketing and Faculty Head of Undergraduate Studies.
- Mr Martyn Kendrick – Faculty Head of Postgraduate Studies
- Dr Steven Griggs – Faculty Head of Research

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY**

Based in Leicester, in the heart of England, De Montfort University is a university of quality and distinctiveness. The Vice-Chancellor is Professor Dominic Shellard. The University is structurally divided into four faculties which offer 400 diverse undergraduate and postgraduate subjects. The University community comprises 22,000 students and 2,700 staff.

DMU boasts 13 National Teaching Fellows, higher education's most prestigious teaching awards. This is one of the highest numbers awarded to any university since the scheme began in 2000. In addition to this, more than 170 courses are professionally accredited.

Students benefit from a supportive environment and state-of-the-art facilities. The university's pioneering research, driven by over 1,000 research students and supported by 500 staff, is internationally renowned and addresses some of the most critical issues affecting our world.

## **THE FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND LAW**

The Faculty of Business and Law is led by Professor David Wilson who also holds the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The Faculty of Business and Law is divided into two, the School of Law and the Business School. The Department of Politics and Public Policy is one of four academic departments within the Business School. The Faculty comprises over 4,000 undergraduate students and over 1,000 postgraduate students. The Faculty has an excellent track record in research and teaching.

## **DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY**

The Department of Politics and Public Policy comprises a group of twenty members of staff, covering a broad range of subject areas. Teaching and research in Politics and Public Policy has a long tradition at De Montfort, stretching over 40 years. In the last 2 years the Department has appointed 3 new staff, namely Professor Jonathan Davies, Dr Mark Roberts and Dr Zoe Pflaeger. The Department currently has 5 Professors and 2 Readers. The Department has two National Teaching Fellows. The Head of Department is Professor Alasdair Blair. The Department is located in the state-of-the art £35 million Hugh Aston building that was built in 2010 and colleagues benefit from excellent teaching and research facilities. The Department has a dedicated research administrator.

The Department has over 300 undergraduate students, approximately 40 Masters students, and some 15 Ph.D students. The Department's undergraduate and postgraduate provision currently includes:

- BSc Housing Studies
- BA International Relations
- BA Politics
- BA International Business and Globalisation
- BA joint honours programmes involving International Relations and Politics
- BA Public Administration and Management
- MA International Relations
- MA Diplomacy and World Order
- MSc Project Management
- MSc Housing Studies
- Executive Masters in Public Administration (to start in 2014)
- MPhil and Doctoral Studies

The Department also works with City University SCOPE in Hong Kong where it delivers the BA Public Administration and Management degree.

The Department has a healthy research environment that includes three research units, namely the Centre for Comparative Housing Research (CCHR), the Health Policy Research Unit (HPRU) and the Local Governance Research Unit (LGRU). In addition, the Department has strong research strengths in the area of International Relations as well as teaching and learning. The Department has a strong research culture. Since 2010 colleagues in the Department have received over £500,000 in research funding from a wide range of sources. Notable examples include the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, British Academy, Economic and Social Research Council, Arts and Humanities Research Council, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Higher Education Academy, and the European Union. In 2013 the Department was one of only three UK Universities to receive funding to establish a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. The Department has also been successful in securing internal research awards, including early career research leave support and University funded Ph.D bursaries. The Department has an active research seminar series and takes a keen interest in organising international conferences, including the British International History Group conference in 2012 and the Urban Studies Foundation sponsored conference in 2013.

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Lecturer in Politics & Research Methodology

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Faculty/Cost Centre:</b> Business & Law                         | <b>Location:</b> Leicester City   |
| <b>Department/School:</b> Department of Politics and Public Policy | <b>Responsible To:</b> Head of Department of Politics and Public Policy |
| <b>Grade:</b> LECTURER   | <b>Responsible for:</b>   |
| <b>Role Profile Ref.:</b>  |   |
| <b>Contract Type:</b> Permanent                                    | <b>Date of Issue:</b> November 2013                                     |

| REQUIREMENTS                          | ESSENTIAL   | DESIRABLE   | *METHOD OF ASSESSMENT |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|
| <b>1. QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING</b> | <p>First Degree in Politics or a related discipline.</p> <p>A postgraduate degree in Politics or a related discipline.</p> <p>Completion of quantitative and qualitative research methods training courses.</p> | <p>Ph.D in Politics (or near completion).</p> <p>Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.</p>                                    | 1,4                   |
| <b>2. PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE</b>    | <p>Experience of teaching Politics at undergraduate level.</p>  | <p>Experience of taught postgraduate teaching and supervision of research students at undergraduate and postgraduate level.</p> | 1,2, 4                |

|   |   |   |                |
|---|---|---|----------------|
| <p><b>3. SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE / SKILLS / ABILITIES / MOTIVATION / ATTITUDE REQUIRED</b></p> | <p>Excellent knowledge of current developments in their own area of research specialism.</p> <p>Ability to teach research methods.</p> <p>Ability to teach and assess work at an appropriate standard for University study.</p> <p>Active researcher, with evidence of the writing and dissemination of research papers and the ability to contribute to a REF exercise beyond 2014.</p> <p>A willingness to contribute to the development of an active research environment, including the supervision of research students.</p> | <p>Research expertise in one of the following areas: Development Politics, Comparative Politics, Urban Politics and Development, Housing Studies and Global Governance.</p> <p>Experience of submitting research grant applications and undertaking consultancy work.</p> <p>Demonstrate the potential to generate research impact, undertaking appropriate applied research and knowledge exchange activities.</p> | <p>1,2,3,4</p> |
| <p><b>4. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS</b></p>  | <p>Be a team player, committed to working in a multi-disciplinary environment.</p> <p>Willing to contribute to course development/module and programme leadership and participate in other departmental administrative duties as determined by the Head of Department.</p> <p>To assist in activities aimed at student recruitment.</p> <p>Evidence of good ICT skills relevant to the HE sector.</p> <p>An understanding of statistical research packages.</p>   |   | <p>1,2,3,4</p> |

\*1=Application form; 2=Interview; 3=Test/Presentation; 4=Documentary evidence; 5=Other (Please specify)