Job Description – Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and English Language

Reports to: Academic Lead for Applied Linguistics  
Grade AC3 £41,526 - £49,553

About the role
We are seeking to appoint a Lecturer in Applied Linguistics and English Language within the School of Languages and Applied Linguistics.

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. They will be a core member of the team tasked with updating our level 3 module on children’s language, literacies, and literature. They will also undertake high quality research, preferably in an area of Child Language, 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, English as a medium of instruction, education, academic literacies, 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 and you will contribute to the team by:

- Developing 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 into Children’s Language in one (or more) of the following areas:
  - First and second language acquisition
  - Multilingualism
  - Children’s literacy (processes and practices)
  - Children’s language socialisation
  - Children’s literature and literary stylistics
- Playing a full part in the presentation and maintenance of existing courses, including writing assignments, monitoring tutors, ongoing maintenance of existing teaching materials, and participating in assessment and cluster 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; and
- Undertaking any other duties as required by the Head of School or the Academic Lead for Applied Linguistics
Skills and experience

Essential:
- PhD or equivalent
- An emerging research profile in Children’s Language, commensurate to career stage (areas of interest may include first language acquisition, children’s literacy and literature, second language acquisition and multilingual children, and child language socialisation)
- A strong record of research dissemination and/or knowledge exchange that is commensurate to the position
- 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, and a commitment to innovation in this area;
- A strong commitment to excellence in inclusive learning and teaching for a diverse student population
- Ability to work effectively, flexibly and collaboratively with others; being reflective and self-critical of personal contributions;
- Excellent command of spoken and written English, with the capacity to communicate clearly and influentially with a range of stakeholders;
- Proven ability to plan and organise work to agreed deadlines, within resource constraints, and sometimes under pressure;
- Evidence of relevant continuing professional development.

Desirable:
- HEA or equivalent accreditation;
- Previous experience of teaching at a distance;
- Previous teaching experience in one, or more, of the following methodologies;
  - Ethnography
  - Close text analysis
  - 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.