

Position description

Senior Lecturer in Ancient Cultures

Department/Unit	School of Philosophical Centre for Ancient Cultures Historical and International Studies
Faculty/Division	Faculty of Arts
Classification	Level C
Work location	Clayton campus
Date document created or updated	1 November 2016

Organisational context

Monash University is an energetic and dynamic university committed to quality education, outstanding research and international engagement. A member of Australia's Group of Eight research intensive universities, it seeks to improve the human condition and is committed to a sustainable future. Monash has six campuses in Victoria, a campus in Malaysia, a campus in South Africa, a centre in Prato, Italy, and numerous international partnerships and cooperative ventures. Monash has approximately 62,500 equivalent full-time students spread across its Australian and off-shore campuses, and approximately 7,400 full time equivalent staff. Approximately 3,500 of these staff members are academic staff. The University's strategic direction is set out in the publication *Monash Directions 2025*, which can be accessed at <http://www.monash.edu.au/about/monash-directions>.

Monash's **Faculty of Arts** is one of the largest of the ten faculties at Monash University and is also one of the largest, most diverse and dynamic arts faculties in Australia. It delivers programs at six campuses: Clayton, Caulfield, Berwick, Gippsland, Malaysia and South Africa. Many of the Faculty's courses are available through distance education over the Internet. Monash Arts has strengths in the humanities, performing arts, languages and social sciences. It encourages research and teaching at the intersection of traditional academic disciplines. Faculty offerings include the full range of the old and new humanities from the classics to communications and media studies. Qualifications offered include undergraduate diplomas and degrees, faculty certificates, graduate diplomas, postgraduate coursework degrees and research degrees. The Faculty has approximately 5700 students and 500 staff. Its annual revenue exceeds \$100 million.

The advertised position is located within the **School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies**. SOPHIS is a diverse and vibrant set of programmes committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement. It comprises Ancient Cultures, Bioethics, History, Human Rights, International Studies, Jewish Civilisation, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Philosophy, and Religious Studies. SOPHIS offers an exciting range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs and attracts some of the best student evaluations of teaching in the University. It is an exceptionally research-intensive School, with ERA 5 (well above world standard) rankings in its largest disciplines of History and Philosophy and 4 (above world standard) rankings in the others, together with an excellent track record of attracting research funding and prestigious fellowships.

The **Centre for Ancient Cultures** though small, with five staff, has a vibrant teaching and research programme. Its teaching is multi-disciplinary and focuses upon the major cultures of the eastern Mediterranean, currently specialising in Egypt, Greece and Rome, while research engages with these and other groups. Staff are active in fieldwork within Australia, Egypt, South Africa and Turkey, and have strong links with other tertiary institutions in Australia and overseas, and the major local state galleries and museums. Research projects have consistently attracted government and other forms of funding. The majority of the units within the Ancient Cultures major are offered by staff of the Centre, and range from introductions to ancient cultures to detailed studies of aspects of Crete, Egypt, Greece and Rome. Other units are contributed mainly by the Australian Indigenous Centre, and include the study of Australian archaeology, and local and international rock art. Archaeology at Monash is ranked as above world standard.

Position purpose

The Centre for Ancient Cultures seeks to fill a continuing position to be taken up by July 2017. The appointee to this position is expected to have a dynamic research and teaching profile, and experience in administration and co-ordination of staff. We seek candidates with a strong track record in the study of ancient empires of the ancient Near East, primarily Assyria, Babylon and Persia, but with knowledge of those originating to both the east and west of this focus area. This open field search welcomes applications from candidates in all areas of specialisation but priority will be given to ancient history and archaeology.

We expect candidates to show evidence of a strong interest in interdisciplinary research and to have previous experience of teaching ancient cultures at the tertiary level.

The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to teaching in the undergraduate and honours programmes. You will also undertake research supervision of graduate students; engage in original and innovative research; be prepared to collaborate in research and team teaching. The successful applicant is also expected to co-ordinate the Ancient Cultures major, which incorporates Ancient History, Archaeology (Australian and Mediterranean), Classics, and language study (Egyptian, ancient Greek, Latin) and supervise the administration of the Centre for Ancient Cultures. You will be expected to develop a new undergraduate unit on ancient empires of the first millennium BCE to extend and strengthen the range of offerings within the Ancient Cultures major.

Key result areas and responsibility

A Level C academic is expected to make significant contributions to the teaching effort of the Centre, the School, and the University. An academic at this level is also expected to play a major role in scholarship, research and/or professional activities relevant to the discipline.

The position will be based at the Clayton campus in Melbourne.

Specific duties required of a Level C academic include:

Teaching

1. The preparation and delivery of lectures, seminars and tutorials
2. Initiation and development of teaching materials
3. Unit coordination (acting as a unit coordinator and offering guidance to assistant lecturers and supervision of sessional staff in teaching unit/s if required)
4. Consultation with students
5. Preparation and assessment of student assignments and examinations

Research

1. Undertake original research that will lead to publications in refereed journals or with high level academic or commercial publishers
2. Develop research projects that are suitable for external and government funding
3. Participate actively in and contribute to the collaborative research culture of the program and school
4. Supervise honours and postgraduate students

Administration

1. Broad administrative functions, within the program, school, and faculty

Other duties

Involvement in professional and community activities and the performance of other duties as required by the Head of the School

Skill base

A Level C academic will normally have advanced qualifications and/or recognised significant experience in the relevant discipline area. A position at this level will require a doctoral qualification or equivalent accreditation and standing. In determining experience relative to qualifications, consideration will be given to teaching experience, experience in research, experience outside tertiary education, creative achievement, professional contributions and/or contributions to technical achievement. A position at this level will require a record of demonstrable scholarly and professional achievement in the relevant discipline area.

Key selection criteria

Essential:

1. A PhD on any aspect of the study of ancient empires of the ancient Near East, but preferably within the discipline of archaeology or ancient history
2. Ability to make a significant contribution to teaching and learning outcomes in the Ancient Cultures undergraduate curriculum
3. Excellent track record in research, including quality publications, external competitive research grants and research funding
4. Evidence of an outstanding record of teaching excellence, curriculum design and proven ability to develop subject materials
5. Proven ability in leadership and co-ordination, and administrative responsibilities
6. Proven ability to coordinate and teach undergraduate and Honours units, with a strong commitment to student engagement
7. Evidence of potential to make a strong research contribution in the field of Ancient Cultures
8. Evidence of successful 4th Year honours and postgraduate research supervision
9. Demonstrated capacity to work constructively and collaboratively with colleagues in furthering the aims of the Centre and the School

Desirable:

10. Strong commitment to collegiality and team teaching
11. Ability to use content management systems (such as Moodle) as a platform for student learning and feedback

Legal compliance

Ensure you are aware of and adhere to legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including: Equal Employment Opportunity, supporting equity and fairness; Occupational Health and Safety, supporting a safe workplace; Conflict of Interest (including Conflict of Interest in Research); Paid Outside Work; Privacy; Research Conduct; and Staff/Student Relationships.