



University of  
St Andrews

**School of English**  
**Lecturer in Scottish**  
**Literature**





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St Andrews

# Introduction



*“Our remarkable students and staff are the lifeblood of St Andrews. It is their energy, vision and momentum [we] aim to support, to free them to use knowledge, ideas, and potential for the benefit of all.”* The Principal, Professor Sally Mapstone

Founded in 1413, the University of St Andrews is Scotland’s first university and one of the oldest in the English-speaking world. With more than 600 years of academic excellence, we are proud of our reputation as a world-class centre for learning, teaching, and research.

St Andrews is a close-knit, international community set in a beautiful historic town on Scotland’s east coast. Our students and staff come from over 140 countries, creating a diverse and globally minded environment. We strive to create an inclusive culture in which all can flourish, and the University have attained several diversity awards, including those related to race and gender equality, and support for carers, which demonstrate our commitment to this ambition. The University is consistently ranked among the UK’s top institutions for student satisfaction, research quality, and teaching excellence.

We are a research-intensive university where creativity, collaboration, and critical inquiry are at the heart of everything we do. Whether you are joining us in an academic, professional, or support role, you will be part of a team committed to delivering outstanding education and making a meaningful contribution to society.

For those looking to be part of a university with deep-rooted heritage, a global outlook, and a forward-thinking approach, we invite you to consider joining our community at the University of St Andrews.



# University of St Andrews

## English

The School of English at St Andrews is a thriving community with an international reputation as a centre for scholarly research and literary creativity. It is based in three historic buildings in the centre of town, two of which overlook the castle and the North Sea. The School consistently ranks among the top three universities in the UK for the discipline of English: for 2026 we are 1st in both the Times UK University Guide and the Complete University Guide and 3rd in the Guardian Best Universities in the UK. In the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF), 91% of the School's research outputs were recognised as world-leading or internationally excellent. Creative Writing has been part of the School's undergraduate and postgraduate teaching since the appointment of the distinguished Scottish poet Douglas Dunn as Professor and Chair of Department in 1995.

The School currently has thirty-five academics and creative writers among its permanent members of staff, and six professional services colleagues. The climate of the School is a friendly and co-operative one. We pride ourselves on the care we take of early-career colleagues, each of whom has an established colleague as mentor for support, pastoral guidance and career development. Current specialists in Scottish Literature include Prof. Peter Mackay (Scotland's current Makar), Prof. Rhiannon Purdie (pre-Modern Scots) and the university's Principal, Professor Dame Sally Mapstone.





University of  
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## English

Depending on research specialism within the period ca. 1760-present, the Lecturer in Scottish Literature would join one or both of the research groups for 18th century, Romantic and Victorian literature and/or Modern and Contemporary Literature. The former includes Dr Katie Garner, Dr Clare Gill, Prof. Tom Jones, Prof. Sara Lodge, Prof. Peter Mackay (both groups), Dr Susan Manly, Prof. Nicholas Roe, Prof Jane Stabler, Dr Gregory Tate and Dr Kristen Treen (both groups), while the latter includes Dr Christina Alt, Dr Lorna Burns, Dr Sam Haddow, Prof. David Herd, Prof. Gill Plain, Dr James Purdon, Dr Anindya Raychaudhuri, Prof. Emma Sutton and Dr Kiron Ward.

These scholars work closely with the School's other colleagues to deliver the first-year (pre-Honours) core modules EN1003 'Culture and Conflict: An Introduction to Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Literature' and EN1004 'Empires and Revolutions: Literature 1680-1830' and the second-year core module EN2004 'Drama: Reading and Performance'. All colleagues teach their own specialist modules at Honours level (years 3 and 4) and contribute to the one-year taught MLitt in English Literature.

All four research groups within the School (the other two being Creative Writing and Medieval and Renaissance) include both temporary and permanent staff, postdoctoral fellows and postgraduate students: each group organises events alongside, or in collaboration with, other research clusters.





## Job Description

**Reporting to: Head of School**

**Location: St Andrews**

**Job Family: Academic (Education and Research)**

**Working Hours: 36.25**

**Grade/Salary Range: Salary: Grade 7 £47,389 - £58,226 per annum**

**Reference Number: AC2680LS**

**Start Date: 01 August 2026**

**Interview Date: 7 May 2026**

**Duration of post: Standard**

## Main Purpose of the Role

To strengthen the School of English's record of excellence in the production of original research and the provision of outstanding teaching by:

- Conducting, publishing and otherwise disseminating original research within the field of Scottish Literature ca. 1760-present
- Teaching classes and delivering lectures to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students as well as supervising final year/Master's dissertations and doctoral theses as required
- Enhancing the School's research culture by attracting external research funding and postgraduate students
- Contributing to the effective administration and management of the School's activities



# Key Responsibilities

1. Deliver lectures, seminars and tutorials to sub honours and honours students
2. Devise and assess coursework and examinations for undergraduate and postgraduate classes and provide feedback to students
3. Devise and deliver specialist modules at honours level and seminars at taught postgraduate level related to your own research interests
4. Supervise and examine dissertations and projects in your specialist area – final year, Masters and doctoral theses
5. Collaborate in the development and delivery of short non-degree courses as appropriate
6. Engage in, publish and otherwise disseminate original research
7. Apply for and win external research funding
8. Pursue research influence and impact, and support public engagement
9. Attract and recruit postgraduate students
10. Undertake administrative roles and management functions as required by the Head of School
11. Participate in committees and working groups within the School, the Faculty and the University as may be required
12. Play an active role in building inter-disciplinary links across and outwith the University

*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

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
<p>Education &amp; Qualifications</p> <p><i>(technical, professional, academic qualifications and training required)</i></p>	<p>Hold a PhD in a cognate discipline</p>	<p>Tertiary teaching qualification</p>	<p>Application/ Certificates</p>
<p>Experience &amp; Knowledge</p> <p><i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i></p>	<p>Specialised knowledge within Scottish Literature ca. 1760-present</p> <p>Ability to teach across a range of areas from the late-eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first-century Scottish and other literatures in English to postgraduate level</p>	<p>Specialised knowledge within Irish literature ca. 1760-present</p> <p>Specialised knowledge in the area of modern Scottish drama</p> <p>Experience of postgraduate supervision</p>	<p>Application/ Presentation/ Interview</p>



# Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
<p>Experience &amp; Knowledge</p> <p><i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i></p>	<p>Evidence of commitment to high quality academic teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and commitment to developing innovative and effective approaches to future teaching</p> <p>Developing research track record and clear potential for high-quality research publications</p>	<p>High impact publications commensurate with level of appointment</p> <p>Evidence of success in attracting research grants/external funding and delivering on externally-funded research projects</p> <p>Credible plans for the active pursuit of external research funding</p> <p>Interest in inter-disciplinary research</p> <p>Evidence of participation in relevant academic and professional associations/bodies</p>	<p>Application/ Presentation/ Interview</p> <p>Publication list/samples of written work</p> <p>Application/ Presentation/ Interview</p>



# Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
<p>Experience &amp; Knowledge</p> <p><i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i></p>		<p>Impact and engagement evidence of commitment to the dissemination of research/teaching to constituencies/stake holders beyond the academy</p> <p>Some knowledge of issues and challenges facing universities in such areas as curriculum design, course assessment, quality assurance, enhanced student experience etc</p>	<p>Application/ Presentation/ Interview</p>



# Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
<p>Competencies &amp; Skills</p> <p><i>(e.g. effective communication skills, initiative, flexibility, leadership etc)</i></p>	<p>Effective communicator (orally and in writing)</p> <p>Ability to communicate complex, theoretical and technical material in an engaging and intelligible way to non-specialist audiences</p> <p>Collegiality/willingness to work in a collaborative environment</p> <p>Administrative and IT skills appropriate for efficient and effective delivery of teaching, supervision and research</p>	<p>Ability to lead a research initiative</p> <p>Evidence of aptitude and effectiveness in departmental/institutional administrative tasks</p>	<p>Interview/Presentation</p> <p>Interview/Application / References</p>



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## Benefits

St Andrews offers more than just a place to work—it is a place to belong. We value collegiality, inclusion, and wellbeing, and we are committed to creating a workplace where staff can thrive and perform at their best.

In addition to the salary on offer for this position, there are a wide range of benefits for staff working at the University of St Andrews. The package for the Lecturer in Scottish Literature includes:

- Financial contribution to [relocation](#) (subject to eligibility)
- Membership of the USS Pension Scheme with a generous employer contribution of 14.5%
- A hybrid working environment, including partial homeworking where appropriate and a range of family friendly policies, supporting work-life balance
- Staff discount scheme for local and national goods and services
- Free staff parking, employee Carshare and Cycle to Work Schemes and subsidised local bus travel
- Subsidised sports membership, reduced tuition fees on degree programmes for staff, access to training and development opportunities including LinkedIn Learning, access to library facilities, salary sacrifice scheme
- 34 Days Annual Leave plus 5 Public Holidays.





University of  
St Andrews

# How to Apply



We are committed to creating an accessible, fair and inclusive recruitment process for all candidates. If you require reasonable adjustments or accommodations during the application or interview process then please let us know and we will be happy to discuss support with you.

We encourage applicants to apply online at [www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx](http://www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx)

If you have difficulties in completing the online application form, then please call +44 (0)1334 461990 or contact [vacancies@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:vacancies@st-andrews.ac.uk) to discuss available support.

Applications should consist of:

- Letter of application no longer than 3 pages in a font size no smaller than 11 point, containing a statement addressing the further particulars of the post
- CV
- Names and contacts of three referees

For all applications, please quote ref: AC2680LS

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



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St Andrews

# Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

At St Andrews, we see diversity as a strength and value the rich variety of backgrounds, identities and experiences of our staff, students and alumni. We are committed to making the University a beacon of inclusivity and creating an environment in where everyone can flourish and realise their potential.

*We will achieve this through an approach that empowers our whole community and involves a determined shift in culture. Inclusivity will inform all of our policies and practices. The Principal, Professor Sally Mapstone*

Diverse is a core theme of the University Strategy, and alongside our People Strategy, outlines a number of actions we are taking to create an inclusive culture. Our objectives include raising awareness of diversity events, initiatives and support, strengthening support for staff networks, creating more opportunities for employees to engage in consultations and discussions, offering a diverse range of rewarding career pathways and ensuring a working environment which supports positive working practices and behaviours.

We commit to providing a high-quality staff experience which enables all our staff to contribute, thrive, and perform at their best. By joining us at the University of St Andrews, you are joining a community which values difference, being your authentic self, and where you can play an active role in ensuring an inclusive environment for all.





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# St Andrews

A modern location surrounded with ancient history, St Andrews is a dynamic and friendly town found on the east coast of Scotland. Situated in the Kingdom of Fife, St Andrews has easy links to nearby commuter towns and transport links (including airports) to the nearby cities of Dundee (13 miles) and Edinburgh (c. 1 hour by train).

Beyond the lecture halls and labs, St Andrews is home to stunning, unspoilt beaches and fresh sea air. Take a peaceful stroll or an energising walk with friends along the iconic two-mile stretch of the West Sands. If you prefer the water, ride the waves at the East Sands or try sailing, sea kayaking and windsurfing. For breathtaking views, a walk to the end of the stone pier is an experience not to be missed.

St Andrews and the surrounding area is home to a wide range of restaurants and shops, while boasting an array of beautiful beaches. St Andrews is also the home of golf and there are seven local courses including the famous Old Course.

Fife is an area filled history and culture. There are nearly 5,000 listed buildings and 50 conservation areas across the Kingdom, with some historic structures dating all the way back to the 12th century. St Andrews enjoys a microclimate and is typically much drier than western parts of the country.





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St Andrews

# Further Information

Interviews will be held on 7 May 2026

The University encourages all interested candidates to apply, and all applications received are assessed against the essential and desirable criteria listed in the further particulars. The successful candidate will have to demonstrate their right to work in the UK prior to commencing employment and where required, obtain the right to work in the UK the University can support with visa sponsorship.

You are expected to uphold a duty of care towards colleagues, students, and communities, and to actively contribute to a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment. This includes responding appropriately to disclosures or reports of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence, bullying, harassment, or other concerns, in line with organisational policies, and signposting individuals to the appropriate departments





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