



UNIVERSITY
of York

Lecturer in Archaeological and Palaeoenvironmental Chemistry

Department: Chemistry

Hours of work: Full time / 37 hours per week (Flexibility available, see job details)

Contract type: Open

Salary: £40,322 - £49,553 a year



Introduction

One of the key distinguishing features of Chemistry at the University of York is the interdisciplinary nature of much of its research and the way this reaches across traditional disciplinary boundaries. Thus, one of our distinctive research themes is *Archaeological and Palaeoenvironmental (Palaeoenvironmental) Chemistry*, through which we have developed productive links to research in the departments of Archaeology, Environment and Geography, and Biology. We are active partners in [BioArCh](#), which acts as a focus for our multidisciplinary approach to scientific archaeology, with successful collaborative relationships across the globe with academia, museums and policy-making organisations. We wish to develop our work in this area further and so we seek to appoint to a lectureship an individual with research interests in archaeological and palaeoenvironmental chemistry, understood as the use of analytical methods to provide information about the nature, provenance or diagenesis of anthropogenic or environmentally derived materials found in the archaeological, sedimentary or fossil record.

Specific research areas could include palaeoenvironmental or palaeoclimate reconstruction, preservation of organic matter, biogeochemistry, archaeological chemistry, geochronology and biomolecular palaeontology.

The [Department of Chemistry](#) at York is one of the UK's leading Chemistry departments and we are renowned internationally for our research. This is combined with a commitment to teaching and outstanding student satisfaction, and we have been recognised consistently for our family-friendly policies and are proud of our [Athena SWAN Gold Award](#).

We strive to provide a working environment which allows all staff and students to contribute fully, flourish, and excel. We aim to ensure that there is a supportive and egalitarian culture across all staff groups and levels. We promote good practice and a strong culture of equality in higher education. Further information can be found on our [website](#).

We particularly welcome and encourage applications from female candidates, and candidates from minority ethnic backgrounds, who are under-represented within the academic staff group in the Department of Chemistry. Flexibility is offered and the role can be undertaken part-time by agreement. The post is available from 1 September 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Main purpose of the role

The successful candidate will be an accomplished researcher with a proven track record, evidenced by publications, esteem and funding, in the application of various analytical methods and approaches to archaeological/palaeoenvironmental chemistry. By the very nature of the work, it is expected that the successful candidate will have existing collaborations and further that they will seek to develop new ones with appropriate research groupings in York. The successful applicant will also be expected to take on teaching and administrative responsibilities commensurate with the position.

The appointee will have a clear vision for an independent research programme that will complement existing research in this area. Through Chemistry's [own facilities](#), [BioArCh](#), the [Centre of Excellence in Mass Spectrometry](#) and the [Bioscience Technology Facility](#), the applicant will have access to a very wide range of state-of-the-art analytical facilities that will facilitate their work:

- To develop research objectives, projects and proposals and carry out individual or collaborative research projects
- To lead on and/or contribute to the production of research outputs and research outcomes
- To design, develop and deliver teaching across a wide range of modules and/or within a particular programme or subject area

- To undertake effectively a range of administrative and managerial responsibilities

Key responsibilities

Research and Scholarship

- To develop and promote the research activities of the department by developing a personal research plan independently and/or in collaboration with others as part of a larger research team
- Specifically to initiate and lead an active research programme in archaeological and palaeoenvironmental chemistry that will complement existing research in the department in this area
- To reach out to collaborators, both internal and external to the university, to develop and apply the candidate's expertise.
- To plan, manage and undertake research activities in accordance with a specific project plan, and to manage and guide the work of staff and research students in own specialist area
- To develop innovative research proposals, identify and obtaining external sources of funding
- To publish original research in appropriate journals or other relevant media as appropriate and attend international conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results or for personal development
- To engage in knowledge exchange with relevant stakeholders, including the heritage sector and the general public

Teaching and Promotion of Learning

- To develop innovative teaching materials, techniques and module design and take responsibility for the quality of the provision
- To plan, deliver and critically review a range of teaching and assessment activities
- To undertake academic supervision of students (including research students) and act as a research supervisor within own specialist subject area
- To set and mark practical sessions, supervisions, fieldwork and examinations and provide constructive feedback to students
- To identify areas where current teaching provision is in need of revision or improvement and propose and implement improvements

Management and Administration

- To undertake, as required, the duties of a Programme Director and Module Co-ordinator and be responsible for the design, development and management of departmental teaching modules
- To contribute to the recruitment and selection of research and teaching staff
- To contribute to the administration and management of the department
- To advise, supervise and give guidance to other departmental staff as appropriate
- To develop and build internal and external contacts

Person specification

	Essential / Desirable
Qualifications	
PhD in Chemistry or closely related subject	Essential
Appropriate academic professional and teaching qualifications or a willingness to complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice	Essential
Knowledge	
Specialist knowledge of archaeological and/or palaeoenvironmental chemistry	Essential
Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methodologies	Essential
Knowledge of a range of teaching techniques to enthuse and engage students	Essential
Has research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the department's research strategy and goals	Essential
Skills, abilities and competencies	
Ability to teach a range of core, advanced and optional courses in chemistry	Essential
Ability to develop research objectives, projects and proposals	Essential
Well-developed analytical skills	Essential
Highly developed oral and written communication skills, including ability to write and/or contribute to publications and/or to disseminate research findings using other appropriate media	Essential
Ability to deliver presentations at conferences or exhibit work at other appropriate events internally and externally	Essential
Ability to extend, transform, and apply knowledge from scholarship	Essential
Ability to design teaching material and deliver either across a range of modules or within a subject area	Essential
Ability to supervise the work of others, for example in research teams or projects or as an MSc PhD or postdoctoral supervisor	Essential
Excellent IT skills	Essential
Experience	
Proven ability to contribute to high quality research which is publicly evidenced	Essential

Evidence of dissemination of research findings which may include: the presentation of papers at conferences and workshops; participation in public engagement events to disseminate research; the publishing of chapters in textbooks; the publishing of papers; articles or reviews in academic journals or elsewhere; the construction of websites; knowledge exchange activities, including public outreach	Essential
Experience of taking responsibility for teaching and learning at undergraduate and ideally postgraduate level	Desirable
Personal attributes	
Commitment to and Understanding of Equality and Diversity Issues	Essential
Show attention to detail and commitment to high quality	Essential
Display creativity, initiative and judgement in applying appropriate approaches to teaching, learning support and scholarly activities	Essential
Positive attitude to colleagues and students	Essential
Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions	Essential
Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines	Essential
Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills	Essential
Collaborative ethos	Essential
Show commitment to the department/university outside of their chosen field, for example undertaking management and administration duties	Essential
Show commitment to the wider advancement of their research area through engagement with appropriate external bodies, for example as a member of relevant committees	Desirable