



Royal College of Art

Postgraduate Art & Design

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post: Senior Tutor (research)

School: School of Design

Programme: Fashion – Menswear

FTE: 0.6

Grade: 10

Responsible to: Head of Programme

Background:

The Royal College of Art is the UK's only entirely postgraduate university of art and design, dedicated to teaching, research and knowledge exchange with industry.

The College's 1967 Royal Charter specifies that the College's purpose is "to advance learning, knowledge and professional competence particularly in the field of the fine arts... through teaching, research and collaboration with industry and commerce". Fifty years on, the College remains in the vanguard of creative enquiry, with around 2,000 students from 65 countries registered for MA, MRes, MPhil and PhD degrees. Applications are strong, and the College's strategy sets out an ambitious plan both to increase student places to 3,000 by 2020 and to launch new programmes underpinned by its world-class research.

The College is located on three sites in central London, in Kensington, Battersea and White City. In 2016 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced an unprecedented £54 million grant to support a major expansion at Battersea to create a flagship innovation campus, housing new research centres, knowledge exchange labs and additional space for the College's highly successful business incubator, InnovationRCA. With planning consent achieved in February 2018, enabling work on the new building is due to start in early 2018 with the completed building being handed over in late 2020.

As well as welcoming students from around the world, the College's global dimension is enhanced through extensive links with business and industry and its partnerships with leading art and design, cultural and educational institutions; including, among many others, its neighbours in Kensington (Imperial College London, the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Royal College of Music, the Science Museum, and the Natural History Museum)

The College has 400 full- and part-time staff, including internationally renowned artists, designers, theorists and practitioners. These staff, together with innovative forms of teaching and learning, dedicated technical facilities and research centres, all contribute to create an exceptional creative and intellectual environment and a remarkable record of

graduate employment. Numerous eminent graduates have created far-reaching impact and influence, and the College boasts such noteworthy alumni as Sir James Dyson, Thomas Heatherwick, David Hockney, Tracey Emin, Christopher Bailey, Julien McDonald, Alison Jackson, Idris Khan, Sir David Adjaye, Suzie Templeton and Sir Ridley Scott.

The Fashion programme is developing its philosophy to embrace the complexity of its constituent disciplines with a new vision of the landscapes and directions afforded by contemporary thinking and practice in the arena of fashion and identity. This will encompass approaches ranging from the craft of tailoring to the technological challenges of bio-synthetic skins and both virtual and augmented positioning.

The programme is developing its relationships with industry and commercial clients for student projects and other activities and these collaborations must now draw from and yet further inform these new landscapes and directions for our practice and thinking. Our show, and other dissemination activities are also being developed to reflect our programme philosophy and values as we engage with emerging practices and thinking about Fashion and Identity today.

Purpose of the post:

The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning and delivery of the Fashion programme focused but not exclusive towards the specialism of Menswear, in consultation with other Senior Tutors and the Head of Programme.

Reporting directly to the Head of Programme, you will be supporting the integration of research activity, industrial projects and curriculum development relevant to the philosophy of the programme. The role will further include, assisting on the development of new course elements co-ordinating external projects, research funding bid development, and promoting the Programme through exhibitions and other dissemination activities. As Senior Tutor, you will be expected to encourage critical design thinking and research.

The successful candidate will be expected to assist with developing links between the programme, new emerging positions for identity driven thinking, as well as the more traditional design positions within the fashion industry. The post holder will be required to develop the capacity of the programme to engage with other disciplines in industry and academia, with a focus on the conjunction of fashion thinking and practice with materials, science and technology and as yet unknown future skills. The post holder is expected to be research active and maintain a high-level research profile.

It is desirable that the post holder has experience of teaching and/or practice as a designer along with knowledge of developing and existing trends within the field of fashion menswear.

Learning & teaching

- Provide academic, pastoral and technical (as appropriate) tutorial support to students, including regular one to one meetings as agreed
- Provide regular feedback to students to help them develop their skills and improve the quality of their work
- Participate in the assessment of student work, including through participation in the assessment board as required, ensuring a rigorous and fair assessment of the work

- If directed by the head of programme, lead a designated high quality project, ensuring delivery on time and on budget
- Contribute to, deliver and where appropriate lead on cross-college, cross-school and cross-disciplinary teaching and research activities as appropriate
- Keep abreast of innovation and best practice in learning and teaching in own subject
- Continually update own knowledge and understanding in academic specialism
- Supervise research students (MPhil or PhD as appropriate)
- Contribute to the development and enhancement of new and existing programmes and pathways, ensuring high quality academic content and innovation in learning and teaching, and assessment
- Contribute to teaching delivery, leading on allocated areas and delivering high quality teaching content that meets the needs of individual students
- Chair the relevant assessment boards as permitted under college regulations
- Explore and exploit the possibilities for collaboration with programmes in and beyond the school
- Coordinate visiting lecturers, setting clear expectations, monitoring performance, and providing feedback as required
- Brief external contributors to programmes, such as guest lecturers or speakers from industry, ensuring support and guidance as appropriate to the programme

Research

- Disseminate research findings through appropriate channels, and in line with the College's overall strategy
- Complete and keep up to date five year individual research plan, reviewed and updated annually
- Develop and follow research interests in line with the strategic direction of the College and school, in consultation with the head of programme and the dean
- Determine relevant research objectives and prepare proposals tailored to the appropriate audiences
- Consistently produce research outputs of at least 3* REF quality to enable submission to the REF
- Ensure that research makes a significant contribution to the overall standing of the school
- Conduct and lead research projects, building a programme of research which contributes to the overall standing and reputation of the College and contribute to school research funding targets
- Lead a research group, if appropriate, managing successful delivery of research objectives, and ensuring effective collaboration high quality outputs
- Provide research mentoring to tutors or others as appropriate, supporting and advising on research projects to help ensure optimal outcomes
- Develop and submit funding bids making a significant contribution to securing research funding in line with school targets
- Explore and exploit the possibilities for research collaboration with colleagues in and beyond the school

Academic management, administration & citizenship

- Participate in student recruitment, including assessing student ability and potential to inform recruitment decisions
- Promote the College to potential students, through speaking engagements, attendance at promotional events, or other relevant activities

- Lead field trips in line with programme requirements, supporting student learning and helping to ensure pedagogic value from such trips
- Undertake risk assessments for work as necessary, complying with the necessary policies and procedures and ensuring the safety of students and colleagues
- Participate in college committees as appropriate, contributing to sound decision making
- Contribute to annual programme monitoring, ensuring quality and identifying areas for improvement
- Support the development of tutors and visiting lecturers through mentoring, advice and feedback
- Manage projects to ensure high quality delivery on time to budget
- Contribute to the College's strategic plan

Knowledge transfer & executive education

- Actively build relationships with industry, and other relevant funding partners to promote the College and its students, to develop potential research and other revenue opportunities
- Lead proposals for knowledge exchange funding and manage any grants awarded to ensure delivery of objectives
- Develop opportunities for knowledge exchange and lead on knowledge exchange projects ensuring value for the College

Skills, knowledge and experience

Essential

- First degree in a relevant specialism.
- A doctorate in relevant field or evidence of appropriate professional practice or academic achievement.
- Substantial knowledge of emerging and existing technologies that are relevant to the horizons of fashion and identity today and knowledge of research/practice within and adjacent to these fields most relevant to Fashion design as Identity.
- Evidence of completed research supervision training.
- Commitment to high quality teaching and fostering a positive learning environment for students.
- Commitment to continuous professional development.
- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the ability to work harmoniously with colleagues and students of all cultures and backgrounds.
- Evidence of the ability to supervise academic work at masters and doctoral level.
- Proven record of producing research outputs of at least 3* REF quality.
- A recognised international profile in relevant specialist field.
- Evidence of the ability to act as principal investigator or co-investigator.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Excellent interpersonal and organisational skills, including the ability to meet deadlines, communicate and motivate effectively.

Desirable

- A postgraduate certificate (PGCert) in higher education and/or accredited fellow of the Higher Education Academy.
- Significant contribution as an effective teacher of postgraduate students and, through teaching, significant contribution to the advancement of the subject.

- Experience of devising and teaching courses, and setting and assessing written work at postgraduate degree level.

Additional information

- Salary working 3 days per week: £31,921 - £35,720 pro rata per annum inclusive of London Allowance.
- Normal hours will total 21 per week over 3 full days, 9.30am to 5.30pm with an hour each day for lunch.
- 18 days annual leave plus extended breaks at Christmas and Easter.
- A contributory defined benefit pension scheme and interest free season ticket loan are available.
- The appointment is permanent subject to a two-year probationary period.
- The College requires newly appointment academic staff who are not in possession of a recognised qualification in learning and teaching in higher education to obtain an appropriate qualification in learning and teaching or research degree supervision within 2 years of appointment.
- Time to conduct research will be allocated to the person appointed on the basis of the College's Academic Employment Framework. This stipulates a minimum of 20% research time for a research academic.
- The successful candidate will be required to work at the Kensington campus, and across the RCA's other London sites (White City and Battersea) as necessary and reasonably requested.

MAY 2018

PAY & BENEFITS

Pension

The Royal College of Art is a member of the Superannuation Arrangements of the University of London (SAUL) which is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme. The college will contribute a sum equal to 16% of your salary while you pay 6%.

Holiday

6 weeks' (30 days) paid leave a year plus bank and public holidays normally observed in England and Wales. In addition, the college is normally closed for six days a year, one day either side of Easter and the remainder between Christmas and New Year.

Season ticket loans

Interest-free loans are available for staff to purchase annual season tickets.

Enhanced maternity and adoption pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to enhanced maternity/adoption pay: 26 weeks' full pay, 13 weeks Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay. This compares to the statutory provision of 90% of average pay for 6 weeks followed by Statutory Maternity/Adoption Pay for 33 weeks.

Enhanced paternity pay

Qualifying employees are entitled to two weeks' paternity leave entitlement at full pay. This compares to the statutory provision of two weeks' pay at the statutory rate.

Enhanced sick pay

Occupational sick pay after six months' service is three months' full pay/three months' half pay.

24/7 confidential support

Staff and family members in their household have access to a free, external confidential support service for work, financial, legal, family and personal problems 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Occupational health

Occupational Health support for the College is provided by Imperial College's occupational health service at their South Kensington Campus.

Cycle to Work Scheme

The Royal College of Art has signed up to the Cycle to Work Scheme – part of the government's Green Transport Initiative – which allows employees to make significant savings on purchasing new bikes and safety equipment.

Childcare Vouchers

The Royal College of Art enables staff to purchase childcare vouchers, through its partner Edenred, as a salary sacrifice scheme.

Life Cover

Active members of the SAUL pension scheme automatically receive life cover. A lump sum of four times your salary together with a refund of your contributions and a 2/3 pension for your dependent/spouse is payable should you die whilst in employment.

Library

All staff are welcome to join the college library.

Events

All staff are welcome to attend exhibitions, lectures and private views held by academic schools and programmes.