

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

## Recruitment Role Profile Form

**Job Title:** Research Fellow in Linguistics and Professional Communication

**School/Department:** School of English

**Salary:** £28,982 - £37,768 per annum, depending on skills and experience, salary progression beyond this scale is subject to performance

**Job Family and Level:** Research and Teaching Level 4

**Contract Status:** This is a 2.5 year fixed term post (1 November 2016 to 31 March 2019)

**Hours of Work:** Full-time

**Location:** Trent Building, University Park

**Reporting to:** Professor Louise Mullany, Director, *Linguistic Profiling for Professionals* Business Unit and Professor Josephine Guy, Head of School

### The Purpose of the Role:

We are seeking to appoint a Research Fellow in Linguistics and Professional Communication. This post is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), with funding fully guaranteed for the full 2.5 year term of the post. This is an excellent opportunity to join an established research cluster and business unit, *Linguistic Profiling for Professionals* (LiPP), based in the Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics (CRAL), School of English.

The successful candidate will play a key role in research and business engagement as part of a 10.1 million ERDF grant, *Enabling Innovation*. This project involves a series of innovative business engagement initiatives with local businesses based in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The project is designed to give local businesses access to professional communication expertise to enhance their business opportunities, based upon cutting-edge sociolinguistics research. See the following press release for further details:

<http://ingenuitygateway.com/enabling-innovation-announcement/>

Candidates must have a PhD in a relevant area prior to taking up the post. Expertise in one or more of the following areas would be a distinct advantage: the sociolinguistics of the workplace, business communication, organisational communication, linguistic pragmatics. The ability to analyse data using corpus linguistics software and/or eye-tracking technology is desirable, though not essential. Previous experience of working in industry or with different stakeholders outside of academia would be a distinct advantage. Previous experience of working in industry or with different stakeholders outside of academia would be a distinct advantage.

| <b>Main Responsibilities</b> |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1.                           | Deliver professional communication engagement initiatives to a wide range of local stakeholders through workshops and consultancies, as a key part of the <i>Linguistic Profiling for Professionals</i> team                    |
| 2.                           | Demonstrate proven linguistics research skills and knowledge to assist in the development of research-led, team-focused projects and contribute to the wider research culture and environment of LiPP, CRAL and the University. |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 3. | Participate in the dissemination of research and the advancement of knowledge exchange through impact and external engagement activities linked to the LiPP unit.   |
| 4. | Play a key role with the Business Unit's programme of activities in relation to the recruitment of businesses and organisations and assist in maintaining long-term, successful relationships with the client-base. |
| 5. | Undertake relevant administrative duties within the LiPP unit.  |

### Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

|                                      | Essential   | Desirable   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Qualifications/<br/>Education</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PhD in a relevant area of Linguistics</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher Education Academy Fellow status or equivalent</li> <li>PGCHE or equivalent teaching qualification.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Skills/Training</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to consistently develop research area as a team</li> <li>Flexibility to collaborate with colleagues and different stakeholders</li> <li>Ability to deliver research-based business engagement workshops and consultancies on professional communication to clients from a variety of businesses and organisations</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of successful administrative skills</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Experience</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent track-record of publishing or other evidence of disseminating work</li> <li>Experience in relevant subjects at HE level</li> <li>Experience of delivering research-based consultancy</li> <li>Participation in professional and academic networks</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of writing and/or delivering online course materials</li> <li>Evidence of potential to generate research grant income</li> <li>Participation in professional and academic networks</li> </ul> |
| <b>Personal<br/>Attributes</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to work effectively as part of a team</li> <li>Excellent verbal and written communication skills</li> <li>Excellent presentation skills</li> <li>Ability to work to tight deadlines and prioritise tasks</li> <li>Ability to develop research-led business engagement initiatives</li> <li>Flexibility to collaborate with colleagues</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>Other</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreement to undertake occasional working visit to overseas campuses, if required by the Business Unit and the School</li> </ul>   |   |

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Professor Louise Mullany, email: [louise.mullany@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:louise.mullany@nottingham.ac.uk)

Please note that applications sent directly to this email address will not be accepted.

Further information about the School is available at: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english>

Further information about the LiPP is available at: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/lipp>

### **Selection Process**

The interview process will include a presentation of research and a formal interview.

Due to the requirements of the UK Border and Immigration Agency, applicants who are not UK or EEA nationals and whose immigration status entitles them to work without restriction in the UK will be considered on an equal basis with UK and EEA nationals. Other non-UK or non-EEA nationals whose employment will require permission to work subject to a resident labour market test may only be considered if there are no suitable UK or EEA national candidates for the post. Please visit <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/> for more information.

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

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

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

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 online programmes (MAs in Applied Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, English Studies, 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), currently directed by Svenja Adolphs and Kathy Conklin. Research groups within CRAL include *The Professional Communication Group* (directed by Louise Mullany), the *Corpus Linguistics Workshop*, the *Bilingualism Research Group* (directed by Kathy Conklin and Walter van Heuven in Psychology), *Vocabulary Research Group* (directed by Norbert Schmitt), *Literary Linguistics group* (directed by Peter Stockwell), *Health Language Research Group* (directed by Kevin Harvey, Svenja Adolphs and Louise Mullany),

### **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.

The Linguistic Profiling for Professionals Business Unit is directed by Louise Mullany, Professor of Sociolinguistics and the School's Director of Business and External Engagement. Within the business unit, the successful candidate will join the academic team, consisting of Professor Mullany, Dr Spencer Hazel, Dr Sarah Atkins and Dr Luke Collins, along with Kay Snowley (Business Development Manager) and Sunita Taylor, (LiPP Administrator).

This new appointment will also join a well-established group of pre-existing ELALS staff in the School of English in the UK, consisting of:

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

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

Assistant Professors/Lecturers (**Sarah Atkins, Sarah Grandage, Kevin Harvey, Daniel Hunt, Lucy Jones, Ana Pellicer-Sánchez, Dominic Thompson**);

Research Fellows (**Malgorzata Chalupnik and Spencer Hazel**)

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

We have sister research centres, CRALC (Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics, China) at the University of Nottingham's Ningbo campus (UNNC) and CRAL Malaysia at the University of Nottingham's Kuala Lumpur Campus. There is an established group of staff at our international campuses who have research expertise in professional communication, including workplace communication (**Du Ping and Simon Harrison**), health communication (**Mukul Saxena**) and gender and professional communication (**Melissa Yoong**).

## **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*
- 6<sup>th</sup> 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 English and American Studies and 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>