



University of
St Andrews

Computer Science Lecturer





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Introduction



"Our remarkable students and staff are the lifeblood of St Andrews. It is their energy, vision and momentum [we] aim to support, to free them to use knowledge, ideas, and potential for the benefit of all." The Principal, Professor Sally Mapstone

Founded in 1413, the University of St Andrews is Scotland's first university and one of the oldest in the English-speaking world. With more than 600 years of academic excellence, we are proud of our reputation as a world-class centre for learning, teaching, and research.

St Andrews is a close-knit, international community set in a beautiful historic town on Scotland's east coast. Our students and staff come from over 140 countries, creating a diverse and globally minded environment. We strive to create an inclusive culture in which all can flourish, and the University has attained several diversity awards, including those related to race and gender equality, and support for carers, which demonstrate our commitment to this ambition. The University is consistently ranked among the UK's top institutions for student satisfaction, research quality, and teaching excellence.

We are a research-intensive university where creativity, collaboration, and critical inquiry are at the heart of everything we do. Whether you are joining us in an academic, professional, or support role, you will be part of a team committed to delivering outstanding education and making a meaningful contribution to society.

For those looking to be part of a university with deep-rooted heritage, a global outlook, and a forward-thinking approach, we invite you to consider joining our community at the University of St Andrews.



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The School

The School of Computer Science is responsible for all teaching and research in Computer Science within the University. We awarded our first degrees in 1971, and since then we have been known both for our high-quality graduates and our research excellence. The School's student numbers of around 600 taught and 60 research postgraduate FTEs give a student/staff ratio that allows small-group teaching. We pride ourselves on delivering courses that combine mathematical and analytical rigour with practical experience in a friendly and personal learning environment, and on our excellent equipment provision. We have a track record in attaining exceptionally high levels of student satisfaction and employability. Together with excellent equipment provision, this has led to the School of Computer Science placing highly in the UK in the National Student Surveys and Guardian, Daily Mail, Times and Sunday Times Good University Guides. In the 2021 REF 90% of our research activity was identified as "internationally excellent" or "internationally leading".

For more information, see our website <http://www.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk>

Growth strategy

The School is in a period of growth, fuelled by increasing research ambitions and the increasing popularity of our undergraduate and graduate programmes with high-quality applicants. We want to invest in our capacities to target new and emerging areas of Computer Science and its applications, aiming rapidly to achieve the same level of excellence as we have in our existing research areas. Cybersecurity is an explicit growth target.





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Research

We are seeking individuals who both complement and extend the activities of our existing research themes, but equally we are interested in pedagogical research.

The School's research activity is broadly organised into six themes, with collaboration between themes and with researchers outside the School being involved. It is increasingly the norm for staff to belong to more than one theme. At present the themes are:

- **Artificial Intelligence** – including Combinatorial Search; Computational Algebra/Logic; Natural Language Processing; Image Processing; Computer Vision; Cognitive Robotics; Computational Argumentation; Machine Learning Systems; Cloud/Edge Computing; Sensing Systems; Domain Adaptation; Decision-Making and Optimisation via Constraint Programming and Propositional Satisfiability; Responsible and Legal AI.
- **Computer Systems** – including Cloud Computing; Data Analytics, Integration, and Linkage; Middleware; Networking; Security and Privacy; Distributed and Autonomic Systems; Software Engineering; Wireless and Sensor Networks; Software Carpentry; Researcher Training; Software Citation; Reproducible Computational Science.
- **Health Informatics** – including Deep Learning for Cancer Detection and Segmentation in Medical Imaging; AI in Precision Therapeutics; Modelling Epidemics and Information Flow using Complex and Higher-order Networks; AI for Personalised Treatment; Predictive Modelling in Paediatric Critical Care; Health Data Visualisation; Software for Diabetes Management; Big Data Analytics for Multimorbidity; Mobile Health.





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- **Human-computer Interaction** – including Tangible Interaction and Physical Computing; Human centred AI, Sustainability and Nature-based Technologies; Digital Humanities; Equality, Ethics and Privacy; Data Visualisation and Physicalisation; Collaborative and Social Computing; Novel Interaction Techniques; Digital Inclusion and Education; Digital Fabrication Techniques; Design Research and Futuring; User Centred and Participatory Design.
- **Programming Language Technology** – including Compiler Technology; Functional Programming; Parallel/Concurrent Systems; Generative Programming; Language Design; Type Systems.
- **Sustainability** – including Low Power and Edge Computing; Monitoring and Analysis of Energy and Resource Usage; Preservation, Heritage, and Digital Twins; Citizen Science and Public Engagement with Anthropogenic Climate Change.

Our research is supported by funding from a range of bodies including the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC), Medical Research Council (MRC) the European Commission, the Royal Society, The Leverhulme Trust, Wellcome Trust, Innovate UK, and the broader software industry.

We are part of SICSA, the Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance, which is a collaboration of Scottish Universities whose goal is to develop and extend Scotland's position as a world leader in informatics and Computer Science research and education. The SICSA research themes of: Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, Cyber Security, Human-Computer Interaction & Interactive Technology, Systems and Software Engineering, Theory, Modelling & Computation, and Programming Languages have been heavily influenced by research in the School.





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Teaching

The School's main undergraduate programme leads to a BSc (4 years) or MSci (5 years) in Computer Science, or to one of a wide range of joint honours offerings. Exceptionally well-qualified entrants can go directly into the second year of these programmes. Approximately 210 students entered our taught programmes in 2025.

We also offer a range of taught postgraduate programmes leading to MSc degrees. For students with a strong undergraduate Computer Science background, we offer the MSc in Computer Science with specialisations in Software Engineering, Data-Intensive Analysis, and Artificial Intelligence. For students with a background in other subjects, we offer conversion MSc programmes in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, MSc programmes in Human Computer Interaction, Computing and IT, and Data Science (the latter being offered using entirely digital delivery). All these programmes share many modules, with specialist modules core to one course typically available as options on the others. Many of these modules are also available as options to final year undergraduate students and as part of the initial year of advanced training included in our MPhil and EngD research degrees.

Our curriculum is constantly evolving in response to changes in the subject, in its application and in the background of our students, as well as to take advantage of developments in learning and teaching technology. In making these changes, we are careful to maintain our distinctive combination of rigorous science and hands-on experience, and to foster the welcoming and personal environment allowed by our relatively small size.





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We also encourage diversity in teaching and assessment formats, and our delivery includes traditional one-hour lectures; supervised example classes; longer classes including both lecture and discussion time; supervised and unsupervised group work; “flipped” classrooms with video resources; student-led presentations and discussions; individual and group projects and peer instruction. In the early years we make extensive use of small-group tutorial-based teaching, often led by senior staff. Details can be found at <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/computer-science/prospective/ug/> and <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/computer-science/prospective/pgt/>

The School has a population of around 60 research students, mainly enrolled on our PhD programme. In 2016, we launched the first EngD programme in Computer Science in Scotland, and welcomed our first EngD students in the same year, supported by The Data Lab and industry. We also offer a shorter MPhil programme that combines a year of taught courses with a one-year research project, and a one-year MSc(Res) programme that is awarded after successful completion of a research project (with no taught component).

Support for New Lecturers

Academic staff appointed to their first teaching position in St Andrews receive a number of forms of support to help them get started in their careers: a reduced teaching load during their first two years in post; a personal budget for research travel; a budget for appropriate high-end equipment; and a range of mentoring and training.





Job Description

Reporting to:	Ian Miguel (Head of School)
Location:	St Andrews
Job Family:	Academic (Education & Research)
Working Hours:	36.25 hours per week
Salary:	Grade 7, £47,389 - £58,226 per annum
Reference Number:	AC2923CM
Start Date:	To Be Confirmed
Interview Date:	14 December 2026
Duration of post:	Standard, Full Time

Main Purpose of the Role

To strengthen the School of Computer Science's record of excellence in the production of original research and the provision of outstanding teaching by:

- Conducting, publishing and otherwise disseminating original research in the field of Cyber Security
- Teaching classes and delivering lectures to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, as well as supervising final year/Master's dissertations and doctoral theses as required
- Enhancing the School's research culture by attracting external research funding and graduate students
- Contributing to, and cooperating with colleagues for, the effective administration and management of the School's activities



Key Responsibilities

1. Deliver lectures, seminars and tutorials and, if appropriate, laboratory classes to sub-honours and honours students
2. Devise and assess coursework and examinations for undergraduate and postgraduate classes and provide feedback to students
3. Devise and deliver specialist modules at honours and taught postgraduate levels related to your own research interests
4. Supervise and examine dissertations and projects in your specialist area – final year, master's and doctoral theses
5. Engage in, publish and otherwise disseminate original research
6. Apply for and win external research funding
7. Pursue research influence and impact, and support public engagement
8. Attract and recruit graduate students
9. Undertake administrative roles and management functions as required by the Head of School
10. Participate in committees and working groups within the School, the Faculty and the University as may be required
11. Play an active role in building inter-disciplinary links across and outside of the University.

Please note that this job description is not exhaustive, and the role holder may be required to undertake other relevant duties commensurate with the grading of the post. Activities may be subject to amendment over time as the role develops and/or priorities and requirements evolve.



Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Education & Qualifications <i>(technical, professional, academic qualifications and training required)</i>	Hold, or shortly expect to hold, a PhD in a cognate discipline	Tertiary teaching qualification	Application/Certificates
Experience & Knowledge <i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i>	Specialised knowledge in the area of Cyber Security Ability to teach across a range of areas within Computer Science. Evidence of commitment to high-quality academic teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and commitment to developing innovative and effective approaches to future teaching	Experience of postgraduate supervision Experience of teaching undergraduate Computer Science topics. Experience of leading small group tutorials. Evidence of success in attracting research grants/external funding and delivering on externally-funded research projects	Application/Presentation/Interview Publication List



Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Experience & Knowledge <i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i>	Developing research track record and clear potential for high-quality research publications Working knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods and analysis Understanding of legal, ethical and professional responsibilities in cyber security research and education, including the safe handling of security-sensitive information. Ability to design and deliver practical, research-led cyber security teaching, including laboratory, project or scenario-based learning	Credible plans for the active pursuit of external research funding Interest in inter-disciplinary research High impact publications commensurate with level of appointment Evidence of participation in relevant academic and professional associations/bodies Impact and engagement evidence of commitment to the dissemination of research/teaching to constituencies/stake holders beyond the academy	Application/Presentation/Interview Publication List



Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Experience & Knowledge (examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)		Some knowledge of issues and challenges facing universities in such areas as curriculum design, course assessment, quality assurance, enhanced student experience etc	Application/Presentation/Interview Publication List
Competencies & Skills (e.g. effective communication skills, initiative, flexibility, leadership etc)	Effective communicator (orally and in writing) Ability to communicate complex, theoretical and technical material in an engaging and intelligible way to non-specialist audiences Collegiality/willingness to work in a collaborative environment	Ability to lead a research initiative Evidence of aptitude and effectiveness in departmental/institutional administrative tasks	Application/Interview/Presentation References



Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Competencies & Skills (e.g. <i>effective communication skills, initiative, flexibility, leadership etc</i>)	Administrative and IT skills appropriate for efficient and effective delivery of teaching, supervision and research Ability to communicate cyber security risks, concepts and research findings effectively to technical and non-technical audiences.		Application/Interview/Presentation References

Essential Criteria – requirements without which a candidate would not be able to undertake the full remit of the role. Applicants who have not clearly demonstrated in their application that they possess the essential requirements will normally be rejected at the short-listing stage.

Desirable Criteria – requirements which would be useful for the candidate to hold. When short listing, these criteria will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.



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Benefits

St Andrews offers more than just a place to work—it is a place to belong. We value collegiality, inclusion, and wellbeing, and we are committed to creating a workplace where staff can thrive and perform at their best.

In addition to the salary on offer for this position, there are a wide range of benefits for staff working at the University of St Andrews. The package for the Lecturer role includes:

- Financial contribution to relocation (subject to eligibility)
- Membership of the USS Pension Scheme with a generous employer contribution of 14.5%
- A hybrid working environment, including partial homeworking where appropriate and a range of family friendly policies, supporting work-life balance
- Staff discount scheme for local and national goods and services
- Free staff parking, employee Carshare and Cycle to Work Schemes and subsidised local bus travel
- Subsidised sports membership, reduced tuition fees on degree programmes for staff, access to training and development opportunities including LinkedIn Learning, access to library facilities, salary sacrifice scheme
- 34 Days Annual Leave plus 5 Public Holidays



How to Apply



We are committed to creating an accessible, fair and inclusive recruitment process for all candidates. If you require reasonable adjustments or accommodations during the application or interview process then please let us know and we will be happy to discuss support with you.

We encourage applicants to apply online at www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx

If you have difficulties in completing the online application form, then please call +44 (0)1334 461990 or contact vacancies@st-andrews.ac.uk to discuss available support.

Applications should consist of:

- Letter of application
- CV
- Names and contacts of two referees

For all applications, please quote ref: **AC2923CM**

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC013532).



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Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

At St Andrews, we see diversity as a strength and value the rich variety of backgrounds, identities and experiences of our staff, students and alumni. We are committed to making the University a beacon of inclusivity and creating an environment where everyone can flourish and realise their potential.

We will achieve this through an approach that empowers our whole community and involves a determined shift in culture. Inclusivity will inform all of our policies and practices. The Principal, Professor Sally Mapstone

Diverse is a core theme of the University Strategy, and alongside our People Strategy, outlines a number of actions we are taking to create an inclusive culture. Our objectives include raising awareness of diversity events, initiatives and support, strengthening support for staff networks, creating more opportunities for employees to engage in consultations and discussions, offering a diverse range of rewarding career pathways and ensuring a working environment which supports positive working practices and behaviours.

We commit to providing a high-quality staff experience which enables all our staff to contribute, thrive, and perform at their best. By joining us at the University of St Andrews, you are joining a community which values difference, being your authentic self, and where you can play an active role in ensuring an inclusive environment for all.





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A modern location surrounded with ancient history, St Andrews is a dynamic and friendly town found on the east coast of Scotland. Situated in the Kingdom of Fife, St Andrews has easy links to nearby commuter towns and transport links (including airports) to the nearby cities of Dundee (13 miles) and Edinburgh (c. 1 hour by train).

Beyond the lecture halls and labs, St Andrews is home to stunning, unspoilt beaches and fresh sea air. Take a peaceful stroll or an energising walk with friends along the iconic two-mile stretch of the West Sands. If you prefer the water, ride the waves at the East Sands or try sailing, sea kayaking and windsurfing. For breathtaking views, a walk to the end of the stone pier is an experience not to be missed.

St Andrews and the surrounding area is home to a wide range of restaurants and shops, while boasting an array of beautiful beaches. St Andrews is also the home of golf and there are seven local courses including the famous Old Course.

Fife is an area filled with history and culture. There are nearly 5,000 listed buildings and 50 conservation areas across the Kingdom, with some historic structures dating all the way back to the 12th century. St Andrews enjoys a microclimate and is typically much drier than western parts of the country.



Further Information

This post will be primarily based in St Andrews.

Interviews will be held on 14 December 2026.

The University encourages all interested candidates to apply, and all applications received are assessed against the essential and desirable criteria listed in the further particulars. The successful candidate will have to demonstrate their right to work in the UK prior to commencing employment and where required, the University can support with visa sponsorship.

You are expected to uphold a duty of care towards colleagues, students, and communities, and to actively contribute to a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment. This includes responding appropriately to disclosures or reports of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence, bullying, harassment, or other concerns, in line with organisational policies, and signposting individuals to the appropriate departments





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