Job Related Information

This document includes information about the role for which you are applying and the information you will need to provide with your application.

1. Role Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vacancy reference</th>
<th>13717</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job title:</td>
<td>Lecturer in Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports to:</td>
<td>Discipline Lead, Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary:</td>
<td>£32,004 - £46,924 per annum depending on qualifications and experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms and conditions:</td>
<td>Academic staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>AC2/AC3 Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of post:</td>
<td>Permanent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working hours:</td>
<td>Full-time, 37 hours per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Walton Hall, Milton Keynes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing date:</td>
<td>12:00 Midnight, Tuesday 25 July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of application form accepted:</td>
<td>Long Version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of referees required:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit recruitment contact:</td>
<td>The Assistant (Staffing) <a href="mailto:Fass-Recruitment@open.ac.uk">Fass-Recruitment@open.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Summary of duties

The Open University:

Teaching at the Open University involves working closely with colleagues in teams to produce and present high-quality teaching programmes. Teaching at the Open University involves large-scale and dispersed systems in which module presentation and production teams based at the Milton Keynes campus have a central and vital role. It involves producing written teaching materials and online and audio-visual module materials, and also reading and discussing the work of other members of the team and generally contributing to the collaborative distance education project. It thus requires academics to be able to work closely with colleagues as well as to plan and undertake independent work to deadlines.

Research is central to the mission of The Open University, and our growing international profile was reflected in the outcomes of the 2014 REF exercise in which over 70% of submitted research was ranked as either internationally excellent (3*) or world leading (4*). The University’s REF2014 submission involved 18 Units of Assessment (UoA), more than 400 academic and research staff, and 58 impact case studies which demonstrated how OU research is changing the world. Applications are therefore welcomed from academics with either an established or developing research record that would contribute to this profile and complement our existing research strengths. Further information about the research activities and strengths is available on the university websites.

Main purpose of the role:

We are seeking a new colleague to play an important role in the Discipline of Economics, which offers a stimulating and supportive intellectual environment for anyone interested in working across the fields of critical Economics and contributing to the thriving academic community in the Department, School and Faculty.

Successful candidate will join the Economics Discipline at an exciting period of curriculum development and new research opportunity and play a significant role in the development of curriculum, particularly in the design and delivery of a new BA (Hons) Economics. This includes authoring and developing teaching materials, developing multi-media resources, and enhancing teaching and learning through a Virtual Learning Environment in ways suitable for students from a wide range of backgrounds.

You will also have the opportunity to make effective contributions to the thriving research culture of the Department. Research activities in the Discipline include: critical analyses around personal finance, wellbeing, development, innovation, gender and inequality.

As a valued member of academic staff you would have the opportunity to contribute to consolidating our successful track record of research publications and public engagement.

Main Responsibilities:

The person appointed will be a Central Academic member of staff based in the School of Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Development, and Geography (PPEDG) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes. The post holder should be able to reach Walton Hall easily whenever required. He or she will complement the expertise of existing staff to contribute to the delivery of the economics curriculum.

The person appointed will be expected to contribute positively to the teaching, research and academic management of the Discipline, Faculty and University in the following ways:

**Teaching**

- Successfully contributing to the planning and development of Economics curricula;
- Contributing to the successful presentation and development of other modules and qualifications
associated with the Department of Economics;

- Effectively contributing to other interdisciplinary curricula, as appropriate;

**Research and scholarship**

- Enhancing the Department’s and Faculty’s research and scholarship profile through high quality research publications;
- Working effectively and collaboratively to develop a shared research and scholarship culture;
- Academic Service;
- Consistently contributing in positive ways to the development of a collegial and engaged academic community in the Department, Faculty and University, including by undertaking leadership and administrative roles as required.

More specifically, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the production and presentation of existing undergraduate economics modules, development of new curriculum as part of a new degree programme for BA (Hons) Economics, and may be asked to help supervise doctoral students. Building towards the next REF exercise, the successful candidate will also be expected to contribute to the school’s research profile in this research area. The person appointed will contribute to the academic management within the School, Faculty and University, as required by the Head of School.

### 3. Person specification

#### Requirements  (E = Essential/ D = Desirable)

**Education, qualifications and training**

**Essential Characteristics (it will be essential for the successful candidate to be able to demonstrate evidence of the following):**

- A completed, or close to completed, PhD or equivalent in Economics or a closely related subject, or equivalent experience;
- An excellent honours degree in economics or related subject;

**Knowledge, work and other relevant experience**

**Essential:**

- A demonstrable track record of working in, and an ongoing commitment to Economics;
- A genuine enthusiasm for the subject and a desire to develop and deploy interesting teaching techniques to ensure students stay engaged and motivated;
- An ability to produce and deliver high quality teaching materials on aspects of Economics for social science and professional audiences at undergraduate level;
- A commitment to distance learning shown through developing effective multi-media teaching and enhancing teaching and learning through a Virtual Learning Environment in ways suitable for students from a wide range of backgrounds;
- A research and/or scholarship profile that complements or extends existing expertise within the Department;
- A proven track record of being able to work collaboratively, effectively and collegially with others in interdisciplinary teaching, research and wider institutional contexts;
- Excellent writing and communication skills;
• An ability to produce work to a high standard and to agreed deadlines;
• A strong commitment to equal opportunities policies and practices and to the values of the Open University, including by contributing to the development of an excellent learning experience for the University’s students at all levels.

**Desirable:**
• Experience of working in open or distance-teaching and developing multi-media teaching particularly through a virtual learning environment;
• A proven ability to extend and consolidate the public engagement and impact activities of the Discipline and School.

**Personal abilities and qualities**

**Essential:**
• Ability to communicate ideas effectively, both orally and in writing;
• Ability to work as an effective and collegial member of a team, with the communication and inter-personal skills needed to encourage co-operation and co-ordination of work.

**Desirable:**
• Commitment to the ideals of The Open University, including widening participation in HE and equality and diversity issues.

**4. Role specific requirements e.g. Shift working**

Occasionally, the role may require to attend events such as conferences, open days, and learning events such as day schools also on weekends.

**5. About the unit/department**

**The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS)**

The Faculty is the largest and most diverse at The Open University, with some 50,000 students studying our modules with consistently outstanding student satisfaction ratings. Noted for the strength of our interdisciplinary approaches, our scholars of international standing teach and research a very wide range of topics and themes in specific subject areas, recognized as world class or internationally excellent in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, and having a direct and profound influence on our undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

The Faculty is organised into four Schools:

- School of Psychology
- School of Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Development, Geography
- School of History, Religious Studies, Sociology, Social Policy & Criminology
- School of Art History, Classical Studies, English & Creative Writing, Music

Students are supported by three Student Support Teams. These teams offer specialist study support to students undertaking our qualifications across the University. Members of academic staff, including regional academics, form part of these teams in sustaining and improving student progression and retention.

The Faculty works closely with important organisations and institutions in the UK and other parts of the world in a range of validated partnerships and collaborations. Academics in the Faculty are engaged in world-class, agenda setting research tackling the most difficult challenges facing us in the 21st Century, with work in
numerous subject-based and interdisciplinary research groups and projects.

With c.1800 members of staff comprising academics, associate lecturers, support staff and full-time research students working across the locations of the University, combining originality and innovation in research and curriculum, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is a vibrant and exciting place to study and work.

The vigorous intellectual life in the Faculty is fostered by collaborative teaching and a shared interest in research and scholarship. The Departments and Schools work together and with other Faculties to produce a range of undergraduate and postgraduate distance teaching programmes and research degrees. We attract students from a wide range of educational and social backgrounds. Full-time research students are based on campus.

To find out more about the Faculty’s teaching, learning and research, please visit: http://fass.open.ac.uk/

Economics Discipline

Over the last decade the Economics Discipline has developed as a small friendly group of Economists within the Faculty. Members of the Discipline prepare and present undergraduate modules in Economics, contribute to interdisciplinary Faculty and University teaching, undertake research and supervise post-graduate research students. The Discipline has a strong reputation for applied research, increasingly with a significant impact on policy, and for economics teaching designed for adult learners undertaking multi-disciplinary degrees. A recent Department of Education survey also highlighted the high earning potential of OU students one year post-graduation.

Research

Most of the research of members of the Economics discipline are active within the interdisciplinary research centre for Innovation Knowledge and Development (IKD) http://www.open.ac.uk/ikd. IKD is a vibrant interfaculty research centre that has brought together academics from across the OU to pool expertise and undertake joint research since 2004. Economics colleagues are also very actively engaged with The Open University’s strategic research centres, particularly the International Development & Inclusive Innovation Research Network (IDII) http://www.open.ac.uk/research/main/our-research/international-development and Citizenship and Governance Strategic Research Area http://www.open.ac.uk/research/main/our-research/citizenship-governance, and the Centre for Citizenship, Identity and Governance (CCIG) http://www.open.ac.uk/ccig/.

Colleagues are also members of the Institute for Innovation Generation in the Life Sciences (Innogen) http://www.innogen.ac.uk/about/ and frequently collaborate with the International Development Office http://www.open.ac.uk/about/international-development/.

OU Economists made a strong contribution to two cross-faculty REF2011 submissions, Anthropology and Development Studies (UoA24) and Sociology (UoA23). The Anthropology and Development Studies submission achieved an overall quality profile of which 69% was world leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*), and we were rated in 3rd place nationally for research environment. The Sociology submission achieved an overall quality profile of which 64% was world leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*), and we were rated in 9th place nationally for impact. Details of these results and submissions are available on the HEFCE website: http://results.ref.ac.uk/

The current academic members of the Economics Department, and their research interests, are:

- **Professor Paul Anand**  Professor of Economics and Research Associate Oxford University, Foundations of Economic Theory, Behavioural Economics, Welfare Economics Capabilities and Happiness, Applied Econometrics, Health Economics, Policy and Economics Knowledge Transfer in the OECD.
- **Dr George Callaghan**  Senior Lecturer and Staff Tutor: labour economics.
- **Dr Jerome De Henau**  Lecturer: household economics, personal finance and econometrics.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position and Research Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Martin Higginson</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer and Staff Tutor: economics of governance; economics and social policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Jonquil Lowe</td>
<td>Lecturer: financial capability; consumer interface with the tax system; pension systems; retail financial regulation in the UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Susan Himmelweit</td>
<td>Emeritus Professor of Economics: feminist economics, economics of the household; models of caring labour and gender analysis of the tax/benefit system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Maureen Mackintosh</td>
<td>Professor of Economics: economics of public service organisation and management; currently working on health care reform and regulation in Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Stuart Parris</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer and Head of Discipline: economics of technological change, evolutionary theory, financialisation, financing of innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Rajiv Prabahkar</td>
<td>Lecturer: personal finance, financial education and inequality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Cristina Santos</td>
<td>Lecturer: household economics, labour economics, development economics, econometrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Alan Shipman</td>
<td>Lecturer: personal finance, economics and sociology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Roberto Simonetti</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer: economics of technical change, economic growth and evolutionary economics, industrial development and innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Andrew Trigg</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer: political economy of Marx, Keynes and Kalecki; economics and sociology of consumption.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further information about staff and their research interests is available on the Faculty website: [http://fass.open.ac.uk/people/department/economics](http://fass.open.ac.uk/people/department/economics)

A repository of research publications and other research outputs of all Open University staff can be viewed at The Open University's Open Research Online: [http://oro.open.ac.uk/](http://oro.open.ac.uk/)

**Teaching**

At the heart of the processes of module production is the Module Team, comprising a Module Team Chair, several members of academic staff, including one or more Staff Tutors and, where relevant, members of other Departments, and a Curriculum Manager. For all undergraduate modules and most postgraduate almost all study material is purpose-written and originated by the Module Team. The ‘main text’ material of modules in economics requires a standard of writing and presentation that is appropriate to a public and wider academic readership as well as to OU students. Module Teams and the Learning and Teaching Innovation unit nonetheless retain full editorial control over content, teaching and design.

The Discipline has a responsibility for its own modules and also contributes to interdisciplinary modules within the School, Faculty and University. The important reputation of The OU’s own ‘brand’ of Economics follows from successful modules produced by the colleagues in the Economics Discipline, including DB123 You and Your Money, DB234 Personal Investment in an Uncertain World, DD209 Running the Economy and DD309 Doing Economics, People, Markets and Policy. The high profile texts for these and other departmental modules and qualifications are used extensively for the teaching of Economics in the UK and beyond. Over the next few years we expect our economics curriculum to expand to deliver a new single honours degree in Economics, with additional module production at all undergraduate levels.

Members of the Discipline also contribute to other modules in the Faculty, especially level 1 interdisciplinary social science, but also at other levels. We also have input into the production of maths, statistics and business modules.
Students of economics modules mostly take qualifications in:

- BA (Honours) Politics, Philosophy and Economics
- BSc (Honours) Economics and Mathematical Sciences
- BA (Hons) Business management (both general and with specialism in Economics)
- BA (Hons) International Studies
- BA (Hons) Combined Social Sciences
- BA (Hons) Economics and History

The Discipline has a strong commitment to supporting research and scholarship, and information about departmental staff and the department is available on the website:

http://www.open.ac.uk/socialsciences/about-the-faculty/departments/economics/

6. How to obtain more information about the role or application process

If you would like to discuss the particulars of this role before making an application please contact Stuart Parris on 01908 858945 or email: fass-economics-hod@open.ac.uk

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact The Assistant (Staffing) email FASS-Recruitment@open.ac.uk.

7. The application process and where to send completed applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please ensure that your application reaches the University by:</th>
<th>12:00 Midnight, Tuesday 25 July 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Application should include</td>
<td>A completed application Form (long version).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A curriculum vitae that includes details of academic qualifications, teaching, management and research experience, grants received and publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A cover letter indicating why you are interested in this post and how you believe your knowledge experience and skills meet the Person Specification for this position, (no longer than 2 sides of A4).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post it to: See below

Name/Job title: The Assistant (Staffing)

Department/Unit: Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

Address: Room 140, Briggs Building, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes

Post Code: MK7 6AA

Or e-mail your application to: FASS-Recruitment@open.ac.uk
### 8. Selection process and date of interview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The interview panel will be chaired by:</th>
<th>Dr Michael Pryke, Head of School, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, School of Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Development, Geography.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The other members of the interview panel will be:</td>
<td>Dr Stuart Parris, Discipline Lead, Economics. Further Panel Members will be advised to candidates successful for interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The interviews will take place on:</td>
<td>Interviews are planned to take place at Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, early to middle of September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The selection process for this post will include</td>
<td>Further details of the selection process will be advised to candidates successful for interview.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will let you know as soon as possible after the closing date whether you have been shortlisted for interview. Further details on the selection process will also be sent to shortlisted candidates.

**Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.**