

# JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job Title:** Reader/ Associate Professor in Media

**Grade:** Reader/Associate Professor

**School/Service:** School of Arts and Creative Industries

**Campus:** Docklands/USS

**Responsible to:** Head of Department of Media

**Liaison with:** Students, university staff, local employers, other professional and academic organizations, schools, and colleges

The University of East London (UEL) is one of the most diverse and vibrant universities in the global capital. Our pioneering and forward-thinking vision is making a positive and significant impact to the communities we serve, inspiring both our staff and students to reach their full potential.

Born in 1898 to serve the skills needs of the 2nd industrial revolution, the University of East London has commenced Year 4 of its transformational 10-year Vision 2028 strategic plan led by our Vice-Chancellor & President, Professor Amanda Broderick, to advance Industry 4.0 careers-1st education. We have a clear route-map to provide a springboard for the jobs and opportunities of the future; drive diversity in the 4.0 talent pipeline - working in partnership to promote talent wherever it is found; and to create an inclusive and sustainable green future.

We are looking for forward-thinking, innovative, curious, high-energy, self-aware people who are passionate about making a positive difference and who will thrive in an inclusive and diverse University community who are never not moving forwards.

As one of the most socially inclusive and international Universities and comprising one of the most diverse staff populations in the UK (50% of our professoriate identify from black or minority ethnic backgrounds), we are hugely proud of our track record in reducing inequalities (ranked 1st in the UK & 2nd globally, Times Higher Education Global Impact Rankings, 2020) and our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion is at the heart of Vision 2028.

We are building an environment of success where colleagues are supported to achieve, and our community can flourish and thrive. We are an accredited Investors in People Award Institution and have achieved the Investors in People Health and Wellbeing Award. With Athena Swan Awards and being one of a small number of universities to have achieved the Race Equality Charter Award, we continue our journey to address and reduce barriers to opportunity.

So, if you are looking to build your career in a dynamic, inclusive, and performance-focused team and are inspired by our environment and drive for success, we want you to apply to join the University of East London. We are looking for inspirational individuals who have a passion to make a positive difference to people and the planet, creating a more sustainable future for everyone.

**JOB PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this post is to provide leadership and vision for the future direction of research, teaching and knowledge exchange in the Department of Media, and to raise the profile of the Departments and School of Arts and Creative Industries, particularly in impactful applied research. The post holder will also contribute to supporting the school’s other departments (Fashion and Performing Arts) in research, consultancy, knowledge transfer and income generation. We are looking for an academic with a substantial track record in research and industry-led knowledge exchange projects to align with the vision of the school as a leader in innovation in media (AR/VR/MR), performing arts and sustainable fashion. As a senior academic leader within the subject field, they will take a leading role in the school’s strategy for the promotion of research, learning and teaching and employability initiatives. This includes establishing links with businesses, public and third sector organizations. The post holder will contribute to all aspects of the school’s work, including staff development activities, mentoring, and supporting the development of early career researchers, joint supervision of PhD students. They will also play a prominent role in obtaining funding and grant capture for research and knowledge exchange activities in their area of expertise.

**MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE**

* To aid the strategic leadership of the department in relevant areas, with a clear focus on the delivery of the Strategic Plan of Department and School in line with the University’s corporate strategy Vision 2028.
* To carry out high-quality and impactful research at an appropriate level for a senior post, with outputs eligible for REF submission and with the potential to contribute to impact case studies
* To collaborate with colleagues in developing output-oriented applied research to a high standard, both personally and as a member of a team
* To establish a record of successful funding applications and grant capture in research and/ or knowledge exchange
* To initiate and enhance knowledge exchange projects within the school, and to mentor staff in developing this area
* To establish and maintain links with commercial organizations and/or laboratories operating in the relevant field in the UK and abroad.
* To carry out public engagements communicating research findings and outcomes as appropriate to the discipline
* To mentor early-career academics, lecturers, and senior lecturers as required.
* To contribute to the recruitment and supervision of postgraduate research students
* To contribute to the development of research-informed teaching within the School/ Department

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL**

* To support the Head of Department and colleagues to ensure the effective day-to-day operation of the allocated academic area, including efficient running of programmes and modules and the achievement of Department and University deadlines.
* To undertake operational and administrative responsibilities as allocated (e.g., module leader)
* To take on responsibilities (leading projects where appropriate) in relation to university led and/or Department strategic initiatives including areas such as commercial income generation activity; student recruitment and retention (including participation in clearing and open days); partnership development; development of flexible and work-based learning provision; development of widening participation activities.
* To participate in university activities as required, representing the school on relevant internal and external committees, and working groups in consultation with the Dean of School

**STUDENT-FACING**

* To enhance the quality of teaching provision and programme development, drawing on leading practices from the HE and other sectors,
* To teach and assess students and contribute to the development, design, delivery, and leadership of modules at various levels, including assessment methods, ensuring that the learning materials and methods of delivery meet defined learning objectives and building e-learning into the delivery of teaching to students as appropriate, including electronic formative and summative assessment...
* To support curriculum development and new course development.
* To participate with other staff in the development of teaching, learning and assessment strategies.
* To assist with the pastoral care of students as Academic Advisor.

**GENERAL**

* To undertake staff development as needs are identified by the individual and/or line manager.
* To maintain and develop areas of expertise in appropriate ways under the general guidance and oversight of the appropriate academic manager, contributing to the discipline area’s activities and reputation both internally and externally.
* To undertake such reasonable duties as may be requested by senior management of the University and the School.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Essential criteria**

* A doctoral qualification in a relevant discipline and/or substantial industry experience. (A/C)
* Substantial proven research track record (including high-quality refereed publications in high-impact journals). (A/C/I/R)

**Desirable criteria**

* A Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. (A/C/I)
* Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. (A/I)

**KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE**

**Essential criteria**

* Comprehensive understanding of the national TEF, KEF and REF landscape. (A/I)
* Experience with research project publications and successful grant capture and ability to lead a team, including research students. (A/I)
* Experience of completed PhD and MSc supervisions. (A/I)
* Experience of interdisciplinary and/or creative industry work, public engagement and communicating with a wider public. (A/I)
* Experience of teaching in Higher Education. (A/I)

**Desirable criteria**

* Experience of innovating on best practices for learning, teaching, support, and assessment methods. (A/I)
* Experience of mentoring and line managing associated professionals. (A/I)
* Evidence of contributions to peer review bodies/committees, professional organizations, learned societies, government committees or Research Councils. (A/I)

**SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

**Essential criteria**

* An ability to teach at Undergraduate, Postgraduate and research degree level and to undertake module administration and personal tutorship. (A/I)
* Evidence of knowledge transfer activity and collaborations with industry. (A/I)

**Desirable criteria**

* Experience leading and managing REF and/or KEF submissions (A/I)

**TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT**

**Essential criteria**

* A strong commitment to widening participation and a deep understanding, based on solid experience, of how to bring out the best in students from diverse backgrounds, including those who may have underperformed in the past. (A/I)
* An inspirational teacher who collaborates well with colleagues and students in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for students. (A/I/P)
* A strong commitment to high-quality, reflective, and collaborative professional practice in teaching and learning in higher education. (A/I)

**PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND QUALITIES**

* Commitment to the promotion and advancement of the University. (A/I)
* An ability to work as part of a team. (A/I)
* An ability to develop professional relationships with external agencies. (A/I)
* Commitment to and understanding of equal opportunities issues within a diverse and multicultural environment. (I)

**Criteria tested by key:** **A** = application form, **C** = certification, **I** = interview, **R** = research papers **P** = presentation, **T** = micro teaching task