Job Description – Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and English Language

Unit: Faculty of Wellbeing, Education and Language Studies
Salary: £41,526-49,553
Location: Milton Keynes
Terms: Full Time (37 hours), Fixed Term Contract until 31st October 2024
Reports to: Academic Lead for Applied Linguistics and English Language

About the role

We are seeking to appoint a Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and English Language within the School of Languages and Applied Linguistics. This is a fixed term contract until 31/10/2024.

The lecturer will contribute to the production of undergraduate and postgraduate distance learning teaching materials. They will also be expected to work with others to deliver existing modules covering a range of curriculum areas in the field of English Language Studies, primarily focused on social perspectives on language issues. They will be a core member of the team tasked with updating our MA Education (Applied Linguistics) modules. They will also undertake high quality research, working independently and in collaboration with other members of the school.

The Applied Linguistics and English Language team includes scholars with a range of teaching expertise and research interests including, but not limited to, topics such as new media, health, education, academic literacies, English as a medium of instruction, and language in society. The team has expertise in a wide scope of research methods, including ethnography, discourse analysis, corpus linguistics, and interactional linguistics. The new lecturer will be expected to expand this repertoire and seek to enhance research synergies between members of the Applied Linguistics and English Language team and the School more broadly.

Key responsibilities

You will work individually and as part of a team. You will contribute to the team by:

- Developing engaging and inclusive learning materials, including the updating, writing and redrafting of materials, critical reading, editing associated material, and the production of audio-visual and online resources
- Conducting research in one (or more) of the following areas of applied linguistics:
  - Sociolinguistics,
  - Interactional linguistics,
  - Critical perspectives on children’s and/or adult literacy (processes and practices),
  - English for academic and/or professional purposes.
- Playing a full part in the presentation and maintenance of existing courses, including writing assignments, monitoring tutor grading and feedback, and participating in assessment and award boards.
- Contributing to decisions about curriculum, teaching, and assessment strategies.
- Developing synergies between teaching and research by developing a personal research plan that aligns with one or more of the School’s research themes.
- Contributing to a pipeline of high-quality publications and bidding for external funding.
- Promoting equal opportunities across all aspects of School activities including teaching and research.
• Undertaking any other duties as required by the Head of School.

Skills and experience

Essential:
• PhD or equivalent experience in the field of Applied Linguistics and English Language.
• An emerging research profile in an area of Applied Linguistics and English Language (i.e. sociolinguistics, interactional linguistics, children’s and/or adult literacy, English for academic and/or professional purposes), commensurate to career stage.
• A record of research dissemination and/or knowledge exchange, commensurate to career stage.
• An ability to write materials for students studying online in, and outside of, immediate area of expertise.
• An understanding of supported open and distance learning and an ability to write clearly and cogently for diverse audiences.
• An understanding of the role of new technologies within blended teaching and learning.
• A strong commitment to excellence in inclusive learning and teaching for a diverse student population (i.e. diversifying the curriculum and/or making materials accessible to a broad range of students).
• Ability to work effectively, flexibly and collaboratively with others; being reflective and self-critical of personal contributions.
• Excellent command of spoken and written English.
• Proven ability to plan and organise work to agreed deadlines, within resource constraints, and sometimes under pressure.

Desirable:
• HEA or equivalent accreditation.
• Previous experience of teaching at a distance.
• Previous teaching experience in one, or more, of the following methodologies:
  o Ethnography
  o Close text analysis (spoken or written)
  o Corpus linguistics
  o Discourse analysis
  o Multimodal analysis.
• Experience of bidding for external research funding.

The Open University is an Institution that strives to create an academic climate in which diversity is embraced by maintaining and respecting the dignity, respect and civility of individuals from all backgrounds, identities, cultures and experiences. The programmes in the Faculty of Wellbeing, Education, and Language Studies play an integral role in achieving the University’s widening participation and social justice mission. We strive to recruit, retain and develop the careers of a diverse pool of students and staff, and particularly encourage applications from all underrepresented groups.