



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

**Faculty of Arts,  
Humanities and Social  
Sciences**

**Professor in  
Sociology**

April 2019



# Queen's University Belfast

Queen's University Belfast is one of the leading universities in the UK and Ireland with a distinguished heritage and history. Founded in 1845 as Queen's College Belfast, we became an independent university in 1908. Today, we are ranked in the top 180 universities in the world (QS World Rankings 2019), and a member of the Russell Group of UK research intensive universities, combining excellence in research and education with a student-centred ethos.

## A GLOBAL AND INCLUSIVE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

**Queen's is the 25th most international university in the world and is attracting global talent to Belfast.**

We currently have staff and students from over 80 countries, helping to create a multicultural and vibrant campus. They are joining a university that is committed to attracting, retaining and developing the best global talent within an environment that enables them to realise their full potential.

An innovative, welcoming and inclusive place to work and study, Queen's is a leader in gender equality and diversity. We are one of the UK's most successful universities in the Athena SWAN initiative which promotes gender equality and career progression. We currently have two Gold, eight Silver and five Bronze departmental awards, as well as an Institutional Silver.



## RANKED 8TH IN THE UK FOR RESEARCH INTENSITY

**Our researchers are at the forefront of discovery and innovation, with ambitious projects to address global problems and make a difference to society worldwide.**

The total value of new research grants and contracts awarded to Queen's during 2016-17 was £101.6m, the first time the annual figure has topped £100m. Queen's was also the No 1 AHRC-funded university in the UK.

We are ranked 8th in the UK for Research Intensity with over 75% of our research assessed as 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent' (REF 2014).

## A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE



**At Queen's we offer a world-class education that prepares our students for leadership and citizenship in a global society.**

Our inspiring alumni comprises outstanding scholars, Nobel Prize winners - such as Seamus Heaney and David Trimble - and influential leaders who are making an impact in Northern Ireland and across the globe.

Our students enjoy being educated by world-leading academics working at the forefront of their disciplines and a significant investment in the student experience has resulted in high levels of student satisfaction.

Over 94% of Queen's graduates are in employment or further study six months after graduation; our graduates are dominating senior leadership positions in 80 of Northern Ireland's top 100 companies, and making a difference in over 120 countries.

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

**The UK's ninth oldest university, Queen's blends its proud heritage with cutting-edge facilities for the best experience of University life.**

Our £700m investment in facilities is transforming the University campus, expanding an environment that stimulates, enables and supports world-class education and research.

This has included the development of a state-of-the-art Graduate School, which is home to a thriving postgraduate community; the award-winning McClay Library; a new Computer Science Building; a School of Law; and the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine.



## NORTHERN IRELAND'S LEGENDARY BEAUTY

**Queen's University is situated in Belfast, the capital city of Northern Ireland.**

A city with innovation at its heart, technological advances infiltrate every sector helping to build our competitiveness on the global stage. There are almost 900 international companies located in Northern Ireland, making Belfast the second most successful city in the UK (after London) for attracting US trade.

There's plenty happening outside the city, including the famous filming locations for the HBO series Game of Thrones, the awe-inspiring Giant's Causeway, voted the UK's best Heritage Attraction, and the Mourne Mountains, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty canonised as CS Lewis' Narnia.

\*Lonely Planet, 2017



# Faculty of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

## OVERVIEW

The Faculty of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences is a busy, multidisciplinary community dedicated to using a wide range of subjects to make a difference to lives locally, nationally and internationally.

We are home to some 7600 students and 700 academic and support staff who work in five Schools: Social Sciences, Education and Social Work; Arts, English and Languages; History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics; Law; and Management. The Faculty also houses a Global Research Institute, the Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice.



Our work takes place in an attractive and well-connected estate in the heart of the vibrant city of Belfast, with world class facilities including: a new Law School (opened summer 2016); the world's only Sonic Arts Research Laboratory; a state of the art building at Riddel Hall, which is home to the Management School with its unique Trading Room; and, a purpose built black box theatre, as well as the Brian Friel Theatre.

The Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice is a global leader that brings around 70 researchers from all parts of the Faculty, and wider University, to address some of the most challenging issues facing the world today. Similarly networked across the Faculty and University is our agenda-setting Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation, which seeks to find innovative solutions to key societal challenges, using robust evidence to make a difference to the lives of children and their families and communities. The Seamus Heaney Centre is a vital and creative home for writers of poetry and for the stage and screen. We are members of AHRC and ESRC Doctoral Training Partnerships and home to a Nuffield-funded Q-Step initiative, supporting innovation in teaching and research of quantitative research methods.

Across these initiatives and more we are proud of the work of our students and staff, which has been recognised by many others for its quality: Performing Arts is ranked in the QS top 50, English in the QS top 100 and Law in the QS top 200; Modern Languages was third and Education fourth in the UK for research intensity in REF 2014; and, five subject areas hold Athena SWAN Bronze Awards for their commitment to equality issues. In addition, many individual colleagues are respected leaders in their fields, working with well-qualified and enthusiastic students to grow knowledge and understanding of pressing social and cultural questions and problems.

## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, EDUCATION & SOCIAL WORK

The School brings together a wide range of scholarly, professional and applied subjects including education, social policy, social work and sociology, and has 1,625 students and 80 academic staff.

The School is training the next generation of social scientists in the areas of sociology, criminology and social policy. Research is focused on addressing social issues in society and providing best evidence and advice to policy makers and practitioners. Strong local partnerships and an international influence make the School a dynamic place to study or work. The School combines a diversity of social science research methods manifested in distinct and even unique features including the Q-Step initiative. With a mission to reduce inequality in society, members of this School are leaders in education, social work and social policy making in Northern Ireland and internationally.

Nearly half of the academic staff within the School align their research to the cross-university Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation. This Centre is one of two Pioneer Research Programmes hosted by the Faculty. It draws together over 90 academic, research and support staff committed to applied social science research that seeks to improve the lives of children, families and communities.

# THE ROLE

---

**JOB PURPOSE:** To make a substantial contribution to the research and teaching activities of the School, to provide academic and research leadership in Sociology, and to enhance the School's international links and research capabilities.

## MAJOR DUTIES:

### Research:

- Plan and lead research of a quality that is internationally excellent in its originality, significance and rigour.
- Sustain an extensive track record of published research findings by publishing in refereed journals and in peer-reviewed monographs, and presenting at national/international conferences.
- Lead major funding bids which develop and sustain research support for specialist area and advance the reputation of Sociology.
- Provide supervision of part-time and full-time research students, and develop strategies to attract research students, both nationally and internationally.
- Contribute to the research strategies of the School and University.
- Provide research leadership that will enhance the international reputation of Sociology.
- Oversee staff teams and resource management processes necessary to deliver research plans.

### Teaching:

- Lead and contribute to the enhancement of quality teaching at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels and play a lead role in developing the direction of teaching and learning within sociology.
- Contribute to the development of new, market-attuned postgraduate taught programmes.
- Develop the teaching activities of the School by pursuing new and innovative teaching approaches, and delivering a range of teaching and assessment activities including lectures and seminars.
- Develop and advise others on learning and teaching activity.

### Leadership/Management Responsibilities:

- Provide academic leadership to those working within the School by agreeing objectives and work plans and by co-ordinating the work of others.
- Develop and manage staff and resources in support of research, teaching and administrative activities.
- Contribute to the overall management of the School, in areas such as budget and business planning.

### External:

- Promote and develop the international reputation of Sociology through external research activities such as editorship/membership of editorial boards of major international journals, presentation of research papers at internationally leading conferences, membership of national and international research committees and organisation of national and international conferences.
- Develop international research networks.
- Develop links with external contacts such as other HEIs, educational bodies, employers, and professional bodies to foster collaboration.

### Administration/Contribution to the Community:

- Contribute significantly to the development and running of the School by taking on appropriate School managerial and co-ordinating roles. Such duties may include, for example, Director of Research/Education or other recognised official University roles.
- Contribute effectively to strategic planning across the School, Faculty and University as appropriate.
- Act as mentor to colleagues, including Teaching Assistants, advising on their personal development and ensuring that they are meeting the standards required.

- Provide pastoral care for students within Sociology to ensure, as far as practicable, that relevant issues are dealt with in a timely, sympathetic and effective manner.

## THE PERSON

---

### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- PhD in Sociology or a cognate discipline.
- A sustained record of research publications of international excellence in high quality and internationally recognised journals
- Proven track record of attracting and supervising research students
- Evidence of significant external research activities including securing major grant income
- Proven ability to deliver high quality teaching that complements and enhances the School's teaching activities in Sociology.
- Sustained and successful record of PhD supervision.
- Evidence of strategic academic leadership in research, programme development, teaching and management.
- A clear vision on future research and development plans and how they would benefit the School, Faculty and University.
- Evidence of ability to strengthen the School's national and international research and development networks.
- A high level of analytical capability.
- Ability to contribute to the School's national and international research networks.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively to students, academic colleagues and professional bodies and managers.
- Evidence of good interpersonal skills and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

### DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- Completion of a PGCHET (or equivalent) or HEA membership.
- Experience of raising the public profile of Sociology.
- Track record of work with interdisciplinary teams.
- Research that builds on established strengths in the School.



## TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

---

**Remuneration** An attractive remuneration package, linked to the Queen's Professorial Scale and commensurate with the responsibilities of the role, will be provided as well as a generous relocation package.

**Pension** The successful candidates will also be eligible to join the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

## HOW TO APPLY

---

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to Queen's University Belfast on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at [www.saxbam.com/appointments](http://www.saxbam.com/appointments) using code **WQBN**.

Click on the '**apply**' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter.

**Closing Date: Tuesday 7 May 2019**