



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Lecturer in Theology, Race and Ethnicity; School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science; Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures



Salary: Grade 7 (£35,333 - £42,155 p.a. pro rata)

Reference: AHCPR1053

Start date: 1 August 2023

Full-time (1 FTE), ongoing

Lecturer in Theology, Race and Ethnicity; School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science; Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures

Are you an academic with proven abilities to carry out teaching and research in the area of Theology, Race and Ethnicity? Are you passionate about delivering an exceptional student experience in a research-intensive Russell Group university? Would you like to join and contribute to the vibrant academic community in the interdisciplinary School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science at the University of Leeds?

As Lecturer, you will carry out teaching in Theology and cognate fields, such as Philosophy of Religion and Religious Studies. You will contribute to the supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations and to the personal tutoring of undergraduate students. You will also be an active researcher, producing high-quality publications and grant applications, and contributing to the overall research environment of the School. The specific focus of this post on Theology, Race and Ethnicity reflects our commitment to diversifying and innovating our curriculum in response to student demand as well as recent societal and intellectual developments.

Based on your specific expertise, you will be asked to lead, contribute to and potentially develop modules across our BA and MA programmes. An indicative but not exhaustive list of existing modules includes: 'Thinking about Race', 'Introduction to Christian Theology', 'Introduction to Jewish and Christian Texts', 'Philosophy of Religion', 'Human Rights and Religion', 'Theology and Public Life'. You may also be asked to teach modules for an online MA programme, notably 'Concepts of God' or 'Philosophy and Spiritual Practice'.

At the time of application, applicants must have a PhD in Theology or a related field such as Philosophy of Religion or Religious Studies, plus relevant subject expertise and teaching experience. We are open to different approaches to theology, such as analytical, constructive, contextual, empirical, philosophical, and political theologies, and in what these bring to bear on the study of race and ethnicity as critical categories of socially-marked difference.

The School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science values an inclusive working and teaching environment and our aim is to develop a diverse staff and student community reflective of this. We select candidates on the basis of merit and ability and aspire to further diversify our School and Faculty community. We particularly welcome applications from candidates belonging to groups that have been under-represented in the University, including but not limited to: people who identify as Black, Asian or with other non-white ethnic groups, people who identify as LGBTQ+, and disabled people.

What does the role entail?

As a Lecturer, your main duties will include:

- Undertaking teaching, supervision and/or assessment at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, while developing and utilising innovative approaches to teaching and learning;
- Contributing towards module design, review and quality assurance processes;
- Providing students with support, guidance and timely feedback, and resolving issues and/or referring to specialist parties, where appropriate;
- Establishing and maintaining a strong, internationally recognised research profile in your field, and pursuing a record of high-quality publications;
- Attracting research income on an individual and collaborative basis, where appropriate and feasible, in order to underpin high-quality research activity and support a developing research agenda;
- Providing high quality postgraduate research supervision, and helping to attract postgraduate research students to the University;
- Actively participating in our research community, particularly in our Centre for Philosophy of Religion and/or Centre for Religion and Public Life;
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests within and, as appropriate, outside the School and Faculty (e.g. the Centre for Racism and Ethnicity Studies);
- Contributing effectively to the administrative processes and committee structures of the School, Faculty and University;
- Maintaining high standards of equality and inclusion practice in all areas of academic activity, in line with the institutional [Equality and Inclusion Framework](#).

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Lecturer, you will have:

- A PhD (or equivalent) in Theology or a cognate field, such as Philosophy of Religion or Religious Studies;
- Evident expertise on the intersections of theology, race and ethnicity, with a focus on Christianity (possibly in comparison to other religious traditions) and a vision for embedding this subject in the teaching and research environment of our School, complementing existing strengths;

- Experience of teaching in a university environment, including delivering lectures, leading seminars or tutorials, student supervision, and stimulating student participation in these activities;
- A track record of high-quality research outputs commensurate with your career stage, with publications already completed and further outputs in prospect;
- A clear plan for developing your research agenda (both individually and collaboratively), pursuing research grant income, accentuating the impact arising from your research where appropriate and feasible, and demonstrating your potential to establish an international reputation and contribute effectively to research assessment exercises;
- A pastoral approach towards individual student needs and the ability to negotiate these sensitively;
- Exceptional communication skills with the ability to collaborate with peers;
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office programmes, such as Word and Excel; PowerPoint; Outlook (or close equivalents); and the capacity to interact with a Virtual Learning Environment;
- The ability to contribute to administrative processes and structures.

You may also have:

- Experience of postgraduate student supervision;
- The ability to teach Philosophy of Religion and certain topics in Religious Studies;
- Expertise in Asian, Black/Afro-centric/Womanist, or Latino/a theology, and/or other contextually/politically engaged theological approaches as they intersect with relevant categories of religion/theology, race/racism and ethnicity, e.g. anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, decoloniality, diaspora, or indigeneity;
- Experience in academic or other organisational management roles.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

In addition to the standard [online application](#), please upload the following as separate documents:

1. A standard academic cv;
2. A recent research writing sample (maximum 10,000 words);
3. A publication list, with peer-reviewed publications starred, followed by a descriptions of future plans (max 1,000) words) e.g. future article or book plans, elaboration of research themes or projects, possible grant applications, future speaking invitations, conference or workshops plans.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Dr Mikel Burley, Associate Professor of Religion and Philosophy

M.M.Burley@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science](#)

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.