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UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN

Lecturer in Modern European History

School of Divinity, History, Philosophy and Art History

Closing date: **14 December 2022**

Interview date: **11 January 2023**

Reference number: **DHP117A**



INTRODUCTION

The School of Divinity, History, Philosophy, and Art History is seeking to appoint a Lecturer in Modern European History (1.0 FTE, open-ended) from 1 May 2023, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Applicants should have a research and teaching focus on any aspect of continental Modern European History from c. 1850. The successful candidate will contribute to the History Department's research profile through publications and grant income generation.

We welcome all applicants, but preference may be given to applicants whose expertise broadens the existing modern European expertise of the Department, which currently includes German History, Russian History, modern European monarchies, WWI, and Polish-Lithuanian Studies.

The School hosts a number of active interdisciplinary research centres, including the Centre for Global Security and Governance (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/global-security/>), the Centre for Polish-Lithuanian Studies (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sdhp/centre-for-polishlithuanian-studies-2040.php>) and the Research Institute of Irish and Scottish Studies (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/riiss/>).

The University is keen to foster interdisciplinary and inclusive research, with significant potential for social and cultural impact, guided by its 'Aberdeen 2040' strategic plan (<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/2040/>). Preference may be given to candidates able to offer evidence of ongoing impact, supportive of an impact 'case study' in a future REF submission.

The successful candidate will contribute to teaching across the undergraduate History programme and develop specialist honours courses focusing on their field of expertise. They will have the ability to contribute fully to the teaching of continental European History in the modern period. The appointee will supervise PhDs and work with colleagues to develop postgraduate offerings. The appointment will be made at lecturer level with expectation that applicants will have an academic publishing profile of demonstrable excellence.

The Lecturer will be expected to teach across the four-year Scottish undergraduate MA, to contribute to taught postgraduate courses, especially the MLitt in Modern History, and to recruit and supervise postgraduate research students, including those based overseas who may opt for 'distance learning'.

The School offers a wide range of undergraduate courses leading to a Designated MA (Hons) after three years or, more usually, a single or joint MA (Honours) after four years. Approximately one hundred and thirty students graduate with honours degrees in History each year. The History Department, which currently comprises about twenty staff, runs various taught Postgraduate Masters courses, including those in Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Viking and Medieval Nordic Studies, Scottish Heritage (online) and, as noted above, Modern History.

The History Department is strongly committed to equality and diversity. The successful candidate will enrich and add diversity to the Department, which is currently seeking to decolonize the curriculum.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The main purpose of this role is to fulfil teaching and supervision requirements of the History Department at Aberdeen and to contribute to the research excellence of both the Department and the School of History, Divinity, Philosophy, and Art History. An important part of this post will be in the continuing development and delivery of the History programmes, especially in continental European History from c. 1850 to the present day, to extend our chronological, geographic and thematic coverage of a field popular with students at all levels. The successful candidate will be expected to have a demonstrable ability to teach Modern European History and contribute broadly to the undergraduate teaching programme in History, as well as the potential make a significant contribution to our taught postgraduate Modern History MLitt, and to support and supervise the work of postgraduate research students. They should have the potential to be a committed and innovative teacher, able to inspire students both in person and in an online environment.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- *Contribution to the research excellence of the School and delivery of personal research of a level and quality to enhance the next Research Excellence Framework submission, potentially including its portfolio of impact 'case studies'*
- *Teaching at level 1 and 2 (sub-honours), specifically on our level 1 course 'Europe in the Twentieth Century'*
- *Developing and delivering an option course on an aspect of Modern European History at level 3 (junior honours)*
- *Developing a 'Special Subject' course at level 4 (senior honours)*
- *Teaching at level 4 (senior honours), including dissertation supervision*
- *Supporting level 5 (postgraduate taught) Modern History MLitt by developing new courses and contributing to existing courses*
- *Recruiting and supervising PhD students in Modern European History and related areas*
- *General academic administration*

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

Applicants should have a proven research record in Modern European History from c. 1850 to the present, and an ability to teach across the discipline.

Applicants must have a PhD in a relevant field, have experience of teaching in higher education, and possess excellent oral and written communication skills.

We welcome applications from individuals whose background or characteristics have historically been underrepresented in the discipline of History.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7, £43,414 - £51,805 and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period.

This post is open-ended with a preferred start date of 1 April 2023, or as soon as possible thereafter.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Storey, HR Adviser (e-mail: lauren.storey@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

The candidate appointed to this post may be eligible for homeworking on an occasional or regular basis. For more information, please refer to our [Homeworking Policy](#).

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:

Grade 7

£43,414 - £51,805

HOURS OF WORK:

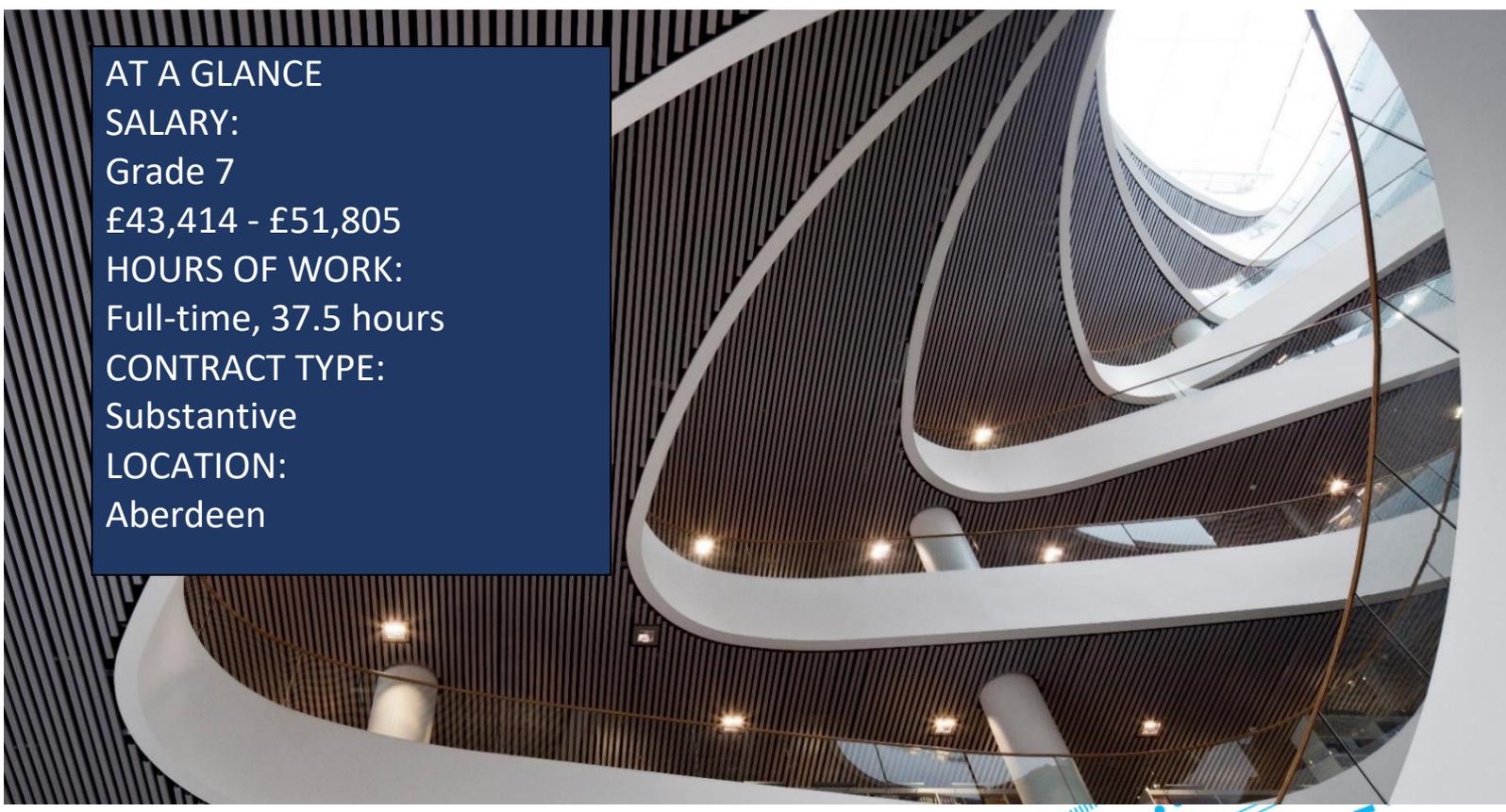
Full-time, 37.5 hours

CONTRACT TYPE:

Substantive

LOCATION:

Aberdeen



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<p>Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional recognition by Advance HE, or other recognised teaching qualification
<p>Work and Other relevant experience (including training) e.g. Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching experience in higher education • Demonstrable ability to teach Modern European History to honours level • Ability to contribute to MLitt in Modern History • Track record of excellent published research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of ongoing research impact, supportive of an impact 'case study' for a future REF submission • Postgraduate teaching and course design experience • Experience in developing and supporting teaching online • Capacity for interdisciplinary collaborations across teaching and research
<p>Personal qualities and abilities e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent oral and written communication skills • Excellent IT skills • Ability to work independently and as part of a team • Ability to build rapport with students and impart enthusiasm for the subject • Willingness and ability to undertake administrative duties 	
<p>Other e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</p>		

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others

The University of Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.



CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to uphold the principals of the foundational purpose. We remain committed to delivering positive change both locally and globally. We work together and with our partners in an interdisciplinary way, catalysing world-leading research in our areas of strength: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing. We are investing in our future and have committed £100m to upgrading our campus, including the new fully digitised Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King's Quarter and a new Business School building. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables¹ and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction².

¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023

² National Student Survey (NSS) 2022

ABERDEEN 2040

On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched [Aberdeen 2040](#), our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

- **Inclusive**
We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.
- **Interdisciplinary**
We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.
- **International**
We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.
- **Sustainable**
We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances.

We work responsibly.

OUR EDUCATION

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

OUR RESEARCH

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen's Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.

INTERNATIONAL

Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students³.

³ Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021



IMPACT

In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2022 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals⁴.

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland's best institution for environmental research⁵.

⁴ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022
⁵ QS World University Rankings 2022

THE SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY AND ART HISTORY

History is one of the disciplines within the School of Divinity, History, Philosophy and Art History, which is led by a Head of School and provides a locus for interdisciplinary teaching and research, as well as for support of teaching, research and supervision. There are joint teaching and research projects conducted between all departments of the School.

History at Aberdeen is a friendly medium-sized research-active unit. Our research spans a diverse range of areas chronologically, geographically, and thematically. Academic staff contribute to the research culture of the University, notably through participation in Centres for Early Modern Studies, Viking and Medieval Nordic Studies, History and Philosophy of Science, Technology and Medicine, Global Security and Governance, Irish and Scottish Studies, and Poland-Lithuania (amongst others). Staff engage closely with the University's historically significant museums and special collections. We pride ourselves on our active engagement with external stakeholders, locally and internationally.

Our highly rated and popular undergraduate teaching programme offers single- and joint-honours History degrees, and a range of innovative, student-oriented courses. Approximately half of our honours students take joint-honours degrees with other disciplines across the University. All departmental staff are engaged in teaching and student support. Departmental activities include student reading parties, as well as research seminars and conferences. History staff collaborate with others across and outside the University on teaching, research grants, publications, and outreach activities.

History staff and postgraduates are located in their own building, Crombie Annexe, at the centre of Aberdeen's historic King's College campus. The department sits within a School that incorporates Divinity and Religious Studies, Philosophy and Art History. The School offers a suite of taught undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and a strong postgraduate research programme, with over 250 PhD students. Academic programmes and activities are supported by the Head of School and the School support team.

The History department is strongly committed to equality and diversity.

ABERDEEN AND ABERDEENSHIRE

Scotland's third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland's top businesses are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including [His Majesty's Theatre](#), [Music Hall](#), [Art Gallery](#), [the P&J Arena](#), [Museums](#), and [Beach Leisure Centre](#). The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find out more visit www.visitabdn.com

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php>.

The University's commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE's Race Equality Charter, affirming the University's commitment to the charter's aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using [contact SCOTLAND-BSL](#).

The University is delighted to be accredited as a [Disability Confident](#) employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible, and supportive environment.

www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277

HOW TO APPLY

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is **14 December 2022**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Dr Ben Marsden, Head of History Department
01224 272637
b.marsden@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Marsden

Please quote reference number DHP117A on all correspondence