

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF GEOGRAPHY

LECTURER IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

VACANCY REF: HUM-027951

Salary:	Grade 6/7 £41,421 to £56,921 per annum, depending on relevant experience
Hours:	Full time (1 FTE)
Duration:	Permanent
Location:	Oxford Road, Manchester

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

Name: Dr Emma Shuttleworth, Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography

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Background

This appointment forms part of an ambitious plan for further developing the research and teaching capacity in the Department of Geography. We are looking to appoint an outstanding candidate who will complement and extend our existing research in Physical Geography, specifically in the field of peatland science.

The appointee will be expected to teach at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as well as undertake a range of administrative and pastoral duties.

The job description and person specifications for this lectureship can be found at the end of this document. Please read these carefully as they will be used in our shortlisting and interview processes.

Research in the Department of Geography

The University of Manchester is home to one of the UK's most dynamic groups of geographical researchers, scholars and teachers. Geography at Manchester has risen to become one of the top tier institutions for its size. Our 43 academic staff and our research fellows are widely recognised for the quality of their contributions to the international research community. In REF 2021, 90% of our outputs and 100% of our impact cases were judged to be internationally

excellent or world-leading. Geography at Manchester also sets international research agendas in other ways. Many colleagues hold, or have recently held, editorial positions with leading journals such as *Antipode*, *Area*, *Dialogues in Climate Change*, *Geo: Geography and Environment*, *Geoarchaeology*, *Journal of the Geological Society*, *Geoforum*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Progress in Human Geography*, and *Transactions of the IBG*. Manchester is known too for the impact and influence of its post-doctoral researchers and PhD students. Many of our graduates now shape national and international policy environments through their work in government agencies, research institutes and activist organisations.

Research in the Department of Geography makes significant contributions to some of the most important intellectual and practical issues facing society. Our research is organised around the following groups:

- Environmental Processes
- Quaternary Environments and Geoarchaeology
- Mapping, Computing and GIScience
- Society and Environment
- Cities, Politics, Economies

The successful candidate will join the Environmental Processes Research Group (EPRG). EPRG is a dynamic group of ~40 academic and technical staff, postgraduate students, and honorary fellows, which brings together expertise from a wide range of geographical sub-disciplines to tackle some of the most challenging research questions associated with environmental risk and response. A hallmark of our research is our close collaboration with practitioners and policymakers, and we are committed to a model of research that fosters interdisciplinary working between research and practitioner communities. Peatlands and ecological resilience are some of EPRG's key areas of research.

There is a strong history of collaboration between these groups and many staff members are active in more than one. You will find information on all of our research groups here: <http://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/geography/research/>

The School of Environment Education and Development

SEED is a diverse part of The University of Manchester. The School combines the strengths of Architecture, Education, Geography, Global Development, and Planning, Property and Environmental Management, thus uniting research into social and environmental dimensions of human activity. The School is also home to the cross disciplinary Manchester Urban Institute. SEED has nearly 300 academic and research staff, over 1500 undergraduate students and nearly 3000 postgraduate students, of whom around 300 are research students. SEED has a strong focus on ensuring that its research, teaching and social responsibility activities contribute directly to the progress of social and environmental justice at local, regional and international levels.

SEED prides itself on providing a collegial, friendly and supportive multi-disciplinary environment. This derives from working in a successful research and teaching institution with a global reputation; by interacting regularly with students from a wide variety of countries and backgrounds; from the high level of assistance provided by professional support staff; from

working on real-world issues of importance to society; from the ability to identify and develop personal interests and priorities; from opportunities for professional and leadership development (through internal qualifications and externally through Advance HE); and by contributing to the SEED's collective goals and ambitions to address key issues of social justice, inequalities and sustainable development.

The five departments of SEED include:

Architecture (<https://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/architecture/>)

Geography (<https://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/geography/>)

Manchester Institute of Education (<https://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/education/>)

Planning, Property & Environmental Management

(<https://www.seed.manchester.ac.uk/planning/>)

The Global Development Institute (<http://www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk/>)

Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities (<http://www.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/>) is made up of four Schools: Environment, Education and Development; Social Sciences; Arts, Language and Cultures; and the Alliance Manchester Business School. The Faculty of Humanities has around 21,000 students, 1,350 academic staff, 650 professional services staff, and £350 million of annual income, and aspires to be one of the most successful Humanities faculties in the world. The REF 2021 results confirmed the Faculty and the University of Manchester as a genuine international powerhouse, ranked fifth overall in the UK, with exceptional performances in a wide range of disciplines (<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/impact/ref-2021/>).

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, scholarship and research, and the broadest spread of academic subjects, the university competes with the best universities in the world. The University's vision for the future is the creation of a 21st century institution that is an international research powerhouse and a favoured destination for the world's best students, teachers, researchers and scholars. 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. Manchester offers extensive provision for research and scholarship. Library facilities include the University Library and the Manchester Central Reference Library. The University 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). World-class research is carried out across a diverse range of fields including cancer, advanced materials, global inequalities, energy and industrial biotechnology. No fewer than 25 Nobel laureates have either worked or studied here. It is the only UK university to have social responsibility among its core strategic objectives, with staff and students alike dedicated to making a positive difference in communities around the world. The University of Manchester is ranked number one in the UK and Europe, and number two in the world, for its social and environmental impact (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023).

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 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; the Imperial War Museum North; and the refurbished City Art Gallery. From 2029, the English National Opera will also be based in the city-region.

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 North Wales are also within easy reach.

Equality and Diversity

SEED recognises the positive value of diversity, operates in ways consistent with anti-racist and anti-sexist agendas, and aims to actively promote equality and challenge unfair discrimination. Our aim is to recruit the person who is most suited to the job, and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds – all genders, people of all ages, sexual orientations, nationalities, religions, and beliefs. However, we particularly encourage applications from women, disabled and ethnic minority candidates because these groups are currently underrepresented in the Higher Education sector, particularly at more senior levels. SEED was awarded Athena SWAN Bronze status in 2018 and Athena SWAN Silver Status in 2023.

Job Description

We are particularly interested to attract peatland researchers that will support and complement the wider research and skills within the Environmental Processes Research Group and the Department of Geography, for example in the fields of hydrology, carbon cycling, ecological restoration, and landscape resilience.

We welcome applications from candidates with experience of working on a range of peatland environments around the world.

Duties of the post

- Undertake research within the field of physical geography, with a broad grounding in peatland science
- Undertake teaching, assessment and supervision in physical geography, particularly on the physical science of climate change, environmental restoration, and/or hydrology

- To contribute to the delivery of the national and international residential field courses
- Raise internal and external funds for research projects (individually and collaboratively)
- Foster research collaborations both within the department of Geography and elsewhere in the School of Environment, Education and Development
- Undertake service and leadership roles, and attend appropriate disciplinary and school management meetings, as appropriate to the grade of appointment
- Participate in departmental and school administrative work
- Contribute positively to the academic life of the Department of Geography

Selection criteria

Your application will be judged against the criteria which are set out below. You should ensure that your application shows clearly how your skills and experience will ensure that you meet these criteria. The Department of Geography is committed to mentoring and supporting all colleagues and particularly values a diversity of academic perspectives.

Essential

- A PhD (or equivalent) in a physical geography or a related discipline
- A developing research profile in peatland science, as demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications, conference activities, and/or evidence of research impact
- Experience in developing and conducting field and/or laboratory based research
- Experience with programming approaches to statistical analysis and/or modelling (e.g., Python, R)
- The ability to develop and deliver new courses in physical geography
- Experience of delivering lectures, computer classes, laboratory based practical sessions, and/or other approaches to teaching
- A willingness to contribute to teaching on residential field courses
- A commitment to collegiality and the ability to engage with academics from other disciplines
- A commitment to undertake responsibility for key administrative and pastoral duties, and service and leadership roles within the Department of Geography
- A commitment to upholding appropriate ethical standards and ensuring equality of opportunity for staff and students

Desirable

- Evidence of research funding success in physical geography or related disciplines
- Experience of effectively working with non-academic stakeholders in a research context
- Experience of working with time series, spatial, and/or stakeholder derived environmental datasets
- Ability to teach on the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the areas of the physical science of climate change, environmental restoration, and/or hydrology

- Experience teaching in a residential field course setting

Further information

Interviews are likely to take place in May/June 2025.

Candidates will be asked to make a presentation on their teaching experience, research interests, and to outline how they will develop Physical Geography teaching and research within the cross-disciplinary context of SEED.