Job Description – Lecturer, Policing Organisation and Practice Ref - 16556

Reports to: Director of Policing Organisation and Practice
Location: Milton Keynes
Grade: AC3
Full time (Part time considered) – Fixed to 31/01/2023

About the role

The Open University is expanding its teaching, research and scholarship in Policing. As part of this expansion we are developing a suite of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes in this area that will be delivered nationally.

We invite applications from a broad spectrum of academic expertise related to policing as well as from appropriately qualified policing professionals looking to move into academia.

We particularly encourage applications from those who have expertise in one or more of the following areas related to policing (other areas will be considered):

- Police Governance and Accountability
- Crime and Society
- Criminal Justice
- Community & Neighbourhood Policing
- Vulnerability
- Digital and Online Crime and policing
- Roads Policing

The position offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant, inter-disciplinary research and scholarship culture and community, and to develop expertise in online and distance learning.

The appointee will be work closely with the Centre for Policing Research and Learning (CPRL) - a collaborative partnership between the Open University and 21 police agencies across the UK, from large territorial forces (e.g. Metropolitan Police Service, Greater Manchester, Thames Valley) to smaller forces (e.g. Gwent, Dorset, Gloucestershire) and including specialist police agencies (e.g. National Crime Agency and British Transport Police).

Candidates should have an emerging research and/or scholarship track record and/or the motivation to develop a contribution in the research areas of the Centre for Policing Research and Learning. The appointee will also be expected to contribute to the citizenship of the department and faculty more widely (see below for further details).

You will have excellent communication and inter-personal skills. You will also have experience in innovative ways of working alongside practitioners and an ability and willingness to work in non-standard ways. In addition, you will have experience or an interest in practice-based pedagogy, blended and online teaching and learning and action learning. You will have a strong interest in research and will be ready to talk about your projects or plans about policing.

The successful candidate will be required to:
- Contribute to our developing policing programmes, working on the development and presentation of one or more modules
- Create synergies between research and/or scholarship, teaching and knowledge exchange
• Contribute to the development of part-time tutors around the UK and the support of students
• Conduct research and/or scholarship which will contribute to the programme of work and enhance the profile of the Centre for Policing Research and Learning specifically and the Faculty and the Department more widely
• Be responsive to multimedia developments within the OU
• Play a full part in the academic life of the Faculty of Business and Law, which is located on The Open University’s Walton Hall campus in Milton Keynes
• Serve as requested on Business School, Faculty and OU committees

Skills and experience

Essential:

• Good academic qualifications in a Policing relevant area or a closely related area (e.g. Social Science, Law, Psychology, Management/Organisation Studies)
• A doctorate in a policing relevant field, in a related area (candidates close to gaining a doctorate or with equivalent research expertise are encouraged) or equivalent professional experience
• Clear evidence of the capability to structure and write teaching materials in an accurate and accessible manner
• Experience of teaching HE students either online or face-to-face.
• An understanding of the policy and practice context of UK policing organisations
• An ability and willingness to contribute to research and/or scholarship in the Centre and the faculty
• Experience of working in and with organisations in the private or public sector, ideally policing or relevant public service organisations
• A commitment to conducting high quality research and/or scholarship, evidenced by current and/or planned projects and research outputs
• Experience of using ICT and Virtual Learning Environments in teaching and learning.
• Flexibility, resilience and a team player and able to work independently
• Excellent communication skills, oral, written and electronic
• Professionalism as a colleague and proven track record of working with others as a member of a team
• Contributing to the general academic and professional life of the Department, Centre, Faculty, University and wider academic community, including committee and representational roles if appropriate
• The ability to work to tight deadlines
• A commitment to, and understanding of, equal opportunities
• A commitment to distance learning and the need for supporting students from a wide range of backgrounds
• Ability to travel throughout the UK and Internationally
• Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends

Desirable:

• Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy or PG CERT
• Practical experience of designing and/or delivering policing related learning
• A research record appropriate to the candidate’s stage in their career, evidenced by publications of REF-able standard
• Experience in online distance education
• Experience of academic module design and development
• Experience of teaching in a multi-cultural setting
• Evidence of innovative approaches to pedagogy
• Experience of developing successful modules for HE qualifications
• An interest and some expertise in on-line teaching and virtual learning environments
• Evidence of taking a leadership role at a module level
• Evidence of working as a distance learning tutor