

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF ARCHITECTURE

LECTURER IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES

VACANCY REF: HUM-12210

Salary: £35,550-£49,149 per annum according to experience

Hours: Full Time

Duration: Permanent

Location: Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

Manager: Stephen Walker

Email: s.j.walker@manchester.ac.uk

BACKGROUND

We are looking for applications from candidates who specialise in the architectural humanities and/or social sciences and can contribute to research-informed teaching that complements our existing clusters of activity. The post will involve teaching at both undergraduate and taught postgraduate levels, supervising PhD students, as well as research and administrative roles as specified by the Head of Department. We are particularly keen to hear from candidates who can complement and develop the capacity of our existing research themes and expertise.

Architecture at the University of Manchester

The University of Manchester seeks to appoint a Lecturer in Architectural Studies. The post holder will be able to take advantage of the department's presence in a number of structures. As detailed below, we are partners in the Manchester School of Architecture; members of the School of Environment, Education and Development; sit within the Faculty of Humanities, and have established links with a number of other disciplines, and collaborate on initiatives such as the Manchester Urban Institute. The University of Manchester is a member of the Russell Group of research-intensive universities, and is placed consistently highly in both national and international surveys of university education, ranking 35th in the world and 5th nationally.

according to the Shanghai Ranking of World Universities in 2014. Architecture at MSA was ranked 7th globally by the QS World Rankings in 2018.

Manchester School of Architecture (MSA) www.msa.ac.uk

The Manchester School of Architecture (MSA), established in 1996, is the result of an innovative collaboration between the University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University, drawing upon internationally recognised research and teaching expertise within both institutions and with the aim of creating a well-resourced, interdisciplinary centre of excellence in architectural research and education.

Manchester School of Architecture is a joint School, run by the University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University. Our students enjoy the benefits of belonging fully to both institutions, and are taught by a team comprised of staff from the University of Manchester and MMU. We are particularly proud of our commitment to research-led teaching across the School.

<https://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/architecture/study/courses/>

The MSA is one of the top architecture schools in the UK, ranked 6th in the Guardian University Guide 2019, and scoring particularly highly for the employability of our graduates and quality of staff. In the 2014 REF, 75% of our submission (joint with Planning and Environmental Management) was 3* and 4*, rating our research as either World Leading or Internationally Excellent. MSA is highly regarded by the architectural profession and our graduates sought after.

Developing this approach, the architecture department at the University of Manchester is intrinsically inter-disciplinary and is broadly conceived, encompassing, for example, areas in which SEED already has strong interests, such as urban design, planning and development, sustainable cities, global urbanism, design and society, architecture and anthropology, political ecology, sociotechnical innovation and urban laboratories.

Architecture also has research and teaching links to other Schools such as Built Environment within the School of Mechanical, Aeronautical and Civil Engineering, art history and archaeology within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, popular culture within Social Sciences and with the Faculty of Art and Design at the neighbouring Manchester Metropolitan University (through the joint MSA). The opportunities for collaborative architectural research in the University are unparalleled and research bids in a variety of disciplines are strengthened by the involvement of strong architectural researchers.

Manchester Architecture Research Group - <https://www.mui.manchester.ac.uk/MARG/>

Director of MARG: Professor Albena Yaneva

Our mission is to open up new areas of architectural research, create new standards of architectural pedagogy, and facilitate new ways of engaging in public debate.

Unique setting

The successor to MARC, which launched in 2007 with an inaugural lecture by Bruno Latour, MARG has gained an international reputation as a leading centre of architectural scholarship, and has created through the years a vibrant research environment with its series of visiting speakers, symposia, workshops, exhibitions, and debates.

MARG benefits from a unique institutional setting: it is hosted both by The University of Manchester within the School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED), and associated with the Manchester School of Architecture. This allows MARG to benefit from synergies with planning, geography, and a number of humanities disciplines, and at the same time from engagements with the production of architectural knowledge in the context of a lively and engaging architectural school.

Our Agenda and Expertise

MARG's research agenda is driven by the growing realization of architecture as a social practice, and the highly political, cultural and contested nature of the outcomes of architectural production. We understand architecture as a broad social, cultural and technical network that exceeds the work of architects or buildings as objects. We are interested in creative explorations of the inter-relationship between the processes and products of architectural practice.

Our work is motivated by current conditions and on-going developments in architectural design to explore the complex processes and the professional practices, formal and informal, within and through which the built environment is conceived, used, shared, contested, mediated, adapted, and changed.

MARG has developed an innovative agenda around social studies of architecture, drawing on interdisciplinary approaches to architecture and urban development. Since its inception, MARG has been at the forefront of developing and promoting interdisciplinary approaches to understanding architecture, in particular through our expertise in inventively using archival methods, Actor-Network-Theory, ethnographic and anthropological techniques, digital mapping and complexity theory to explore the social, economic and political consequences of architectural design.

Our Research

Our research projects are diverse, and vary greatly in theme and scope, ranging across buildings and cities, temporary and permanent, formal and informal, historical and contemporary, North and Global South, with concern for social inclusivity, the user, the citizen, as well as the designer, the policy maker, the media and so on.

Yet, across this diversity, these projects share an emphasis on situated knowledge and the practices of design professionals and users, the processes of city-making, network dynamics, and technical and design innovations. Drawing on a practice-oriented research philosophy, the work developed at MARG is unique in both the UK and the world.

Embracing experimentation

Embracing transdisciplinarity as a norm, our scholars move beyond the narrow level of professional specialism, opening a creative space within which the disciplines of architecture, political philosophy, sociology, urban geography, historiography, anthropology, planning, visual and cultural studies can be brought together in mutually beneficial ways.

This space supports two sorts of experimentation. On one hand, it allows our researchers to promote architectural expertise and contribute to specific debates in neighbouring fields. On the other hand, it produces new forms of professional, scholarly, and ethical practice within the established field of architecture.

MARG operates as a multi-disciplinary think tank, contributing in particular to resourceful policy interventions, setting new education standards through innovations in teaching, and engaging actively with design and construction practice.

Further Details:

<https://www.mui.manchester.ac.uk/MARG/research/projects/>

Manchester Urban Institute (<http://www.mui.manchester.ac.uk>)

MARG is a part of the Manchester Urban Institute.

Director of MUI: Professor Kevin Ward

Launched in 2017, the Manchester Urban Institute is a distinctive interdisciplinary successor to our Innovative Cities@Manchester programme. The MUI unites the strengths of the Centre for Urban Resilience and Energy, the Centre for Urban Policy Studies, the Global Urban Research Centre, and the Manchester Architecture Research Group (detailed above), making a unique institute developing the four major themes of:

- Informalities and vulnerabilities,
- Smart cities and transitions,
- Spatial inequalities and poverty,
- Urban governance and politics.

The vision of the MUI is to realise more inclusive and just cities that are both environmentally and socially sustainable for the current and future generations through world-leading research, engagement/impact and training activities.

The mission of MUI is to serve as a leading academic urban institute that generates world-class research, achieves high levels of engagement and impact with non-academic stakeholders and trains the next generation of urban activists, decision-makers, researchers and scholars.

To achieve this mission MUI adopts a threefold strategy:

Research: generating research in conjunction with academic and non-academic colleagues around the world that is at the forefront of thinking in global urban studies, supporting this work through major grant applications to support an inter-disciplinary set of four Signature Research Programmes– Informalities and Vulnerabilities, Smart Cities and Transitions, Spatial inequalities and Poverty and Urban governance and Politics;

Engagement, Impact and Making a Difference: developing a comprehensive engagement and impact hub to maximise the difference our research makes in producing more just and inclusive cities around the globe, through working with non-academic stakeholders to address the challenges they face. This will ensure MUI research activities enhance the existing urban contribution to the University's Social Responsibility Goal. This is particularly important in terms of the contribution MUI research is making to debates over the future governance and economic development of Greater Manchester;

Graduate, Post-Doc, and Early Career Education and Development: building on the success of the Summer Institute in Urban Studies (SIUS) in 2014 and 2015 and the large number of graduate students, post-docs and Visiting Fellows that have passed through what will become MUI during the last five years by continuing to encourage and support internal (Simon/Hallsworth) and external (British Academy/Leverhulme/Urban Studies) applications.

The School of Environment, Education and Development and Development

This represents one of the most innovative academic structures of The University of Manchester. It forges an interdisciplinary partnership combining Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, the Manchester School of Architecture, the Manchester Institute of Education, and the Global Development Institute (GDI), thus uniting research into social and environmental dimensions of human activity. The School has nearly 200 academic and research staff (within a total staff complement of 270); over 1000 undergraduate and over 2000 postgraduate students, of whom around 330 are research students.

Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities (<http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/>) is made up of five Schools: Environment, Education and Development; Law; Social Sciences; Arts, Language and Cultures; and the Alliance Manchester Business School. With 36 discipline areas, a total income over £230m per annum, over 16,800 students, some 1290 academic and 680 professional support staff, the Faculty is equivalent to a medium-sized university in the UK. REF 2014 results confirmed The Faculty and the University of Manchester as a genuine international powerhouse, with exceptional performances in a wide range of disciplines (<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/ref-2014>).

The University

The University of Manchester, formed in 2004 by bringing together The Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST, is Britain's first chartered university of the 21st century. With some of the highest quality teaching and research, and the broadest spread of academic subjects, the university will be able to compete with the best universities in the world. The University's vision for the future is the creation of a 21st century institution that will become an international research powerhouse and a favoured destination for the world's best students, teachers, researchers and scholars. The merged University was established with an unprecedented £430 million capital programme to enhance research and teaching facilities and improve the campus. The University is the largest single-site higher education institution in the country, offering students a greater choice of degree programmes and options, and even better facilities and support services. A landmark document, *Towards Manchester 2020*, sets out the dynamic plan for making The University of Manchester one of the top 25 universities in the world by that date. Manchester offers extensive provision for research. Library facilities include the John Rylands University Library and the Manchester Central Reference Library. The John Rylands library is the largest non-legal-deposit academic library in the United Kingdom, providing services and resources to students, researchers and academic staff as well as members of the public, schools and commercial companies. It holds the widest range of electronic resources of any UK Higher Education library. General information about the University may be found on the University website (www.manchester.ac.uk).

The City and the Region

Manchester is one of the great European cities and the University's main campus is within walking distance of the city centre. The city's architecture represents one of the high points of Victorian achievement. The modern city is a major centre of banking, commerce and manufacturing, and hosts MediaCity UK, the country's most significant centre for creative and digital businesses. Manchester has a highly cosmopolitan atmosphere and its cultural life is internationally renowned. Within a fifteen minute walk of the campus there are three outstanding professional theatre companies, the halls of the Hallé and BBC Philharmonic orchestras, the HOME arts centre and other cinemas, and Europe's fastest-growing Chinatown. Amongst developments enriching the area's cultural life have been: the opening of The Lowry at Salford Quays; the Bridgewater Concert Hall; Urbis, the Imperial War Museum North, designed by Daniel Libeskind, and the refurbished City Art Gallery.

Manchester is renowned internationally for sport: it is a venue for Test cricket and the home of Manchester United and Manchester City. The Commonwealth Games were held in Manchester in 2002. The University is a stakeholder in the Commonwealth Pool – now known as the Manchester Aquatics Centre – which offers on campus, world-class swimming facilities. Housing is varied, plentiful and, by English standards, moderately priced. There are excellent schools across the region. Manchester is well served by a major international airport, with direct scheduled flights to many destinations in Europe as well as North America and Asia. Manchester Piccadilly railway station has been refurbished and is served by inter-city and other train services – with a direct link to Manchester Airport. The expanding network of Metrolink tram services offers an alternative mode of public transport from certain parts of the conurbation. Some of the most beautiful countryside in Europe is just over a thirty minute drive from the University, in the Peak District National Park, while the Lake District and Snowdonia are also within easy reach.

Environmental Sustainability

SEED is committed to environmental sustainability and encourages all colleagues to sign up to the [10,000 Actions](#) signature programme available to all staff. Along with the [sustainability seminar series](#), this provides an introduction to sustainability issues, as well as the opportunity to receive your [carbon literacy certificate](#). SEED also take action as a team through [Green Impact](#), or you can take individual action as a [sustainability champion](#). By signing up to receive the [social responsibility newsletter](#) you can keep up-to-date with sustainability news across the University.

OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE JOB

This appointment continues an ambitious plan for the strengthening of the research and teaching capacity of the Architecture Department at the University of Manchester, which has grown to nine permanent staff and a number of associate staff. We are particularly keen to hear from candidates who can complement and develop the capacity of our existing research themes and expertise in architecture and/or the urban.

The objective of this post is to build on this existing strength and will:

- Align with the interests of the Architecture Department at the University of Manchester and with the continued development of the MSA
- Contribute to the curriculums of the MSA and help ensure the student experience at the University of Manchester and the MSA is comparable to the best in the world
- Develop an excellent level of research performance (in terms of publications, funded projects and scholarly activity), where excellence is defined as 'setting the international research agenda'
- Develop research grant applications in order to maintain and enhance external sources of funding
- Ensure the recruitment and retention of high quality PhD students through excellent supervision
- Enhance links with relevant professional bodies
- Enhance links of policy and practitioner communities with Manchester and beyond and contribute to the University's goal of social engagement
- Take an appropriate share of administrative and pastoral duties
- Act in a collegial and supportive manner

Main Responsibilities:

- Conducting research that is excellent by international standards
- Producing publications of international quality
- Contributing to the intellectual development and activities of the Architecture Department and Manchester Architecture Research Group within the Manchester Urban Institute and the Manchester School of Architecture
- Developing research projects and securing appropriate external funding for them.
- Attracting and supervising top quality PhD students
- Offering appropriate teaching in Manchester School of Architecture at postgraduate and undergraduate levels
- Contributing to administration as called for by the Head of Architecture and the Head of School

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- A PhD, or equivalent, in a relevant discipline
- Research expertise, and a strong record of research achievement and publication, in any area of architectural theory and history, and some additional/special interest in one of the following areas: Architecture & politics; Networks of expertise; Design processes & users, Architecture & the anthropocene; Architectures of temporality; Event / media architecture
- A plan for high-quality collaborative and inter-disciplinary research that complements or extends our existing research agenda
- Experience of delivering and promoting the highest quality of student experience
- Evidence of teaching experience at undergraduate and/or postgraduate teaching in higher education
- Commitment to collegiality and the ability to work as part of a multidisciplinary academic team
- Excellent communication skills and an ability to represent Architecture and the University externally to peer groups and external bodies

Desirable

- Membership of a relevant professional body
- A willingness to teach across other areas of the School and University as appropriate
- Experience of engaging with relevant professional bodies
- Experience of engagement with policy and practitioner communities
- A track record of success in external research grant applications
- Involvement in recruiting doctoral students and supervising them to successful completion