

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2008/9

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

Part-time Graduate Teaching Assistant (0.2 FTE)

**School of Archaeology and Ancient History
College of Arts, Humanities and Law**

**£3,929 per annum, plus £9,011 maintenance grant and Home/EU fee waiver.
(Salary and maintenance grant currently under review)**

Fixed Term Contract for 4 years starting January 2010

Ref: AHL00030

Applications are invited for a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History. Candidates should possess a good first degree and a good MA (or the equivalent) in Ancient History, Classics, Classical Archaeology or a related subject. GTAs will be expected to register for a PhD and teach for 6-7 contact hours per week and carry out associated marking. The area of research may be in any area of ancient history, or ancient history combined with archaeology or reception studies, which can be supervised by School staff. The successful candidate will be expected to teach Latin grammar classes associated with a module in Classical and Post-classical Latin serving students in the Schools of Ancient History and Archaeology, History and English.

The University

The University of Leicester is a leading UK university that delivers high quality research and inspirational teaching. Leicester is the Times Higher Education's University of the Year for 2008-9. The University is ranked 15th out of over 120 universities. Leicester features prominently amongst the world's top 200 institutions.

Leicester is a University of over 20,000 students – almost half of whom study at postgraduate level. The University employs 3,500 staff and has an annual turnover of £205m.

Leicester is a member of the 1994 Group of internationally renowned universities engaged in leading-edge research and high quality teaching. 87% of our research was deemed to be of international significance by the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. Our Quality Related (QR) research income places us amongst the UK's top-20 research intensive universities. A study by QS for the Times Higher Education magazine in October 2008 revealed the impact of Leicester's research was high. Leicester enjoys the seventh highest level of research citations per academic amongst UK universities. According to the BBC, the "greatest cluster of world-leading researchers of any discipline in any university in the UK is [at] Leicester" – in our Department of Museum Studies.

The discovery of DNA Genetic Fingerprinting is our most famous achievement, but our world-class research is diverse and significant in its impact. For example, our recent work has demonstrated

links between hormones and heart disease, discovered new techniques for lifting fingerprints from metals (for example bullets), highlighted that Renaissance England possessed unprecedented diverse and flourishing satire and comedy, and demonstrated that diet has a significant impact on the evolution of species.

The University of Leicester is, according to *the Times* newspaper, "an award winning institution attracting top academics". For four consecutive years, the University of Leicester has recorded some of the highest scores for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey. 92% of full-time students taught at Leicester are satisfied with their programme. This is a level of satisfaction exceeded only by Cambridge amongst mainstream universities teaching full-time students in England. Teaching in 18 subject areas have been graded as "Excellent" by the Quality Assurance Agency – including 14 successive top scores. Leicester is also home to two prestigious national Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (in Genetics and Geographical Information Science) and plays an important role in a third (Physics).

We're highly ranked: 15th out of over 120 universities in the Guardian University Guide and 15th by the Times Good University Guide. We're also amongst Britain's top 20 institutions in *the Independent's* Complete University Guide, which described Leicester as a "first class university", and the Sunday Times University Guide. We're one of a handful of British universities to feature amongst the world's top 200 (151st in the Shanghai Jiao Tong Table and 177th in the Times Higher World University rankings 2008).

In October 2008 the University was named University of the Year 2008 by the Times Higher Education at their annual awards. The judges cited Leicester's ability to "evidence commitment to high quality, a belief in the synergy of teaching and research and a conviction that higher education is a power for good".

Founded as a University College in 1921 and granted a Royal Charter in 1957, the University has an estate of 232 acres that includes a fifteen-acre Botanic Garden, an arboretum and a range of residences in the suburbs that are set in attractive gardens.

School of Archaeology & Ancient History

The School of Archaeology and Ancient History (<http://www.le.ac.uk/archaeology>) comprises staff undertaking research and teaching in both disciplines, with a considerable overlap between them. It is part of the College of Arts, Humanities and Law and has research and teaching links with departments in the other three colleges. The School received a top rating of 24/24 in its QA assessment of teaching and learning and was graded 5A in both the 1996 and 2001 RAE reviews. In recent years, the School has been ranked 2nd in the *Times* and 6th in the *Guardian* League Tables of archaeology departments. In addition to its campus-based degree programmes, the School is the accepted leader in the provision of distance learning courses in archaeology, including research degrees, around the world.

The School currently has an academic staff of twenty-eight, along with two Emeritus Professors, two Visiting Professors, four University Fellows, two Honorary Lecturers and nine Honorary Visiting Fellows, who contribute to its research and teaching. The academic staff are supported by an administrator, six clerical staff and three technicians. The School also has an archaeological contracting service, University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), with a staff of over 50, including its own administrator.

Research

The research interests of the School cover every period from Palaeolithic to modern; geographically they focus particularly on Britain, Ireland and the near Continent; on the Mediterranean, north Africa and the Near East; on south-east Asia, Australia and Polynesia; and on North America. There are

particular strengths in Landscape Studies, Historical Studies, and Material Culture and Representation, which constitute the three primary Research Clusters. Other current research themes include gender in antiquity, ethnicity and identities, and food in cultures. There are strong links and overlaps between the clusters, reinforcing the intellectual collegiality that is an acknowledged strength of the School's research culture. For the School, the past is a continuous dialogue of interlinked prehistoric and historic archaeologies and histories, and material culture is an essential text of these pasts. Our emphasis on problems and themes rather than on specific periods and places has nurtured a vibrant and cross-fertilizing research culture that encourages innovation and the exploration of unfamiliar as well as familiar intellectual territory.

Research interests of academic staff:

- Dr P. Allison (Reader in Archaeology and Ancient History): Pompeian households: archaeology of the household; Australasian historical archaeology
- Dr H. Barton (Lecturer in Bioarchaeology): hunter-gatherer archaeology, Australian archaeology, lithics, archaeobotany
- Dr A. Brooks (Teaching Fellow in Historical Archaeology): later historical archaeology; 18th-19th century ceramics; international material culture comparisons.
- Dr J. Cooper (Leverhulme Early Career Fellow): Latin American archaeology, climate change archaeology, GIS-led spatial analysis
- Dr. E. Cowan (Lecturer in Ancient History): Roman history, late Republic and Early Principate, urban landscapes)
- Dr. N. Christie (Reader in Archaeology): medieval archaeology, Roman and medieval Italy
- Dr D. Edwards (Lecturer in Archaeology): African archaeology, landscape archaeology
- Prof. L. Foxhall (Professor of Greek Archaeology and History): Greek and Roman history, anthropology, gender studies, landscape archaeology and history
- Dr M. Garcia Morcillo (Lecturer in Ancient History): Roman history, Economics, Roman Finance, Classical reception and representation (until 31 December)
- Dr M. Gillings (Senior Lecturer in Archaeology): Geographical Information Systems, Virtual Reality Modelling, landscape archaeology, later prehistory
- Prof. C. Haselgrove (Professor of Archaeology and Head of School): later prehistoric archaeology, Iron Age/Roman transition, Iron Age coinage
- Dr T. Hopkinson (Lecturer in Archaeology): early prehistory, hominid evolution, Neanderthals
- Dr. A. Horning (Reader in Archaeology): historical archaeology, comparative colonialism, Ireland and North America.
- Dr S. James (Reader in Archaeology): late prehistoric and Roman archaeology, ethnicity, warfare; the representation of the past in the present
- Dr. C. Katsari (Lecturer in Ancient History): Roman economic history, coinage and monetary practice in the eastern Mediterranean
- Dr C. King (British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow): later historical archaeology; early modern households; archaeology of standing buildings
- Dr B. Legarra Herrera (Leverhulme Early Career Fellow): Neolithic and Bronze Age Mediterranean societies; state formation
- Prof. D. Mattingly (Professor of Roman Archaeology): archaeology of the Roman Empire, Roman farming/economy, landscape archaeology
- Dr A. Merrills (RCUK Research Fellow in Late Antiquity): geography and travel in late antiquity, perceptions of the Nile, late antique Sardinia
- Dr M. Pluciennik (Senior Lecturer in Archaeology and Director of Distance Learning): Mesolithic and Neolithic Europe, archaeological theory and philosophy
- Ms D. O'Sullivan (Lecturer in Archaeology): Celtic medieval archaeology, monasticism, archaeology of gender, post-excavation studies
- Dr G. Ramsey (Teaching Fellow in Ancient History): Greek and roman history; the Seleucid empire

- Dr A. Rogers (British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow): Iron Age and Roman north-west provinces; urbanism; historiography
- Dr S. Scott (Lecturer in Archaeology): Roman art and archaeology, anthropology of art
- Prof. G. Shipley (Professor of Ancient History): history, archaeology, and landscapes of classical and Hellenistic Greece, rural settlement, geographical authors
- Dr D. Stewart (Lecturer in Ancient History): Greek and Roman Landscapes and Urbanism
- Dr S. Tarlow (Senior Lecturer in Archaeology): post-medieval archaeology, funerary archaeology, archaeological theory and ethics
- Dr J. Taylor (Lecturer in Archaeology): landscape archaeology, Iron Age and Roman settlement and Lifelong Learning
- Dr R. Thomas (Lecturer in Archaeology): Zooarchaeology; animal husbandry in medieval and post-medieval England: animal palaeopathology.
- Prof. M. van der Veen (Professor of Archaeology): archaeobotany, history of food; environmental archaeology
- Dr I. Whitbread (Lecturer in Archaeology): archaeological science, ceramic studies, Aegean archaeology and prehistory
- Dr R. Young (Lecturer in Archaeology); environmental archaeology, ethnography, material culture

The School's research culture is further enriched by close relations with colleagues in other departments, especially Museum Studies and the School of Historical Studies and by a regular series of seminars and research meetings. The contract research undertaken by ULAS specialises in landscape studies and urban archaeology. The Unit is fully integrated into the School: ULAS staff teach on various courses and academic staff are associated with ULAS projects.

There are currently approximately 60 registered PhD students, both campus-based and by distance learning.

Teaching

The School has c. 340 campus-based undergraduates studying archaeology and/or ancient history. The majority of students in the School take Ancient History as a joint BA degree with either Archaeology or History (medieval and modern Students can take Archaeology as a single subject BA or (from year 2) BSc; as a joint BA degree with Ancient History, and as a joint BA degree with History (medieval and modern), or as a joint BSc degree with Geography. The School is committed to innovative high quality teaching and learning, and integration of theory and practice in all courses. All academic staff are involved in teaching undergraduates and masters students, whether campus-based and/or through distance learning. In Ancient History, the emphasis is on social and cultural history across the Greek-Roman divide. In Archaeology, there is a strong emphasis on European and wider perspectives, and on inter-disciplinarity. Most courses are team-taught.

The School fully supports the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy and most courses explicitly combine learning outcomes of knowledge and understanding, together with subject-specific and personal transferable skills. Students are assessed by a wide variety of methods including course essays, professional project reports, seminar presentations, laboratory workbooks, group projects, assessed workshops, seen examinations, unseen examinations and a dissertation. Small-group teaching supports lecture courses.

The School runs five Masters degrees in *Archaeology and Heritage*; *Archaeology and Landscape History*; *The Classical Mediterranean*; *Historical Archaeology*; and *Rome and its Neighbours*. There are currently approximately 130 Masters students taking courses full-time and part-time, and by distance learning. The School also contributes to a Certificate Course in Archaeology through the Institute of Lifelong Learning. This recruits 15-20 students in each of its two years, and the evening teaching for this course takes place in the School's new building. Students graduating from this course may transfer to undergraduate courses at either first or second year level as appropriate.

The Distance Learning Unit

The School launched its first MA by distance learning in 1997 (*Archaeology and Heritage*), with a second (*Historical Archaeology*) becoming available in October 2008. Postgraduate Certificates (60 taught credits) and Diplomas (120 taught credits) are available for students who wish to specialise in specific areas. In 2001, the PhD by Distance Learning was introduced.

In 2002, the School introduced Level 1 courses in archaeology by distance learning to meet demand for a pre-degree course paralleling campus-based Lifelong Learning provision. Students completing six modules gain a Certificate and are eligible for direct entry to the second year of campus-based archaeology degrees. Since 2005, Level 2 modules have been offered, enabling distance-learning students to progress to a Diploma, and from 2009-10, it will be possible to take Level 3 modules leading to a full BA in Archaeology. These Level 1 and Level 2 modules can also serve as bridging or conversion courses for students wishing to take the MA, but lacking an academic background in archaeology or a cognate discipline. Other planned developments include MA/Diploma/Certificate pathways in *Archaeology and Landscape History* and *The Classical Mediterranean*; summer residential courses for distance learning students; and expansion into Continuing Professional Development. There are currently 200 students registered for modules leading to the Certificate and Diploma. Four academic and three clerical staff have primary responsibility for distance-learning students, with other academic staff assisting with marking distance-learning assignments and supervising dissertations and theses as appropriate.

Facilities

The School moved to its own building in August 2003, providing enhanced teaching and research facilities, as well as an increased sense of identity. The facilities include laboratory suites for archaeobotany, archaeozoology, conservation, computing and GIS, human skeletal studies, materials analysis and pottery thin section analysis, together with a drawing office, dark room, photographic studio and research projects room. The School possesses a wide range of technical equipment for field- and laboratory-based teaching and research and runs three vehicles.

Job Purpose

The Graduate Teaching Assistant is responsible to the Head of School and is expected to undertake teaching-related duties within the School, not normally exceeding six-seven contact hours per week during term time.

S/he will facilitate direct student participation in their learning through first year small-group teaching geared towards understanding of ancient sources, effective sharing of knowledge, and application of principles learnt in lectures.

S/he will contribute to the School's research initiatives.

Principal Accountabilities:

The post holder will undertake research, teaching and other activities supporting the work of the School and in so doing will aid in developing and enhancing both its internal and external reputation.

- To teach Latin grammar classes, and, as appropriate, to give seminars, tutorials and classes and prepare distance learning materials, in support of the required ancient history teaching obligations, and to be available for consultation by undergraduate students, by email and during appropriately specified office hours

- To ensure that student feedback on teaching is sought, through questionnaires and other means, and to respond constructively to such feedback and to advice from peers
- To maintain a broad knowledge of up-to-date research and scholarship in relevant fields to ensure that teaching meets the standards expected within a research-led University
- To undertake academic duties (e.g. providing feedback to undergraduate students on formatively assessed coursework, to participate in the assessment of oral presentations by undergraduate students, to provide pastoral support of students and undertake invigilation duties where appropriate) required to sustain the delivery of high quality teaching.
- To pursue doctoral research of high quality in any area of Ancient History or Ancient History combined with Archaeology or reception studies.
- To disseminate the results of research and scholarship, e.g. through presentation in the research seminar series in the School
- To ensure that all research activities undertaken are in compliance with the 'Research Code of Conduct' operated by the University,
- Consistent with the resources available and School and other obligations, to attend and present research findings and papers at academic and professional conferences, and to contribute to the external visibility of the School,
- To contribute fully to the thriving research culture of the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, through attendance and participation in staff seminars, internal seminars and workshops, PhD seminars and other means, as appropriate,

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience required:

Essential

- MA degree (or equivalent) in Ancient History, Classics, Classical Archaeology or a related discipline*
- Advanced-level knowledge of Latin language.
- Outstanding promise of research achievement*
- Research interests in one or more of the research themes of the department*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies required:

Essential

- Proven competency in IT and familiarity with a computerised environment
- Evidence of good effective oral communication, presentation and training skills*
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a team on research and teaching related activities.
- A commitment to high quality teaching

(* Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview)

Desirable

- Experience in teaching.
- Knowledge of Greek at elementary level.

Informal Enquiries

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to Ms Rachel Marriott (rem17@le.ac.uk, tel: 0116 252 2611) or Prof. Lin Foxhall (lf4@le.ac.uk; tel: 0116 252 2773).

Applications

For further information and to apply on-line, please visit our website:

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/jobs>

The closing date for this post is midnight on **25 November 2009**

Candidates short-listed for interview will be contacted by the University. If you do not receive a communication from the University within 4 weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Starting date of post will be January 2010.

Extracts From Terms and Conditions

The appointment will be subject to the standard Terms and Conditions of Appointment for Support Staff. A copy of the full Terms and Conditions may be obtained by contacting Personnel Services.

- **Payment** For the period to December 2010, the total payment package will be £12,940 (subject to review).

The total payment package currently consists of two elements:

1. Effective from 1 October 2009: £3,929 p.a pro rata salary
2. Effective from 1 October 2009: £9,011 p.a pro rata non-taxable maintenance grant

The salary is linked to the first point of grade 5, paid monthly on the last working day of each month through the University payroll, in respect of teaching duties undertaken.

The salary does not attract annual increments.

Usually paid quarterly by cheque. The value of the grant is the difference between the total payment package value and the salary element. The maintenance grant will decrease proportionately to any salary increases awarded in order to maintain the value of the total payment package.

- **Probation** Staff newly appointed to the University will be required to serve the first six months of continuous service as a probationary period.
- **Hours** The normal working hours for full-time staff are 35 hours per week, excluding breaks. Daily hours are arranged at the discretion of the Head of Department/Office. Hours of duty of a part-time member of staff will be in accordance with the Job Specification attached.
- **Pensions** Support Staff commencing employment on or after 1st August 2003, who are engaged on contracts of more than 13 weeks in duration or whose continuous employment exceeds 13 weeks, or who are seeking entry into a Pension Scheme on or after that date will be eligible to apply to join the defined contribution scheme. Details of the scheme, which will entail contributions from both members of staff and the University are available from the Pension Section of the Finance Office.

As a member of the University of Leicester Defined Contribution Scheme, you may opt in to participate in SMART Pensions, which is a scheme designed to produce financial benefits for both the University and employees. Further information about SMART Pensions will be provided to the successful candidate.

- **Holidays** Full-time staff working continuously throughout the year will be entitled to 24 days annual leave. In addition, staff will receive the 8 public holidays and a further 6 working days in each year, which are allocated by the University as closure days in the Christmas and Easter period. Staff working part-time continuously throughout the year will receive *pro rata* annual leave entitlement. Annual leave will normally be taken during vacation periods, but may be taken at other times subject to the exigencies of the service.
- **Equal Opportunities** The University is committed to an equal opportunities policy in employment practice (a copy of the Equal Opportunities Policy is available by contacting the Equal Opportunities Team).
- **Notice** The appointment may be terminated by either side by one month's notice.