



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Assistant Professors in Political Science x 2 posts Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences School of Law and Government Fixed term Three Year Contract**

#### **Introduction**

Dublin City University ([www.dcu.ie](http://www.dcu.ie)) is a young, dynamic and ambitious university with a distinctive mission to transform lives and societies through education, research and innovation. We are a research-intensive, globally-engaged institution, distinguished by both the quality and impact of our graduates, and focus on the translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefit. Excellence in education and research activities has led to DCU's consistent presence in the rankings of the world's top young universities.

Over its relatively short history has developed a strong reputation nationally and internationally for pioneering innovations in higher education. The university is embarking on a period of significant investment in learning innovation across all of its Faculties. This initiative will help us transform the learning experience of undergraduate students at DCU, reconceptualizing learning opportunities, creating authentic connections between the classroom and enterprise, and embedding digital literacies, disciplinary competencies and transversal skills required to truly future-proof our graduates for the rapidly changing workplace. DCU is joined in this project by a strong consortium of enterprise partners, representing key employment sectors in the Irish economy and with a strong presence in DCU's primary catchment area. This programme of innovation is funded under the Irish government's Human Capital Initiative (HCI) supported by the National Training Fund. It will deliver on the ambitions we have to reimagine undergraduate curricula and to embed innovative pedagogies, enhanced use of technology and deep industry engagement.

#### **School of Law and Government**

The School of Law and Government is an ambitious, research-intensive school offering a range of programmes at BA, MA, and PhD level. The School teaches a BA in International Relations, an interdisciplinary degree in 'Economics, Politics and Law', and offers Politics on the university's Bachelor of Arts (Joint Honours) programme, eight taught postgraduate programmes and has over forty research students on a structured PhD in Politics and International Relations.

As part of the launch of a new BSc in Global Challenges, to be delivered jointly with the Faculty of Engineering and Computing, the School is seeking to recruit two Assistant Professors to begin no later than 1 August 2021. The successful applicant will have a demonstrated research expertise in the substance of the programme, including, for example, in climate change, global inequality, gender inequality, fake news, social integration and conflict resolution. In addition, experience in quantitative methods for political science would be very welcome. A research fit with the teaching needs of the programme will be a factor in short-listing and selection.

### **Relationships**

The position will report to the Head of School and work closely with other colleagues, the Teaching Convenor/Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning and industry partners. Building positive relationships with colleagues in the Faculty of Engineering and Computing, and professional support staff and technical and pedagogy specialists and engagement with key stakeholders within and outside of DCU is an important part of this role.

### **The Role**

The appointee will be expected to support the School in implementing an innovative curriculum project, specifically

- developing and delivering a new bachelors programme BSc in Global Challenges, ensuring a societally-engaged, research-led approach, integration of challenge-based learning, digital tools and hybrid delivery.
- broader implementation of teaching approaches into other target programmes in the school, and
- engaging with university-wide elements of the initiative including cross-faculty cooperation, project evaluation, and reporting.

The role includes teaching, student mentoring and supervision of taught projects and research.

The role will encompass activities across the three domains, as follows:

### **Teaching and Learning**

Prepare, deliver and assess a range of core subjects in a manner consistent with DCU's high academic standards and in a hybrid environment which involves campus and elements of remote delivery. Teaching extends to supporting innovation in curriculum development. Typical activities include

- Contributing to the design and development of new programmes.
- Developing and delivering new or reconceptualised modules and resources, in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering and Computing and external partners.
- Designing and assessing examinations and other types of coursework.
- Using a wide range of teaching and assessment methodologies which foster a deep approach to learning and equip students with the skills and attributes needed to be lifelong learners including challenge-based learning and concentrated and immersive learning experiences.
- Co-designing with other academics and industry partners a suite of tools and initiatives that support the transversal skills pathway and embedding transversal skills development, diagnostics and assessments into new and existing programmes.
- Supervision of projects, dissertations, and student mentoring.

- Proactive engagement with the renewal of existing courses and programmes.
- Engagement with professional development for teaching, especially related to the approaches embedded in the project.

### **Research and Scholarship**

- He/she will be expected to sustain and conduct research, engage in scholarship of quality and substance, generate research income, supervise postgraduate students and publish to the highest international standard both individually and, where appropriate, in collaboration with colleagues in DCU and elsewhere.
- The appointee will be expected to have clearly articulated research interests and research profile development plans that support the school's current research priorities, and which will underpin modules and projects related to the new degree programme.

### **Contribution to the School, Faculty, University and Profession**

Examples include:

- Engagement with planning, quality review and improvement processes, and external programme accreditations.
- Involvement with appropriate professional bodies and associated initiatives.
- Development and delivery of the international activities of the School including international travel to do so.
- Adoption of some administrative functions related to the activities of the School, the Faculty, and the wider University. Such duties will be defined by the Head of School and may include some of the following: degree programme coordination; participation in committees; visits to students on work placement within the DCU INTRA programme; student recruitment.

### **Applicant Requirements**

- Applicants should hold PhD in politics, international relations, or a related discipline, or be very close to completion.
- The successful candidates should ideally have a minimum of three years' relevant post-doctoral experience.
- Applicants must have demonstrated teaching experience at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, ideally including experience in innovative pedagogies and/or assessments, international and/or online or technology-assisted teaching.
- Applications are specifically invited from those with strong research credentials and publication record, reflecting the identified areas of specialisation.
- The successful applicants will also have demonstrated potential to establish an independent research programme and attract research funding from competitive research funding schemes.
- Candidates should demonstrate excellent interpersonal and communication skills consistent with the highest quality of teaching and learning, together with evidence of successful teamwork and a collegial approach.

### **Mandatory Training**

The post holder will be required to undertake the following mandatory training: Orientation, GDPR and Compliance. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.