University of St Andrews | FOUNDED 1413



School of Modern Languages

Associate Lecturer in Spanish Studies (Education Focused)

“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



Introduction

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.

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.

We have been named the UK's best university in The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2027. It is the third time in six years the university has secured the top spot in the UK's longest-running university league table.

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.

THE TIMES
THE SUNDAY TIMES
GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2027
1 RANKED FIRST IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



School of Modern Languages

The School of Modern Languages at the University of St Andrews:

• is one of the largest and most diverse of its kind in the UK - the School offers degree programmes in eight languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Italian, German, Persian, Russian, and Spanish) as well as a dynamic cross-disciplinary programme in Comparative Literature

• is consistently rated among the best in the UK in major national rankings - the Guardian University Guide ranked St Andrews 1st in Scotland and 3rd in the UK for Languages and Linguistics in 2027

• prides itself on being a vibrant, diverse, inclusive and engaging academic community that welcomes all students wishing to pursue the study of foreign languages and cultures and comparative literature

• believes that the acquiring of high-level language skills goes hand in hand with studying culture - with partners all over Europe, Latin America, China, Taiwan and the Middle East, the School sees living, studying, and working abroad as an integral part of language study

• has an exceptionally broad variety of research interests ranging from the medieval period to the present day and engages with literatures and cultures from around the world

• was ranked first in Scotland in the most recent UK national Research Excellence Framework review - more than 80% of the School's research and impact was judged to be world-leading or internationally excellent



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• is home to three research centres (the Centre for Poetic Innovation, the Centre for Cross-Cultural c. 19th Century Research, and the Centre for Global Postsocialisms, Southeast, Central, and East European Studies) and one research institute (the Cultural Identity and Memory Studies Institute) as well as the annual Byre World programme which brings together staff, students, and guests in events that share the School's research with the wider University and the public; in 2024 the School hosted the University of St Andrews' first Festival of Languages

Visit the School of Modern Languages website to learn more –

www .st-andrews.ac.uk/modlangs/

Undergraduate Studies

The School of Modern Languages offers a wide range of degree programmes in one, two or three languages, or in one or two languages and a non-language subject. Comparative Literature, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish all offer Single Honours degree programmes; Arabic, Chinese French, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish, and Comparative Literature can be taken as part of a Joint Honours programme in a large array of subject combinations within and outwith the School. Degree structures are amongst the most flexible in the UK, with students normally taking three subjects in their first year, two or three in their second year, then narrowing down to their degree choice in their two Honours years. Students acquire a solid understanding of the target culture, including language, literature, history and society, and may pursue their individual



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interests in these areas through the wide range of choices available in their two Honours years. All these activities are underpinned by vigorous promotion of independent, critical thought and intellectual curiosity.

Almost all Modern Languages undergraduates spend a full year abroad, usually on assistantships or University exchanges: the School is committed to undergraduate credit transfer and to links with partner universities. The minimum length of the Honours degree course is 4 years, with an additional integrated year for those undertaking an assistantship or other work placement abroad. The School prides itself on the standard of its teaching and continues to attract large numbers of high-quality applicants

Postgraduate Studies

The School offers a wide range of postgraduate opportunities, both taught and research-based. Supervision for PhD students is available in all areas covered by staff expertise. This expertise is complemented by research resources and study facilities, which reflect the highest standards. The School is home to a lively international postgraduate community. We currently have around fifty students from all over the world reading for taught or research postgraduate degrees in an exceptional variety of areas, including comparative literature, creativity and performance, gender and sexuality studies, history, politics and society, medical humanities and cultures of science, medieval and modern studies, memory studies, postcolonial and transnational studies, and translation studies and linguistics.



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Spanish Studies at St Andrews

The Department of Spanish prides itself on being a vibrant and engaging academic community. The Department is committed to creating an environment that supports equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Undergraduate study in Spanish is open to beginners as well those who have studied Spanish as a main subject at school - with language streams in years one and two tailored to students' language proficiency. Core language modules build on each other to expand and develop Spanish language competence and confidence. Acquisition of high-level Spanish language skills goes hand-in-hand with studying Spanish-language literature and culture. Optional cultural studies modules reflect the Department's contemporary, interdisciplinary, inclusive approach to Spanish studies.

Learn more about Spanish studies at St Andrews:

www and .st-andrews.ac.uk/modern-languages/subjects/spanish/

Learn more about staff in the Department of Spanish:

www .st-andrews.ac.uk/modern-languages/people/spanish/



Job description

Reporting to: Head of School

Location: School of Modern Languages

Job Family: Academic Teaching

Working Hours: Full time, 36.25 hours per week

Grade / Salary Rage: Grade 6 / £39,560 - £46,970 per annum

Reference Number: AOAC1549XXSB

Start Date: January 2027

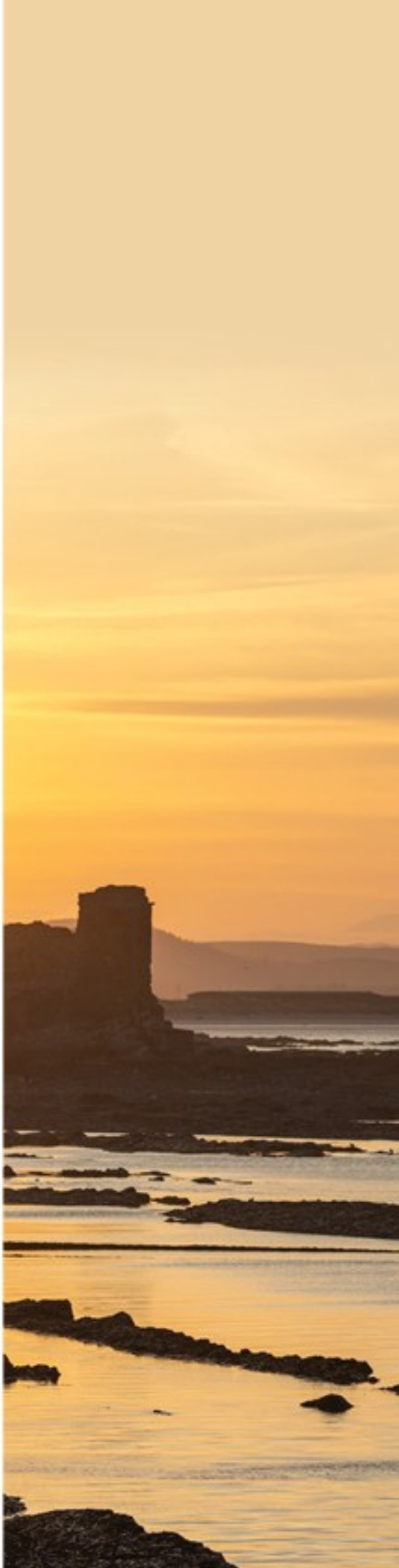
Interview Date: To be confirmed

Duration of post: Fixed term until 31 December 2029

Main purpose of the role

The role holder will:

- Teach on relevant undergraduate modules at sub-honours and honours levels.
- Assess student coursework and examinations and provide constructive feedback.
- Contribute to relevant administrative functions within the School and the Department of Spanish including, if required, taking on relevant administrative duties and/or coordinating Spanish language and content modules.



Key responsibilities

1. Undertake teaching and assessment duties as needed for sub-honours and honours Spanish language modules and Spanish content modules, and Comparative Literature modules.

2. Adhere to teaching-related policies and procedures including, among other things, those relating to student attendance and assessment, module administration, and student support.

3. Undertake teaching-related administrative duties as required by the Head of School or Head of Department; this may include taking on a defined teaching administration role within the Department and/or coordination of one or more Spanish language modules.

4. Participate in committees and working groups within the School as may be required.

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

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.

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of assessment (i.e application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Education & qualifications (technical, professional, academic, qualifications and training required)	Hold a UK honours degree in a relevant subject or an equivalent international qualification Doctorate in a Cognate discipline		Application

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)	Experience in delivering Spanish language, literature. and culture teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level. Previous teaching experience including experience in assessment and examining.	Experience of teaching comparative literature. Teaching experience in a UK or anglophone higher education institution. Experience of language-based outreach activities. Publications and/or conference presentations in the field of pedagogical scholarship.	Application, Interview, Presentation

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)	Full professional competence in Spanish and English. Proven communication, interpersonal, and presentation skills and cultural awareness. Ability to engage the interest and enthusiasm of students and inspire them to learn. Proven ability to improve own performance by reflecting on teaching design and delivery and obtaining and responding constructively to feedback. Courtesy, respect, and collegiality at all times.	Well-developed analytical and problem-solving capability, able to apply appropriate levels of initiative, judgement, and creativity	Application, Interview, Presentation

Person specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of assessment (i.e application form, interview, test, presentation etc.)
Other attributes / abilities	Appreciation of the needs of individual students and their circumstances; ability to refer students as appropriate to services providing further help.		Interview

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 Associat Lecturer in Spanish Studies (Education Focused) 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

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 include:

- Cover letter summarising your suitability for the role with reference to the person specification (1 page maximum)
- Complete academic CV
- Names and contacts of two academic referees

For all applications, please quote ref: AOAC1549XXSB



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 in 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 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

Interviews will be held in December 2026 (date to be confirmed)

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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