

[ABOUT LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY](#)

[SCHOOL OF SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCES](#)

PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL INTERACTION

REQ15781

OCTOBER 2015

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Grade: Research, Teaching and Enterprise Grade 9

Job Purpose: To lead the development and implementation of research, teaching and enterprise strategy to maintain vitality in the activities of the School generally and in the area of communication and social interaction specifically.

To engage personally with those activities, adding to the School's international reputation in communication and social interaction.

The post holder will be a member of the new Centre for Research in Communication and Culture (CRCC), which will develop the School of Social, Political and Geographical Sciences' outstanding international reputation for research and teaching in these areas. Membership of the Centre will range across all departments in the School. This post will be located in the Department of Social Sciences.

Job Duties:

Academic Leadership

- To provide academic leadership for the activities of the School specifically in the area of communication and social interaction as well as more generally across the School and the University.
- To pursue excellence in research, teaching and enterprise and to inspire others to do the same.
- To play a lead role in the development of the strategic vision for communication and social interaction.

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- To lead and participate in internal and external networks to foster collaboration and to promote the School and the University, nationally and internationally.

Research

- To pursue an 'internationally competitive' personal research programme consistent with the research priorities of the Centre for Research in Communication and Culture (CRCC).
- To pursue an 'internationally competitive' personal research programme consistent with the research priorities of the Discourse and Rhetoric Group (DARG).
- To secure external research funding.
- To supervise and manage research projects.
- To publish the outcomes of research in outlets of international standing.
- To attend and contribute to the organisation of major international conferences.
- To supervise postgraduate students at Masters and Doctoral levels.
- To initiate, lead and collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues in the School and more widely across the University including with colleagues in Research Schools.
- To initiate, lead and collaborate in research initiatives with other HEIs and other relevant bodies.
- To support and inspire all staff and students of the Discourse and Rhetoric Group to work to the highest possible standards.
- To produce an annual personal research plan.

Teaching

- To teach and inspire undergraduate and postgraduate students, especially on the social psychology undergraduate degree and to conduct associated assessments.
- To provide academic and pastoral support to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- To promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment.
- To engage in the evaluation and development of modules for which you have responsibility, in terms of content, delivery and assessment.
- To be responsible for the design and content of specific areas of teaching and learning within the School's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- To lead colleagues in the continuous review and development of the School's taught programmes and the curriculum.

Enterprise

- To initiate and lead engagement with business, public and voluntary organisations through knowledge exchange activities such as student projects and placements, research collaboration, consultancy and specialist training.
- To create social, cultural and economic impacts from academic, especially research, activity.
- To secure external funding in support of these activities.
- To seek opportunities for the commercialisation of research and the formation of social enterprises.

Related Activities and Functions

- To appraise and advise staff on personal and career development plans.
- To work effectively with relevant administrative, technical and academic staff in the School and across the University.
- To carry out specific administrative roles and functions as may be reasonably required e.g. Responsible Examiner, Programme Co-ordinator, Personal Tutor, Admissions Tutor.
- To take part in and, on occasion, act as chair of one or more of the School's committees.
- To engage in training programmes in the University (e.g. through Staff Development) which are consistent with your needs and aspirations and those of the School.
- To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Special Conditions: None

Organisational Responsibility: Reports to Dean of School

Other

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality & Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

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PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: Professor of Communication and Social Interaction

Job Grade: Research, Teaching and Enterprise Grade 9

	Essential	Desirable
Education	An outstanding educational profile up to and including first degree and/or Masters. (1) Relevant PhD or equivalent experience. (1)	Appropriate professional status. (1)
Leadership experience	Leadership experience gained within university or business settings (1,3), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• project management• leading collaborations• managing professional staff (academic or otherwise) within a team• managing budgets	Experience at research group head or equivalent level (1,3), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• strategic planning and delivery• promoting your organisation

	Essential	Desirable
Technical experience	<p>Background in communication and social interaction with specific and current expertise in conversation analysis, and/or discursive psychology, and/or language and social interaction. (1,2,3)</p> <p>Currently and demonstrably active in research in conversation analysis, and/or discursive psychology, and/or language and social interaction. (2,3)</p> <p>Experience of teaching and assessment at undergraduate and postgraduate level. (1,3)</p> <p>Experience of leading and participating in projects in an internationally recognised academic research environment, including sustained experience at a senior level. (1)</p> <p>Experience of work in or in collaboration with non-academic partners. (1)</p> <p>Experience of authoring a very substantial body of original work, in the highest quality refereed academic journals. (1)</p> <p>Extended experience of successfully supervising the projects of taught and research students or staff at equivalent levels. (1,3)</p>	<p>Experience of teaching psychology to undergraduate and postgraduate students. (1,3)</p> <p>Experience of presenting research work at international conferences. (1)</p> <p>Experience in commercial exploitation of products / services or formation of social enterprises. (1,3)</p>

	Essential	Desirable
General skills, abilities and knowledge	<p>Demonstrated ability to develop a major original research programme on your own initiative and to persuade others of its importance orally and on paper. (2,3)</p> <p>Demonstrated ability to secure research and/or enterprise funds from external / company sources on a regular basis. (1,3)</p> <p>Demonstrated ability to create social / cultural / economic impacts from professional activity. (2,3)</p> <p>Ability to teach and supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students in social psychology. (1,2)</p> <p>Ability to take part in module and programme development. (3)</p> <p>Ability to provide tutorial and counselling advice to students. (1)</p> <p>Ability to work independently, as part of a team and as the leader of a team. (1,3)</p> <p>Ability to advise staff on personal and career development plans. (1,3)</p> <p>Excellent communication skills. (2)</p> <p>Excellent IT skills. (1)</p>	<p>A sound understanding of the structure of universities and issues facing the UK higher education sector, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research funding opportunities in UK HE (2,3) • the challenges faced in recruiting students to UK HE (1)
Training	<p>Demonstrate evidence of having undertaken further training. (1)</p> <p>Adopt new procedures as and when required. (1)</p>	<p>Completion of a recognised training programme for academic staff. (1)</p>
Other	<p>Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times. (1,3)</p>	

Stages in assessment: 1: Application form and CV at shortlisting, 2: Presentation and questions, 3: Final interview.

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Conditions of Service

The appointment will be on a full time, open ended contract, commencing 1 February 2016 or as soon as possible thereafter. The salary for the post will be on Research, Teaching and Enterprise Grade 9, on a minimum starting salary of £56,482 per annum at a starting salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

The appointment will be subject to the University's normal Terms and Conditions of Employment for **Academic and Related** staff, details of which can be found at:

<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/conditions-of-service.html>

Informal Enquiries

Informal enquiries are welcomed and should be directed to **Professor John Downey, Director of the Centre for Research in Communication and Culture (CRCC)**, by email at: **J.W.Downey@lboro.ac.uk**.

Application

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Monday 7 December 2015**.

Interviews

Interviews will be held **week commencing 4 January 2016**.

Family Friendly Policy

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/>). In addition, the University is supportive, where operational needs allow, of flexible working arrangements.

We also strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>