



University of
St Andrews

**School of Philosophical,
Anthropological, and Film Studies
Lecturer in Early Modern
and/or Modern Philosophy**





University of
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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.



University of
St Andrews

School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies

Philosophy at St Andrews has an international reputation in both teaching and research. The philosophy department was ranked 2nd in the UK in the most recent Times and Sunday Times UK Good University Guide as well as 3rd in the most recent Guardian University Guide. The University won a Gold Award in the 2017 Teaching Excellence Framework. In the most recent (2021) Research Excellence Framework (REF), the department came out 1st in the UK for its research outputs, both in their GPA and in the percentage of highest category or 'world-leading'.

As of the 2026-27 academic year, we have 27 permanent full-time academic staff, as listed below.

Dr. Elizabeth Ashford (ethics, political philosophy)

Dr. Derek Ball (philosophy of mind, philosophy of language)

Prof. Franz Berto (logic, metaphysics, epistemology, computation)

Dr. Miriam Bowen (logic, probability, rationality)

Prof. Jessica Brown (epistemology, methodology of philosophy)

Dr. Jason Carter (ancient philosophy, Islamic philosophy, metaphysics, mind)

Prof. Aaron Cotnoir (metaphysics, logic, philosophy of religion)

Dr. Justin D'Ambrosio (philosophy of language, philosophy of mind)

Dr. Alex Douglas (Spinoza, early modern philosophy, history of logic, philosophy of economics)

Dr. Adam Etinson (social and political philosophy, ethics, human rights)

Dr Jade Fletcher (metaphysics, social and feminist philosophy)

Dr. Patrick Greenough (epistemology, philosophy of language, philosophy of logic)





University of
St Andrews

School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies

Dr. Margaret Hampson (ancient philosophy)

Prof. James Harris (Hume, early modern philosophy, history of political thought)

Dr. Lisa Jones (aesthetics, ethics, feminist philosophy)

Prof. Joseph Millum (bioethics, moral philosophy, research ethics, global justice, health policy)

Dr. Alice Murphy (philosophy of science, epistemology, aesthetics)

Dr. Walter Pedriali (logic, language, epistemology, normativity, modern European philosophy)

Prof. Simon Prosser (philosophy of mind, philosophy of perception, metaphysics)

Prof. Theron Pummer (ethics, political philosophy, metaphysics)

Prof. Greg Restall (formal logic, philosophy of logic, metaphysics, philosophy of language)

Dr. Ben Sachs-Cobbe (ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of law)

Prof. Jens Timmermann (Kant, ethics, ancient philosophy)

Dr. Mara van der Lugt (early modern and modern philosophy, ethics)

Dr. Matthew Vermaire (epistemology)

Dr. Cecily Whiteley (philosophy of mind, philosophy of science, psychiatry, psychology, neuroscience)

Dr. Nicholas Wiltsher (aesthetics, philosophy of mind, feminist philosophy)

As of 2026-27, the following hold part-time appointments: Prof. Tim Mulgan (Auckland); Prof. Stephen Gardiner (Washington); Prof. Sanford Goldberg (Northwestern); Prof. Gillian Russell (Australian National University); Prof. Jennifer Saul (Waterloo); Dr. Justin Snedegar (Virginia); Prof. Amie Thomasson (Dartmouth). At any given time, there are usually also a number of temporary postdoctoral research or teaching staff. Full details about us, including individual staff profiles, can be found at our website: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/philosophy/>





University of
St Andrews

School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies

Undergraduate Teaching

We offer a wide range of undergraduate degree programmes in Philosophy as Single and Joint Honours Programmes. Philosophy is a popular subject: first year enrolments are over 700 (across two modules) and second year enrolments are over 430 (across four modules). At Honours level, we offer modules covering a full range of topics in both contemporary philosophy and the history of philosophy. Colleagues are encouraged to develop Honours modules in the areas of their own research specialisms. We also participate in the part-time Evening Degree programme.

Postgraduate Teaching and Supervision

Our postgraduate programmes are run jointly with the University of Stirling. We enrol around 40-45 students each year for the one-year MLitt degree. We have around 60 students pursuing PhDs or research-based MPhils/MRes. The graduate programme has expanded significantly in recent years, and it is a priority for us to maintain sustainable growth in this area.

Research

Philosophical research in St Andrews flourishes across a wide range of specialisms, including the history of philosophy. We maintain collaborative research projects with universities both in the UK and abroad. The two research centres based in the philosophy department, Arché and CEPPA, along with StAIGS, which is based in the School, are natural contexts for new research projects, and grant applications, in most core areas of philosophy. We also collaborate with the Institute of Intellectual History, co-directed by Prof. James Harris.





University of
St Andrews

School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies

Arché (The Philosophical Research Centre for Logic, Language, Metaphysics and Epistemology) was founded in 1998, and has hosted many significant research projects over the past twenty years. Currently seven research groups are active at Arché, working on (i) Philosophy of Language, (ii) Current Themes in Epistemology, (iii) Metaphysics and Logic, (iv) Feminist Philosophy and Social Theory, (v) Medieval Logic, (vi) Instruments of Unity: The Many Ways of Being One, (vii) What if? – Knowing by Imagining (WIKI), and (ix) Aesthetic Values and the Social Dimensions of Science. Each current project has a core team working in St Andrews, including a project leader and a number of associated postgraduate students. Other members of Arché include our Professorial Fellows (distinguished scholars who visit regularly for half a semester each year). Programmes of seminars, workshops and international conferences are associated with each project. For further details, please visit the Arché website: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/arche/>

The Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs (CEPPA) promotes exploration into important ethical issues arising in public life. Its field of interest comprises ethics, social and political philosophy, and the philosophical dimensions of public affairs. The *Centre* houses research projects, outreach projects, seminars, conferences, academic visits, fellowships, publishing, and public discussion on topics within its field of interest. Its current research projects are: (i) Kantian Ethics; (ii) Existential Gratitude and Spirituality; (iii) Philosophy and Climate; (iv) Human Rights and Global Justice; (v) Health and Medicine; and (vi) Virtue and Character. For further details, please visit the CEPPA website at <http://ceppa.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk>





University of
St Andrews

School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies

The St Andrews Institute for Gender Studies (StAIGS), based in the School of Philosophical, Anthropological, and Film Studies, brings together staff from across the university with research interests in gender. StAIGS has over 100 Academic Affiliates across 18 schools, and runs regular research seminars. For further details, please visit the StAIGS website at <https://staigs.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/>

Environment and Facilities

Our building, Edgecliffe, has views across St Andrews Bay to the eastern Grampian Mountains. A graduate study centre is situated nearby in College Street. The main University Library, just across the road, has a very substantial Philosophy collection, including around 100 current Philosophy journals.

The Philosophical Quarterly

The Philosophical Quarterly is one of the most highly regarded and established academic journals in philosophy. Jointly owned by the University of St Andrews and the Scots Philosophical Association and with offices in Edgecliffe, it is edited by an Editorial Board comprising staff at St Andrews and representatives from every Scottish philosophy department.





Job Description

Reporting to: Head of School (Prof. Adam Reed)

Location: St Andrews

Job Family: Academic (Education & Research)

Working Hours: Full time / 36.25 hours

Grade/Salary Range: Grade 7, £47,389 - £58,226 pa

Reference Number: AC2925RS

Start Date: 1 September 2027

Interview Date: 26 January 2027

Duration of post: Permanent

Main Purpose of the Role

To strengthen the Department of Philosophy'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 Early Modern and/or Modern Philosophy (17th-19th century).
- 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 the effective administration and management of the School's activities



Key Responsibilities

1. Deliver lectures, seminars and tutorials to sub honours, honours, and taught postgraduate 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, grounded in publications in the most selective research journals and with the leading academic book publishers in philosophy, appropriate for submission to the UK Research Excellence Framework (REF)
6. Apply for and win external research funding
7. Pursue research influence and impact, and support public engagement
8. Attract and recruit excellent 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 outwith 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 a PhD in philosophy, or a suitable cognate discipline, already awarded at the time of application save for exceptional circumstances	Tertiary teaching qualification	Application/Certificates
Experience & Knowledge <i>(examples of specific experience and knowledge sought)</i>	Specialised knowledge in the area of Early Modern and/or Modern Philosophy (17th – 19th century) Ability to teach across a range of areas within philosophy Evidence of commitment to high quality academic teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and commitment to developing innovative and effective approaches to future teaching	Research expertise in areas that build on or complement existing research strengths of the department Experience of postgraduate supervision Evidence of success in attracting research grants/external funding and delivering on externally-funded research projects Credible plans for the active pursuit of external research funding Interest in inter-disciplinary research	Application/Presentation/ Interview/Publication list/samples of written work



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 evidence of potential for high-quality research publications, comparable with work produced by members of the best UK Philosophy departments	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/stakeholders beyond the academy Some knowledge of issues and challenges facing universities in such areas as curriculum design, course assessment, quality assurance, enhanced student experience etc	



Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment (i.e. application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
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 Administrative and IT skills appropriate for efficient and effective delivery of teaching, supervision and research	Ability to lead a research initiative Evidence of aptitude and effectiveness in departmental/institutional administrative tasks	Interview/Application/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.



University of
St Andrews

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 in Early Modern and/or Modern Philosophy 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 in the first instance consist of:

- **Letter of application** (no more than three pages on your background and suitability for the role, including brief summaries of your research interests, plans to make your research impactful in the sense relevant to the REF, teaching experience, plans for applications for external funding).
- **CV** (giving details of education, career to date, publications, teaching experience and any other information relevant to the person specification described above)
- **Names and contacts of two referees**

How to Apply



Later, for candidates who are shortlisted, we will request references and:

Two writing samples, representative of the candidate's best research to date. These may be single- or co-authored journal articles, conference proceedings, chapters in collections, or (selected chapters from) monographs.

For all applications, please quote ref: **AC2925RS**

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



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St Andrews

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.



St Andrews

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 **26 January 2027**.

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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St Andrews