Job Description

Job Title: Teaching Fellow in Roman History

Department: History

Location: Bloomsbury Campus, London

Grade: 7

Start date: 01 September 2020

Duration: 36 months (in the first instance)

The appointment: 1.0 FTE

Reports to:
Head of Department

Context

UCL History, which dates back to 1830, is consistently ranked as one of the best history departments in the world for quality of both its research and teaching. The department has around 40 permanent academic staff complemented by a team of Teaching Fellows and Graduate Teaching Assistants. All aspects of departmental activity are facilitated and supported by a professional services team of 7. Departmental life is enriched by a number of Research Associates working on specific funded projects. We also host early career researchers.

The department’s undergraduate student numbers are around 600; with a sizable graduate student body of 100 taught graduate students and 60 research students.

Most undergraduates take a BA in History, and we also offer Ancient History, History with a European Language and History with a Year Abroad. Our taught masters degrees are MA in History, MA in European History, MA in Ancient History, MA in Transnational Studies, MA in Chinese Health and Humanity, MA in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and MA in Intellectual History and the History of Political Thought.

We are based in four fine mid-Victorian town houses. Please note that their design will pose difficulties for individuals whose mobility is impaired.

www.ucl.ac.uk/history
Main purpose of the job
The Department seeks to appoint a Teaching Fellow in Roman History to cover the following modules, teaching and other duties during the period 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2023. The modules listed in this job description are indicative of the typical range, scope and load for this assignment, but the detailed content of the modules can be adapted to suit the post holder’s interests, while the portfolio of modules will be determined year to year by the Head of Department, and in consultation with the post holder.

1. **To convene the following BA level modules:**
   
i) **The Roman Republic c.350 BC – 44 BC (HIST0156)**

   The course, covering a chronological range of approximately three centuries, aims to study Rome from its emergence as a leading city-state in Italy to the eventual decline of its republican system.

   A particular emphasis will be given to the investigation of the values that informed Roman republican society. The course is structured as follows: the first half of the lectures will focus on the evolution and transformation of Roman society analysed in its political, economic, social and cultural aspects. The emergence of and changes in political and social values will be highlighted. The second half of the lectures will concentrate on the factors that led to the fall of the Republic, paying particular attention to the evolution of the ideas previously presented as part of an ideological system. In the classes we will analyse specific topics connected to the lecture and will have the opportunity to handle different kinds of ancient sources (literary, archaeological and epigraphical).

   This ‘Survey’ BA module is taught over terms one and two in a weekly one hour lecture format (up to 60 students) with weekly tutorial classes of 15. Assessment is by three hour unseen examination and a 2,500 word essay.

   ii) **Roman Democracy: Myth or Reality (HIST0015)**

   Was the late Roman Republic a democracy? This course examines this controversial question by investigating Roman politics through the lens of classical political theory, applying ideas about liberty, citizenship, equality, and form of government to the real political practices of the Romans of the first century BC. Beginning with the political thought of influential ancient authors such as Plato, Aristotle, Polybius, and Cicero, the course progresses with a survey of the everyday political environment of first-century Rome, which provides the context for an in-depth analysis of republican ideology. It continues by examining the ways in which the image of the Roman Republic and its associated political ideology have been constructed and applied in political theory across the centuries, tracing their metamorphosis in the writings of Machiavelli, 17th-century English republicans, the defenders of the American constitution, and the French Enlightenment.

   This ‘Thematic’ BA module is taught over terms one and two in a weekly two hour seminar format (two groups, each of 15 students). Assessment is by three hour unseen examination and two 2,500 word essays.

   iii) **An ‘Advanced’ seminar module**

   The ‘Advanced’ seminar module is taught in a weekly two-hour seminar format, in the second term (one group, 15 students). The ‘Advanced’ module to be taught by the post holder will be agreed between the post holder and the Head of Department following appointment.

   The ‘Advanced’ module is assessed by two 2,500 word essays.
2. To convene the following MA module:

   i) Propaganda and Ideology in Rome (HIST0414/HIST0436)

   The aim of this course is to analyse the role played by political ideas in the Roman Republic and early Principate. Beginning with the study of concepts such as *Fides*, *Virtus*, and *Honos* (Trust, Virtue, and Honour) that are first attested in Rome in the third century BC as deities, the course will proceed by analysing other values such as *Concordia* and *Libertas* (Concord and Liberty) that, although originally attested according to our literary tradition in the early Republic, also play an essential role throughout the Republic and in the writing of Roman thinkers of the first century BC. The most prolific period of republican activity in establishing these cults of abstract ideas corresponds to the age of so-called Roman imperialism, which saw the conquest of the Italian peninsula, the defeat of Carthage, and the establishment of Roman dominion over the Hellenistic East. Therefore, the course will study these ideas within the context of Roman contacts with the Greek world both of South of Italy and Greece mainland, to whose intellectual stimuli the Romans constantly reacted and with whom they always negotiated, continuously re-elaborating their intellectual framework.

   This MA module will be taught in term one in a weekly two hour seminar format (one group of 12 students). Assessment is by essay (4000 word essay/5000 word essay).

3. To act as primary supervisor for MA dissertations.
4. To act as Personal Tutor.
5. To carry out administrative responsibilities within the department, as directed by the Head of Department.

At the current time, UCL is expecting to conduct as much as possible of its teaching face-to-face in academic year 2020-21 but also preparing to move to online-only delivery if and when it is necessary to do so. Training and support to do this will be provided.
Duties and responsibilities:

1. Teach lectures, seminars, and tutorials for the modules as specified on this job description.
2. Prepare appropriately for teaching each lecture, seminar or tutorial.
3. Teach lectures, seminars or tutorials in accordance with the published departmental timetable relating to the relevant modules.
4. Adhere to assigned teaching schedules as closely as possible. Start and end lectures, seminars and tutorials on time. Where rescheduling is unavoidable, inform the Programmes Administrator as early as possible.
5. Report sickness absence to the Departmental Manager on the first day of absence.
6. Prepare and update class materials on Moodle.
7. Liaise with the Director of Teaching about problems encountered within modules.
8. Hold weekly office hours (at least one hour per week) for student drop-in.
9. Mark formative coursework for the named modules, and return this promptly (within the timeframe prescribed by the Director of Teaching), providing students with constructive and comprehensive written feedback.
10. Adhere to the departmental requirement that each student be provided with one-to-one essay feedback (in person).
11. Mark examinations as allocated by the Chair of the appropriate Board of Examiners. The post-holder is required to undertake a proportionate allocation of second marking/moderation, as determined by the Chair of the appropriate Board of Examiners, in addition to the first marking allocation.
12. Keep a register of student attendance at tutorials.
13. Complete student module reports, where required, for each individual student on a termly basis.
14. Email any student who is absent from a tutorial without excuse.
15. Refer any persistent student absence to the relevant Programmes Administrator.
16. Provide academic guidance to students attending tutorials.
17. Act as a first point of contact for students and refer students as appropriate (e.g. to the Departmental Tutor).
18. Attend UCL training sessions for Teaching Fellows; and attend all required training sessions arranged by the department (as determined by the Director of Teaching).
19. Engage with peer observation of teaching as required.
20. Fulfil appropriate probationary and appraisal requirements.

In Addition

21. The postholder will be expected to carry out any duties as are within the scope and purpose of the job as requested by the line manager, Director of Teaching, Head of Department.
22. The postholder will be expected to actively follow UCL policies including Equal Opportunities policy.
23. The postholder will be expected to maintain an awareness and observation of Fire, Health & Safety Regulations.
24. As duties and responsibilities change, this job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the postholder.
# Person specification

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<th>Qualifications</th>
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<td>PhD in Roman History</td>
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<tr>
<th>Experience and personal attributes</th>
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<td>Previous experience of teaching undergraduate and graduate students in this period and specialism</td>
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<td>Previous experience of small group teaching</td>
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<td>Previous experience of online teaching</td>
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<td>Commitment to high-quality teaching and fostering a positive learning environment for students</td>
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<td>Excellent verbal and written communication skills</td>
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<td>Excellent presentation skills</td>
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<td>Experience of using on-line learning environments</td>
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<td>Good organisational skills and the ability to meet deadlines set by the relevant departmental officer</td>
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<td>Proven ability to manage time and work to strict deadlines</td>
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<td>Diplomacy and tact when dealing with students or pastoral care issues</td>
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<td>Experience of acting in Personal Tutor capacity</td>
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<td>Experience of marking (formative, summative, examinations)</td>
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<td>Commitment to your own personal development</td>
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Apply

To apply for this position visit:

ucl.ac.uk/jobs

Application Procedure
Applications for the position should be made online at http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/ and click on the ‘Current employment opportunities at UCL’ link.

You are required to upload the following documents as two attachments. Attachment 1. a letter of application specifying how you meet the criteria set out above (maximum length 2 pages)

Attachment 2. a cv (maximum 5 pages)

In addition, please arrange for two academic referees to write confidentially to the recruitment panel, c/o Claire Morley, Department of History, UCL, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT. References may also be emailed to claire.morley@ucl.ac.uk

Any questions relating to either the post or the applications process should be addressed to Claire Morley, tel: +44 (0)20 7679 1340, email: claire.morley@ucl.ac.uk