

**UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM
RECRUITMENT ROLE PROFILE FORM**

Job Title: Assistant Professor in Second Language Acquisition

School/Department: School of English

Job Family & Level: Research & Teaching Extended Level 5

Contract Status: Permanent, available from 1 September 2017

Hours of Work: Full-time (36.25 hours per week, open to job share)

Location: School of English, Trent Building, University Park

Reporting to: Professor Josephine Guy, Head of School

The Purpose of the Role:

The School of English is seeking to appoint an Assistant Professor in Second Language Acquisition. The successful candidate will undertake teaching in the areas of second language acquisition (SLA), teaching English as a second/foreign language (TESOL) and related topics in the School of English, and will contribute more widely to the School's teaching and research activities on both its UK and international campuses.

Candidates should have a PhD (or equivalent) in an area related to SLA. Evidence of the ability to teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on our live and distance programmes is essential. A proven track record of publishing and teaching in the areas of SLA and/or TESOL is essential. An ability to teach and research across a broad range of SLA/TESOL-related topics would be desirable. Evidence of the ability to generate research grant income would also be an advantage.

Main Responsibilities	
1.	Undergraduate teaching on team-taught first- and second-year modules in Applied Linguistics and subsidiary modules in related areas as well as team-taught School modules such as Academic Community.
2.	Undergraduate teaching on specialist option modules for third year students in language acquisition/processing in preferably more than one of the following topics: second language acquisition, second language teaching, and research methods.
3.	Masters teaching in relevant areas of SLA and TESOL, including team teaching on both live and distance learning programmes and collaborative Masters programmes in the University, including dissertation supervision.
4.	Help with the development of short courses as part of the School's work in the area of continuing and professional development.
5.	Contribute to the School's programme of activities in relation to undergraduate and postgraduate taught recruitment, outreach and widening participation.
6.	Participate in the dissemination of research and the advancement of knowledge exchange through research outreach, impact and external engagement activities.
7.	Contribute fully to the recruitment, supervision and examination of doctoral students and postdoctoral appointments.
8.	Develop personal research and contribute to wider research culture and environment of the School and the University including generation of research grant income both as an individual and as a part of disciplinary and interdisciplinary teams.

9.	Contribute to the work of the School in relation to its international campuses in China (UNNC) and Malaysia (UNMC) including occasional working visits to UNNC and UNMC as well as development of strategies in relation to internationalisation in the School and University more generally.
10.	Carry out a full administrative role within the School (including completion of PGCHE if required; convening, moderation, and assessment of modules, and involvement in committee work and working parties).

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/ Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD (or equivalent) in an area related to Second Language Acquisition and/or Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 credits of a Postgraduate Teaching Certificate or Education-related Masters, or equivalent Higher Education Academy Fellow status or equivalent
Skills/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to consistently develop own research area • Flexibility to collaborate with colleagues • Ability to teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels • The capacity to teach across a range of undergraduate and postgraduate levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of administrative skills • Experience in pastoral work
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching experience in relevant subjects at HE level • Evidence of the ability to make a strong contribution to future REF, or other research assessment exercises • Recent track record of publishing or otherwise disseminating work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of potential to generate research grant income and projects • Participation in academic and associated professional networks • Experience of both writing and teaching MA distance learning materials • Experience in classroom of teaching a second language
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent verbal and written communication skills • Excellent presentation skills • Ability to work to deadlines and prioritise tasks • Ability to develop own research area and flexibility to collaborate with colleagues • Ability to work well in a team 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to undertake occasional working visits to overseas campuses as required by the School 	

Selection Process:

Long-listed candidates will be asked to provide items of research for consideration by the School. The interview process will include a teaching-based presentation, research presentation and a formal interview.

Please note that as part of its commitment to maintaining the highest academic standards in teaching and learning, the University expects all newly appointed or promoted Lecturers (unless exempt) to complete 30 credits of the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) Course.

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Professor Norbert Schmitt (norbert.schmitt@nottingham.ac.uk) and Professor Zoltán Dörnyei (zoltan.dornyei@nottingham.ac.uk). Please note that applications sent directly to these email addresses will not be accepted.

Information about English Language and Applied Linguistics teaching and research in the School of English

At the University of Nottingham, the focus of work in English language and linguistics has primarily been on:

- second language acquisition and teaching English as a second/foreign language
- interdisciplinary approaches to a wide range of issues in applied linguistics and SLA research
- cognitive, psychological and sociolinguistic analysis of language and discourse
- literary theory and literary linguistic text analysis/stylistics and cognitive poetics
- professional communication with specialisation in business and health communication
- corpus linguistics

Nottingham's distinctive approach is focused on the social and cultural contexts in which the English language is acquired, produced and understood, and on the psychological factors that underlie these processes.

The Interdisciplinary Ethos of Nottingham

Applied Linguistics is an interdisciplinary area of research, touching as it does on aspects of psychology, sociology, education, modern languages, literature, historical studies, and computational science. The Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics (CRAL), which includes a number of interdisciplinary research groups, is housed in the School of English. CRAL's infrastructure supports corpus-based research, discourse-based sociolinguistic data analysis, multi-modal data capture and analysis, eye-tracking, and behavioural response time experiments.

Over the last few years, the School has invested in the development of web-based e-learning materials, a pioneering move led by staff in the English Language and Applied Linguistics section and now involving all areas of the School. We currently offer several of our Masters courses as web materials (MAs in Applied Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, English Studies and Health Communication, Modern English Language, and Literary Linguistics), and we currently have over 250 distance students based in over 40 countries across the globe.

Existing Research Strengths

Research within Nottingham's School of English is concentrated in the *Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics* (CRAL). Research groups within CRAL include the *Vocabulary Research Group* (directed by Norbert Schmitt), the *Psychology of the Language Learner Research Group* (directed by Zoltán Dörnyei), the *Bilingualism Research Group* (directed by Kathy Conklin and Walter van Heuven in Psychology), *Literary Linguistics group* (directed by Peter Stockwell and Violeta Sotirova), *Health Language Research Group* (directed by Kevin Harvey, Svenja Adolphs and Louise Mullany), *Language in the Professions (LiPs)* (directed by Louise Mullany) and the *Corpus Linguistics Workshop*.

We have a sister research centre, CRALC (Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics, China) at The University of Nottingham's Ningbo campus (UNNC).

Teaching areas in English Language and Applied Linguistics

Teaching within the field of English Language and Applied Linguistics currently includes Undergraduate modules such as *The Psychology of Multilingualism and Language Learning*, *Teaching English as a Foreign Language*, *Language Development*, *Language and the Mind*, *Discourse and Society*, *Texts in a Digital World*, *Cognitive Poetics*, *Stylistics and Literary Linguistics*. We have four popular Masters programmes taught on site within the School (*MA Applied Linguistics*, *MA Applied Linguistics and ELT*, *MA Literary Linguistics* and an innovative *MSc Communication and Entrepreneurship* (co-taught with the University's Business School)). We also contribute to an interdisciplinary MA in English Studies. In addition, we run a highly successful suite of Masters programmes by Distance Learning (see above) and we provide supervision to a thriving postgraduate research student community of around 40 students.

English Language and Applied Linguistics (ELALS) Staff in the School of English The field of English Language and Applied Linguistics (ELALS) has seen strong growth on several fronts in the past five years. Investment by the School and the University in this area of teaching and research has both strengthened research profiles and helped considerably in meeting School and University international recruitment targets.

The **Linguistic Profiling for Professionals business unit** is the latest innovative initiative of the University's investment in this area. It is directed by Louise Mullany, Professor of

Sociolinguistics and the School's Director of Business and External Engagement. Further information is available at: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/lipp/home.aspx>

The ELALS area of the School of English currently includes the following members of staff:

Chairs (**Svenja Adolphs, Zoltán Dörnyei, Norbert Schmitt, Louise Mullany and Peter Stockwell**);

Associate Professors (**Kathy Conklin and Violeta Sotirova**);

Assistant Professors/Lecturers (**Sarah Atkins, Sarah Grandage, Kevin Harvey, Daniel Hunt, Lucy Jones, Christine Muir and Dominic Thompson**)

Research Fellows (**Spencer Hazel**)

Teaching Associate (**Malgorzata Chalupnik, Luke Collins and Helen Hargreaves**)

In addition, we have research support from Emeritus Professors (**Ron Carter and Mike McCarthy**), an Honorary Professor (**Katie Wales**), as well as many Teaching Affiliates.

General Information

The School of English

The School of English was one of the first departments to be established when the University was formally opened in 1881 and is located on the ground floor of the Trent Building, University Park Campus.

We have a first-rate, international reputation for outstanding teaching and research, as demonstrated by our School's current UK and world rankings:

- 7th for English in *The Times* and *Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016*
- 6th for Creative Writing in *The Complete University Guide 2017*
- 7th for English in *The Complete University Guide 2017*
- 9th in the UK for 'research power' (REF 2014)

We offer a unique combination of English disciplines, including literature from the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods to the present day, English language from its origins to contemporary and applied contexts, drama and performance, and creative writing.

At present, there are currently 50 lecturing staff in the School, 5 Teaching Associates and 4 research staff. We offer both Single and Joint Honours courses at BA level, a range of taught postgraduate Masters courses (many through web-based Distance Learning) and research supervision in all areas. We have approximately 950 undergraduate students, 70 undertaking on-site Masters programmes and 200 on distance learning Masters programmes. There are approximately 90 full- and part-time research students working towards the higher degrees of PhD within a range of topics, with most full-time members of staff engaged in postgraduate supervision. These are students on our Nottingham campus. The School also has Schools of English at The University of Nottingham campus in Ningbo, China (UNNC) and at The University of Nottingham campus in Malaysia (UNMC).

Research in the School

The following research groupings in the School form a focus for lectures, conferences, seminars, grant applications and other collaborative activities:

The **Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics (CRAL)** is an interdepartmental research unit comprised of scholars from the School of English, Computer Science, Mathematics, Psychology, and Education. The School also houses two of the largest corpora of spoken English and spoken business English in the world, both funded in co-operation with Cambridge University. Academic and research staff from the School also form part of a recently established professional communication research cluster and business unit, *Linguistic Profiling for Professionals*, based in the Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics to provide bespoke consultancy and training.

The **Centre for Regional Literature and Culture (CRLC)** involves a series of fresh initiatives relating to regional cultures at both local (i.e. East Midlands) and national levels. The Centre encompasses work on Byron, Southey, the interdisciplinary Landscape, Space, Place Research Group, and the D. H. Lawrence Research Centre.

The **Centre for the Study of the Viking Age (CSVA)** fosters, develops and coordinates research into all aspects of the Viking Age, with special emphasis on Scandinavian contacts with the British Isles, and on literary and linguistic sources for the period.

The **Institute for Name-Studies (INS)** was established in September 2002 as an umbrella for the various research activities of the English Place-Name Survey (founded 1923) and the Centre for English Name-Studies (established 1992). The Institute for Name-Studies houses the library and research resources of the English Place-Name Society.

The **Institute for Medieval Research (IMR)** is University-wide and includes all the members of the Medieval Section within the School. This institute hosts inter-disciplinary seminars and conferences as well as convening an MA in Medieval Studies. The peer-reviewed journal *Nottingham Medieval Studies* is also edited and published by the Institute.

Research Funding in the School

The School has been successful in attracting substantial funding from The Leverhulme Trust, the AHRC, the British Academy, ESRC, EPSRC, the Wellcome Institute, JISC and other external bodies. The University has a number of internal research funding schemes and support for both internal and external funding applications is provided by the University's Centre for Advanced Studies (CAS).

Teaching in the School

Undergraduate teaching

English Language and Applied Linguistics
Medieval Studies (including the history of the language)
Literature from 1500 to the present day (including literary theory)
Drama and Performance
Creative Writing

The curriculum emphasises a wide range of disciplines within the general areas of English, in which Year 1 operates as a foundation years introducing the students to these disciplines, while in Years 2 and 3 students progressively select a range of specialist modules.

Masters Programmes

The School offers a number of specialist taught Masters programmes including Applied Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching; Literary Linguistics; Viking and Anglo-Saxon Studies; English Literature; and Creative Writing. In addition, the MA in English Studies allows students to combine modules from different areas, particularly language, literature and medieval studies. There are also joint Masters programmes with other Schools, including Communication and Entrepreneurship.

E-learning

Over the last few years, the School has invested in the development of web-based e-learning materials not least on its flagship first year undergraduate module Academic Community which all full-time members of academic staff contribute to and participate in. Several Masters courses can be studied via the web (Applied Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, English Studies and Health Communication, Modern English Language, and Literary Linguistics), currently taken by students from around 40 countries.

All undergraduate and many postgraduate (on-site) modules in the School are supported by the virtual learning environment Moodle.

Careers and Employability

In 2012-13 the School of English was awarded a prestigious Teaching Development Grant by the Higher Education Academy for our project, 'Embedding Employability in English: work related learning in the creative industries', to address two key challenges:

- How we can create opportunities for our students to develop vocational skills and experience work-related learning in the context of the particular skills and knowledges being developed through their subject-based study of English
- How we can ensure that such work-related activity is appropriately framed and supported to ensure 'learning' takes place, particularly as the numbers of students involved increases.

The School now had a dedicated Placements and Employability Administrator to support our work to develop placements and employability opportunities for all students.

The University of Nottingham

The School is located on the 330-acre University Park campus just within the western boundary of the city. Nottingham is one of the most popular universities in the UK and consequently, the quality of students is very high. There are over 34,000 full-time and part-time students taught across five faculties on the UK campuses. The University is a global-leading, research-intensive university with campuses in the UK, Malaysia and China.

The University is an ideal environment for scholarly, cultural and athletic activities, with an Arts Centre for music and art, a large Sports Centre and a swimming pool. Good quality housing and schools are available locally. There is easy access to the Peak District National Park and excellent rail connections to all parts of the country. The local airport is East Midlands airport.

For further information about the University, see:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk>

For campus maps and other information, see:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/about/campuses/maps.php>