

University of St Andrews

School of Modern Languages

Lecturer in Comparative Literature and Spanish – AC2108AC

Further Particulars for Applicants

School of Modern Languages

St Andrews University's School of Modern Languages houses six Departments (Arabic & Persian, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish), three Research Institutes (Contemporary and Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies Institute, and the Centre for Russian, Soviet, Central and Eastern European Studies) and a school-wide degree programme in Comparative Literature and nearly 50 members of academic staff. In the recent UK-wide assessment of university research over 70% of the work in Modern Languages at St Andrews was rated world-leading and internationally excellent. We were also ranked first in Scotland on the quality of our publications. The School is home to a lively international postgraduate community. At the moment approximately fifty students from all over the world are reading for taught or research postgraduate degrees in an exceptional variety of areas, including Arabic, Comparative Literature, French, German, Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies, Spanish and Latin American Studies, as well as Language and Linguistics, Mediaeval Studies and Cultural Identity Studies. In 2011 the School launched new degree programmes in Comparative Literature at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels which have enjoyed consistent uptake in student numbers. In collaboration with several European universities the School also participates in the ERASMUS Mundus Master programme *Crossways in European Humanities*.

The School offers a wide range of degree programmes in one, two or three languages, or in one or two languages and a non-language subject. French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish all offer Single Honours degree programmes; Arabic, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish, French and Comparative Literature can be taken as part of a Joint Honours programme in a large array of subject combinations within and outwith the School. Degree structures are amongst the most flexible in the UK, with students normally taking three subjects in their first year, two or three in their second year, then narrowing down to their degree choice in their two Honours years. Students acquire a solid understanding of the target culture, including language, literature, history and society, and may pursue their individual interests in these areas through the wide range of choices available in their two Honours years. All of these activities are underpinned by vigorous promotion of independent, critical thought and intellectual curiosity.

Comparative Literature

Comparative literature was introduced as a School-wide undergraduate degree programme in 2011 with the M.Litt degree coming online in 2012. First undergraduate year cohorts regularly see approximately 130-140 students enrolled in the Year 1 modules, with 70-80 students moving on to Year 2 modules. Comparative Literature has a healthy and growing Honours cohort of around 20 students per year, with our third class graduating this summer. Comparative Literature is available as a Joint Honours programme coupled with over twenty different subjects, or a Triple Honours programme. Students taking Comparative Literature alongside a language from within the School of Modern Languages (e.g. Comparative Literature and Russian) have the option of spending a year or a semester abroad. The School's *Institute for Contemporary and Comparative Literature*, hosting seminars, conferences, workshops, visiting speakers and, as of 2016, writers in residence, provides a crucial research-led underpinning of the Comparative Literature programmes.

Delivered in English using English translations, Comparative Literature is taught by all members of the School of Modern Languages, with contributions from colleagues in other Schools in the University (e.g. Classics, English, Art History). Year 1 modules are primarily genre-based: 'The 19th Century Novel of Adultery' (from 6 national cultures); '20th and 21st Century Political Drama' (8 plays from Brecht to Fo and Pinter). In Year 2 a broader range of genres and periods are united under the overarching themes 'Good and Evil' and 'Journeys', with a range of comparatist and literary theories and methodologies built into the programme. All lectures are given by subject specialists from the School's six Departments and inform the small-group weekly seminars. Students of Comparative Literature must take two further core modules in their Junior Honours (3rd) year – 'Issues in Comparative Literature, and 'Found in Translation'. These are complemented by a range of optional modules (e.g. 'Issues in Cultural Studies', 'The Literary Canon', 'Performing Early-Modern Sexualities'; 'Classicism in European Literature'; 'Literature and the Bible'; 'Illness and Literature'; 'Cultural Memory and Literature'; 'Autobiography and Visual Arts', 'Folk and Fairy Tales', 'Crossing the Mediterranean') that can be taken over the 3rd and 4th years of the degree course, and are taught by small teams of subject specialists to ensure a genuinely comparatist approach. Students can also choose to write a comparative dissertation, or embark on a creative project.

The core teaching team on the Comparative Literature programme includes: Dr Emma Bond (Italian and Comparative Literature), Dr Emily Finer (Russian and Comparative Literature), Professor Margaret-Anne Hutton (French and Comparative Literature, Acting Undergraduate Degree Convenor, Postgraduate Degree Convenor, Director of ICCL) and Dr Colette Lawson (German and Comparative Literature).

Comparative Literature is also available at postgraduate level, both as part of taught and research-based programmes. Core taught modules focus on literary and cultural theory, as well as on developing research and professional skills, and staff supervise a wide range of dissertation topics.

Spanish

The Department of Spanish currently has nine academic members of staff: three professors – Professor Will Fowler (19th-Century Mexican History; Latin American History); Professor Gustavo San Román (Latin American literature and cultural history, particularly Uruguayan; cultural identity studies); Professor Jordi Larios (Catalan literature; modern Spanish poetry and culture; nation narratives); one reader – Dr Catherine O'Leary (20th Century Spanish literature, particularly drama; memory and exile); three senior lecturers – Dr K. Anipa (Spanish linguistics, especially of the Golden Age); Dr Eleni Kefala (20th Century Argentinian literature and culture); Dr Javier Letrán (Modern and Contemporary Spanish literature, particularly poetry); two lecturers – Dr Ricardo Fernández (Modern Spanish literature; Spanish autobiographical discourse); Dr Ted Bergman (Golden Age Spanish Literature, especially theatre, criminality and medicine). Some of our practical language teaching is ensured by a teaching fellow, Ms Ana Barazal Barreira and by two full-time language assistants, whose work is supplemented by postgraduate tutors and part-time staff.

Postgraduate Studies

The Department of Spanish offers a postgraduate programme and engages in School-wide taught degrees in Cultural Identity Studies and Comparative Literature.

Supervision for PhD students is available in all areas covered by staff expertise. This expertise is complemented by research resources and study facilities which reflect the highest standards, including a new research library for the exclusive use of postgraduates and academic staff.

Taught M.Litt. (masters) programmes are available in Spanish and Latin American Studies, and some members of staff also teach on other postgraduate programmes within the School, such as the MLitts in Comparative Literature and in Cultural Identity Studies and the Erasmus Mundus Masters Programme: Crossways in Cultural Narratives, which involve the study of more than one language.

The School of Modern Languages has established three research Institutes and a Centre which foster postgraduate research: the Institute for Contemporary and Comparative Literature, the Cultural Identity Studies Institute, and the Centre for Russian, Soviet and Central and Eastern European Studies. Members of staff also take part in other Institutes and Centres within the Faculty of Arts, such as the Institute of Mediaeval Studies and the Reformation Studies Institute, both within the School of History.

Undergraduate Courses

The Spanish language is taught in St Andrews with modern, communicative methods that combine a high level of oral competence with sound grammatical accuracy. The first two years of study, combining language, literature and history, have been designed to stand as autonomous units that are of value and interest in themselves. They also allow continuing students to make informed choices from the wide range of Spanish and Latin American modules available in third and fourth years. Those courses are designed to reflect current staff expertise, and allow students to work in a stimulating environment that draws on the latest developments in academic research.

It is a feature of the School to allow its modular degrees to be taken in flexible combinations of up to three languages at final M.A. degree level and in Joint Honours combinations with a range of non-language subjects. Almost all Modern Languages undergraduates spend a full year abroad, usually on assistantships or University exchanges: the School is committed to undergraduate credit transfer and to links with partner universities in Europe and beyond. The minimum length of the Honours degree course is 4 years, with an additional integrated year for those undertaking an assistantship or other work placement abroad.

The Department prides itself on the standard of its teaching, and continues to attract large numbers of high-quality applicants. Student intake is around 150 per annum, most students reading Spanish as part of a two-subject degree course. Apart from plenary lectures, most teaching takes place in groups of 15-20 students; groups for oral instruction will typically consist of 10-12 students at Honours level.

Overall the St Andrews Spanish MA course is designed to allow students to develop analytical and communicative proficiency, alongside other crucial transferable skills, in English as well as in Spanish. Learning the Spanish language affords direct access to Spanish and Latin American culture, history and values, and to all the debates, contradictions and extraordinary creativity that characterise contemporary Hispanic culture.

The post-holder will be expected to divide her/his teaching and administration between the Department of Spanish and the Comparative Literature undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. The Spanish / Comparative Literature split, which will involve between 50% and 65% Comparative Literature in any given year, will be decided upon by the Head of School and the Comparative Literature coordinator.

The job description for this role is attached below.

Job Description

Job Title: Lecturer in Comparative Literature and Spanish	Working Hours: Full time/ 36.25 hours per week
School/Unit: School of Modern Languages	Grade/Salary Range: 7/£39,324 - £48,327 per annum
Reporting to: Head of School	Reference No: AC2108AC
Job Family: Academic (Teaching & Research)	Start Date: 1 August 2017

Main Purpose of Role

You will be expected to cover all the duties and responsibilities of a Lecturer, to include teaching and research in Spanish and Comparative Literature and undertaking administrative and other duties as specified by the Head of School.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

1. To contribute to the teaching of Comparative Literature at sub-honours, honours and postgraduate level (including all relevant preparation for classes, coursework assessments and examinations).
2. To contribute to the teaching of Spanish at sub-honours, honours and postgraduate level (including all relevant preparation for classes, coursework assessments and examinations).
3. To devise and deliver Comparative Literature honours content modules (including all related co-ordination, preparation for classes, coursework assessments and examinations).
4. To devise and deliver Spanish honours content modules (including all related co-ordination, preparation for classes, coursework assessments and examinations).
5. To undertake general administration related to Comparative Literature teaching responsibilities, including the co-ordination of core modules and other administration as required by the Comparative Literature Coordinator or the Head of School.
6. To undertake general administration related to Spanish teaching responsibilities, including the co-ordination of core language modules and other administration as required by the Head of Department or the Head of School.
7. To undertake research of the highest quality in your chosen field(s) and contribute to the research environment of the School.

Please note that this job description is not exhaustive, and the role holder may be required to undertake other relevant duties commensurate with the grading of the post. Activities may be subject to amendment over time as the role develops and/or priorities and requirements evolve.

Person Specification

This section details the attributes e.g. skills, knowledge/qualifications and competencies which are required in order to undertake the full remit of this post.

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc)
Education & Qualifications <i>(technical, professional, academic qualifications and training required)</i>	Hold PhD in Spanish or Comparative Literature with a significant Spanish component.		Certificates/application
Experience & Knowledge <i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i>	Expertise in Spanish language. Research specialisation in Spanish/Comparative Literature. Ability to teach Spanish/Latin American literature. Ability to contribute to comparative literature teaching across the degree programme.	Experience in the delivery of an undergraduate programme in Spanish. Experience in the delivery of an undergraduate programme in Comparative Literature. Experience of the university system in the UK. Experience of life and culture in Spain.	Application, interview, presentation.
Competencies & Skills <i>(e.g. effective communication skills, initiative, flexibility, leadership etc)</i>	Native or near native competence in English. Native or near native competence in Spanish. Effective communication skills. Ability to conduct and publish research as evidenced by a track record of high		Application, interview, presentation.

	quality outputs, and an appropriate number of internationally leading research outputs for your stage of career.		
Other Attributes, Abilities		A willingness to engage with staff and students in the wider life and development of the School and University.	

Essential Criteria – requirements without which a candidate would not be able to undertake the full remit of the role. Applicants who have not clearly demonstrated in their application that they possess the essential requirements will normally be rejected at the short listing stage.

Desirable Criteria – requirements which would be useful for the candidate to hold. When short listing, these criteria will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Other Information

We encourage applicants to apply online at www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx, however if you are unable to do this, please call +44 (0)1334 462571 for a paper application form.

For all applications, please quote ref: AC2108AC

The University of St Andrews is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all, which is further demonstrated through its working on the Gender and Race Equality Charters and being awarded the Athena SWAN award for women in science, HR Excellence in Research Award and the LGBT Charter; <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/hr/edi/diversityawards/>.

The University is committed to equality of opportunity.

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC013532).

Obligations as an Employee

You have a duty to carry out your work in a safe manner in order not to endanger yourself or anyone else by your acts or omissions.

You are required to comply with the University health and safety policy as it relates to your work activities, and to take appropriate action in case of an emergency.

You are required to undertake the Information Security Essentials computer-based training course and adhere to its principles alongside related University Policy and Regulations.

You are responsible for applying the University's equality and diversity policies and principles in your own area of responsibility and in your general conduct.

You have a responsibility to promote high levels of customer care within your own area of work/activities.

You should be adaptable to change, and be willing to acquire new skills and knowledge as applicable to the needs of the role.

You may, with reasonable notice, be required to work within other Schools/Units within the University of St Andrews.

You have the responsibility to engage with the University's commitment to Environmental Sustainability in order to reduce its waste, energy consumption and carbon footprint.

The University & Town

Founded in the early 15th century, St Andrews is Scotland's first university and the third oldest in the English speaking world.

Situated on the east coast of Scotland and framed by countryside, beaches and cliffs, the town of St Andrews was once the centre of the nation's political and religious life.

Today it is known around the world as the 'Home of Golf' and a vibrant academic town with a distinctively cosmopolitan feel where students and university staff account for more than 40% of the local population.

The University of St Andrews is a diverse and international community of over 11,000, comprising students and staff of over 120 nationalities. It has 8,500 students, just over 7,000 of them undergraduates, and employs approximately 2,540 staff - made up of c. 1,190 in the academic job families and c 1,350 in the non-academic job families.

St Andrews has approximately 50,000 living graduates, among them former Scottish First Minister Alex Salmond and the novelist Fay Weldon. In the last 90 years, the University has conferred around 1000 honorary degrees; notable recipients include Benjamin Franklin, Rudyard Kipling, Alexander Fleming, Iris Murdoch, James Black, Elizabeth Blackadder, Tim Berners-Lee and Hillary Clinton.

The University is one of Europe's most research intensive seats of learning. It is the top rated university in Scotland for teaching quality and student satisfaction. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 the University was ranked top in Scotland for quality of research output and one of the UK's top 20 research universities.

St Andrews is consistently held to be one of the United Kingdom's top ten universities in university league tables compiled by The Times and The Sunday Times, The Guardian and The Complete University Guide. The University has eight times been named the top multi-faculty university in the UK in the National Student Survey - a direct reflection of the quality of teaching, assessment and facilities. In international and world rankings St Andrews scores highly for teaching quality, research, international outlook and citations. It is established as a World Top 100 institution in annual rankings produced by QS and Times Higher Education.

Its international reputation for delivering high quality teaching and research and student satisfaction make it one of the most sought after destinations for prospective students from the UK, Europe and overseas. In 2015 the University received on average 12 applications per place. St Andrews has highly challenging academic entry requirements to attract only the most academically potent students in the Arts, Sciences, Medicine and Divinity.

The University is closely integrated with the town. The Main Library, many academic Schools and Service Units are located centrally, while the growth in research-active sciences and medicine has been accommodated at the North Haugh on the western edge of St Andrews.

As the University enters its seventh century, it is delivering a varied programme of strategic investment, including the refurbishment of its Main Library and a major investment in its collections, the opening of a research library, the development of a major arts centre and a Music Centre, the refurbishment of the Students' Union, the provision of 900 additional students beds, the relocation of professional services to purpose built accommodation and the development of a wind-farm and green energy centre to offset energy costs.