

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM**  
**Role Profile Form**

<b>Job Title:</b>	Associate Professor of American Studies
<b>School/Department:</b>	Department of American & Canadian Studies (ACS), School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies (CLAS)
<b>Job Family and Level:</b>	Research and Teaching Level 6
<b>Contract Status:</b>	Permanent, available from 1 September 2017
<b>Hours of Work:</b>	Full-time (36.25 hours per week)
<b>Location:</b>	Trent Building, University Park campus
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Head of School

**Purpose of the Role:**

This permanent post offers the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the future development of American and Canadian Studies in the UK's leading department in the field. The largest unit of its kind in Europe, the Department of American & Canadian Studies (ACS) has a reputation for top-quality interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research. We foster a vibrant academic community, a dynamic cohort of postgraduates, and thriving undergraduate programmes. ACS was the highest ranked American Studies department in the country for research power and research impact in REF2014, and achieved 100% satisfaction in the most recent student satisfaction survey.

Applications are welcome from candidates specialising in any area of American Studies, across all periods of American literature, history and culture. We strongly encourage interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approaches, versatility, and innovative research-led teaching. Expertise that expands our existing research clusters will be particularly valuable.

Candidates must have a record of sustained publication, a substantial national and developing international reputation in American and Canadian Studies, and extensive experience of teaching and curriculum design in the field of American and Canadian Studies. Ability to teach in one or more of the following areas is desirable: colonial, 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century U.S. history; Canadian history; Indigenous Studies; American literature. The successful candidate will contribute to the university's research culture, impact and outreach, including grant capture; identify opportunities for the development of new research projects and collaborations; design and deliver innovative teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and take responsibility, individually and as part of a team, for the maintenance and development of our high teaching standards and curriculum design; supervise research students; and undertake appropriate administrative duties and leadership roles within the Department, the School and the Faculty of Arts, including organisation, management and strategic planning.

<b>Main Responsibilities</b>	
1.	<p><b>Research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To maintain and further develop an ongoing national and international reputation as a research leader in American &amp; Canadian Studies, through original research work. Disseminate and explain research findings through leading peer-reviewed national and international publications, and present or exhibit at national/international conferences and other similar events.</li> <li>▪ To develop proposals for research projects which will make a significant impact by leading to an increase in knowledge and understanding and the discovery or development of new explanations, insights, concepts or processes.</li> <li>▪ To deliver knowledge exchange and impact that has the potential to underpin a REF impact case study.</li> <li>▪ To provide academic and organisational leadership to those working within American &amp; Canadian Studies research areas, by for example co-ordinating resources and the work of others to ensure the effective delivery of research projects and agree objectives within the team.</li> <li>▪ To lead major funding bids which develop and sustain research support for American &amp; Canadian Studies and develop research initiatives to foster collaboration and generate income.</li> <li>▪ To contribute to the development of research strategies and the teaching and learning policy in the School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies.</li> <li>▪ Disseminate conceptual and complex ideas to a wide variety of audiences using appropriate media and methods to promote understanding.</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>Teaching &amp; Learning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To prepare and deliver American &amp; Canadian Studies teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as directed.</li> <li>▪ To recruit and supervise PhD students.</li> <li>▪ To contribute to curriculum leadership, developing course proposals within the teaching and learning programmes of ACS.</li> <li>▪ To resolve problems affecting the quality of course delivery and student progress within the area of American &amp; Canadian Studies, referring more serious matters to others, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Administration &amp; Citizenship:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To take responsibility for administrative and leadership duties as required by the Head of Department.</li> <li>▪ To act as a line manager (including performance review) and personal mentor to peers and colleagues, where appropriate, and provide expert advice and coaching to colleagues and students.</li> <li>▪ To represent the Department on various committees and working groups in the wider University and outside of the University, managing or monitoring assets and budgets allocated as part of the role.</li> <li>▪ To lead and develop internal and external relationships to foster future collaboration.</li> </ul>

<b>Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications &amp; Experience</b>		
	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Qualifications/ Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD or equivalent in relevant subject area.</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equivalent extensive professional/research experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership of a professional body, where appropriate.</li> <li>• Higher education teaching qualification or equivalent.</li> </ul>

<b>Skills/Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information.</li> <li>• Proven ability to provide effective leadership and management of groups and teaching activities.</li> <li>• Proven abilities in effective leadership, and planning, building and resourcing a team.</li> <li>• Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a team.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commitment to interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and research-led teaching.</li> <li>• The ability to teach colonial, eighteenth or nineteenth century U.S. history; Canadian history; Indigenous Studies; or American literature.</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive research and teaching experience with an established national and growing international reputation in the field of American &amp; Canadian Studies.</li> <li>• Strong track record of high-quality peer-reviewed publications.</li> <li>• Experience in delivering knowledge exchange and developing pathways to impact.</li> <li>• Experience in developing and devising new research programmes, models, techniques and methods.</li> <li>• A proven record of excellence in undergraduate and/or graduate teaching; commitment to delivery of quality services to students.</li> <li>• Previous experience of the supervision and pastoral care of students at all levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated success in obtaining research funding.</li> <li>• An understanding of University management systems and the wider higher education environment.</li> <li>• Previous experience in the development of policy and administrative matters within a University.</li> </ul>



*The University of Nottingham strongly endorses Athena SWAN principles, with commitment from all levels of the organisation in furthering women's careers. It is our mission to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.*

## **FURTHER PARTICULARS**

### **School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies Department of American & Canadian Studies**

#### **The City**

Nottingham is an attractive city of some half a million inhabitants, centrally located and with excellent access to all parts of the country and Europe. It has a varied and relatively low-priced housing stock, good schools, high-quality shopping and sporting facilities, and lively cultural activities (two theatres, an arts cinema, a number of cinema complexes and a major concert hall). The City is close to the M1 and M42 motorways, providing rapid access to London, the North, the West Midlands, the South West and South Wales. There is a regular weekday train service to London with an average journey time of 1 hour 45 minutes. East Midlands Airport is only 20 minutes from the city by car and has frequent flights to a wide range of European destinations, including Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Rome, Amsterdam and Dublin. There are also frequent flights within the UK to Edinburgh, Glasgow and Belfast. For other destinations, Birmingham Airport is less than 1 hour's drive on the M42.

#### **The University**

The University of Nottingham moved to its present site to the west of the City in 1926 and obtained its Royal Charter in 1948. A second purpose-built campus, approximately one mile

from University Park, opened in Autumn 1999. In addition, the University has two overseas campuses, one located in Ningbo, Zhejiang province, China, and the second situated near Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The University currently has a combined undergraduate and postgraduate student population of almost 40,000, divided between the Faculties of Arts, Law and Social Sciences, Education, Science, Engineering, Medicine and Health Sciences. With its attractive campus and the location of all halls of residence on the two campuses, the University has proved very popular with undergraduate candidates. The University's Graduate School, founded in 1994, acts as an umbrella for the recruitment, training and well-being of a rapidly expanding postgraduate body. The University is strongly committed to its position as a major teaching and research university, and promotes a strong research ethos through the proactive Strategy Groups of the University Research Committee, and through excellent study leave arrangements, generous research and conference funding, and good IT and library facilities.

### **The Faculty of Arts**

The Faculty of Arts is divided into three budget-holding Schools: English Studies; Humanities (Archaeology, Classics, Music, Philosophy, Theology, History, Art History); Cultures, Languages and Area Studies (American and Canadian Studies, Culture, Film and Media, and Modern Languages including French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, Russian and Slavonic Studies, the Language Centre). The Faculty comprises around 4400 undergraduate and 670 postgraduate students, and an annual undergraduate intake of nearly 1350 students. The current Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Arts is Professor Jeremy Gregory (Theology & Religious Studies).

### **The School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies**

The School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies began its life as a budgetary unit on 1 August 2011. Its current Head is Nicola McLelland, Professor of German & History of Linguistics. The Head of School manages the School in close consultation with the School Manager and the heads of its constituent departments. She is responsible for the global budget, including salary costs, although annual operating budgets are devolved to departments. She is also responsible for all staffing matters within the School, in consultation with Heads of Department, who continue to oversee the teaching, research and administrative functions of their respective departments.

### **The Department of American & Canadian Studies**

The largest department of its kind in Europe, the Department of American & Canadian Studies (ACS) has a vibrant academic community, with thriving undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, and a teaching and research culture of the highest quality. There are 17 permanent members of academic staff in the Department and two postdoctoral fellows. ACS was the highest ranked American & Canadian Studies department in the country for research power and impact in the last Research Excellence Framework (REF2014). The Department hosts the editorship of the *British Journal of Canadian Studies* and co-edits the *Journal of American Studies*. Many of our faculty and postgraduates are active in the University's Centre for Research in Race and Rights. For full details of staff and their research interests please visit:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/american/stafflookup/index.aspx>

The Department has a dynamic cohort of postgraduates, with 20 to 25 full- and part-time candidates registered in any one year. A weekly work-in-progress seminar forms the focal point for a lively postgraduate culture, complemented by reading groups, an annual postgraduate retreat, and a regular program of visiting speakers.

American and Canadian Studies has a thriving undergraduate programme, with around 320 students currently registered. We offer an interdisciplinary Single Honours programme, as well as Joint Honours degrees with English, History, Film and Television Studies, Politics, and Latin American Studies. Students can choose a programme of 3 or 4 years' duration, the latter incorporating a year of study abroad at one of the Department's partner institutions in Canada or the U.S. The University has a modular degree structure, with two teaching semesters superimposed upon three terms. The Department achieved 100% satisfaction in the most recent student satisfaction survey.