



Lecturer in the Anthropology of Cognition and Culture

Department	Anthropology
Grade	Grade 7/8
Salary Range	Grade 7 (£31,656 - £37,768) Grade 8 (£38,896 - £46,414)
Position Type	Full Time
Closing Date	23.30pm on 02 January 2017

Job Description

The Department of Anthropology seeks to appoint an outstanding candidate at Lecturer (Assistant Professor) level to consolidate its strength in evolutionary approaches to cognition and culture. As a result of significant investment through RCUK and HEFCE funding, the department now has vibrant research programmes in comparative cognition, social learning and cultural evolution. The aim of this post is to consolidate this area and strengthen links between the study of cultural and cognitive evolution, as well as between evolutionary and socio-cultural anthropology. We welcome applications from exceptional scholars with research and teaching interests in the broad field of cognition and culture. Although the main requirement of this post is for the successful candidate to have synergies with members of the Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group, a proven track record of, or demonstrable potential for collaboration with scholars from both social and biological anthropology would be advantageous.

The successful candidate will join the internationally recognised Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group (EARG) within the Department of Anthropology. EARG has been flagged in the last two UK research assessment/research excellence exercises as a source of world-leading research, and this research currently includes non-human primate evolution, ecology and behaviour, cognitive and brain evolution, cultural evolution, palaeoanthropology and evolutionary approaches to human health.

This post offers an exciting opportunity to make a major contribution to the development of the Anthropology Department's research and teaching and the successful candidate will complement our existing strength in cognition and culture. Durham Anthropology prides itself on being able to integrate diverse subfields of Anthropology in teaching and research, and preference may be given to candidates who have demonstrated an ability to collaborate across academic boundaries. The successful candidate will thus also be welcome to join the Social Anthropology Research Group and the Anthropology of Health Research Group. The Department's strong commitment to interdisciplinarity extends outside Anthropology to long-standing collaborations with other Departments. Particularly strong links relevant to primatology exist with Biosciences and Psychology. The Department of Anthropology is co-located in the Dawson Building with the Department of Archaeology, which has extensive practical and laboratory facilities, including modern and ancient DNA laboratories and an isotope laboratory. Academic staff members in the Department of Anthropology also have extensive networks of international collaborations, including with the Centre Internationale de Recherches Médicales, Franceville, Gabon, and our Anthropology Field Station based at the Lajuma Research Centre in South Africa.

Durham Anthropology is one of the very best in the UK with an outstanding reputation for excellence in teaching, research and employability of our students. The Department of Anthropology has a vibrant research culture with many visitors, seminars, global conferences and workshops, and is set to grow significantly over the next ten years. Our undergraduate and graduate degree programmes have very high quality student intakes. We aim to provide a supportive and friendly environment with a strong sense of community. Currently there are more than 30 permanent members of academic staff, conducting world class excellent research in Evolutionary, Medical and Social Anthropology. Academic staff receive financial support for conference travel and are entitled to apply for research leave for 1 in 7 terms.

For this lectureship we are keen to invite applications from exceptionally promising individuals who want to develop their academic career at Durham. Candidates in the early stages of their career should have a completed doctorate and be able to demonstrate the capacity for international-level research achievement. More experienced candidates will be expected to have a more significant publication record.

Successful applicants will, ideally, be in post by 1 August 2017.

We embrace excellence in all its forms and invite all qualified candidates to apply. We particularly welcome applications from women, candidates with disabilities and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in the University.

Relationships and Contacts

Responsible to: Head of Department of Anthropology

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

All grades:

1. A good first degree and/or masters degree and/or doctorate in Anthropology (for Grade 7 completed or under examination)
2. A doctorate in either Anthropology, Social Psychology or Evolutionary Psychology.
3. Undertaking research which has the potential to shape the disciplinary agenda and/or create public benefit or impact in terms of individual or societal wellbeing or the economy outside the academic community.
4. Enthusiasm for teaching anthropology, and experience of University-level lecturing and small group teaching in anthropology, with evidence of excellent teaching evaluations.
5. Willingness to undertake administrative responsibilities and participate actively as a citizen and ambassador of the Department of Anthropology.

Grade 7:

6. Evidence of completion of journal articles or papers of likely 3* quality in relation to the UK Research Excellence Framework (the number of such papers to be in-line with the candidate's experience as an independent researcher).¹

Grade 8:

7. Evidence of a recognised publication record in high quality international journals.
8. The capability to generate external funding for research projects, and to develop and lead research projects.
9. The ability to attract and successfully supervise doctoral students

Desirable Criterion

1. All Grades: A track record of relevant administrative experience.
2. All Grades: An understanding of the impact agenda and a track record of engagement with users of research and the generation of public benefit.

Application process

We prefer to receive applications online via the Durham University Vacancies Site.

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/jobs/>

Please submit a CV and covering letter with your application. Your letter of application must include an ambitious personal research plan and provide a clear indication of the four written pieces planned for submission to the next Research Excellence Framework (REF2020/21). Applicants should also submit a teaching plan outlining how they would contribute to the Department's teaching programme.

The application must also include PDFs of two of your most significant pieces of work, at least one of which should be suitable for consideration for submission in REF2020/21.

For informal enquiries please contact Dr Stephen M. Lyon (s.m.lyon@durham.ac.uk). All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

¹ The paper(s) should be under review with an internationally reputable journal(s), or very close to submission to a specified journal(s).