

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR VISITING ACADEMIC STAFF

The Department of Biological Sciences is inviting applications for the position of Visiting Academic Staff at the rank of Assistant Professor, in the field of Biodiversity and Ecology for the Fall semester 2021-22 (1st September 2021 - 31st December 2021). The final offer of the position depends on availability of University funds.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SELECTION CRITERIA:

- The candidate must have a PhD from a recognised university on a relevant subject.
- All postgraduate courses of the Department are taught in English. Excellent spoken English is thus a requirement for the position.
- Applicants should have a tenure-track or permanent position at a recognised university and their research profile should be relevant to the postgraduate courses described below. In exceptional cases, the applicant might be a younger academic who has demonstrated academic excellence. It is self-evident that the selected applicant must have secured a leave of absence (sabbatical or unpaid leave of absence) from their university.
- Applicants need not be citizens of the Republic of Cyprus. Applicants should however ensure, before applying, that in case they are selected they will be residing in Cyprus on a full-time basis during the employment period; submission of application implies acceptance of this condition. Acceptance of this term must be also explicitly stated in the letter of application
- Additional selection criteria (optional): (a) Academic excellence (papers, books, other publications, citations, as a function of the research career length of the candidate and their university). (b) Teaching needs of the Department.

APPLICATION:

Applicants are invited to submit their application and upload the following documents in PDF form, at the following link:

<https://applications.ucy.ac.cy/recruitment/main>

- (a) Full recent CV
- (b) An expression of interest letter for the specific position.
- (c) Copies of degrees and transcripts.
- (d) Representative publications.
- (e) Teaching experience.
- (f) If applying for the first time to the Department, applicants must also arrange for two academic referees to send letters of recommendation directly to (sofokleous.athina@ucy.ac.cy). The names and e-mails of these referees must be submitted with the application.

Further information can be requested from the following email address: sofokleous.athina@ucy.ac.cy .

Applications must be submitted by **Friday, April 23, 2021, by 11:00** a.m. the latest. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be taken into account.

EMPLOYMENT TERMS:

The applicant who will be selected will work entirely at the University of Cyprus. If the applicant works anywhere else an unpaid leave or a Sabbatical leave should be ensured.

Invited Academics are employed on a full-time basis, which means an average of 12 teaching hours per week (i.e., 3 courses per semester).

Monthly salaries may vary in accordance with general variations imposed by the state. In addition, a 13th salary will be paid relative to their total employment time.

Invited Academic (Assistant Professor) €3,122.10

Having in mind the provisions of the General Regulation for EU Data Protection 2016/679 of the European Parliament, the University of Cyprus collects and processes your personal data in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation.

TEACHING REQUIREMENTS:

Visiting Academics will be required to teach the following courses:

Postgraduate courses – Fall semester 2021/2022

- BIO 858 Conservation Biology
4 hours (3 teaching hours + 1 hour for tutoring)
(according to the time schedule, the course will be offered every Monday and Thursday at 1500-1630, with tutoring every Wednesday, at 1600-1700).
- BIO 859 Management of Protected Areas
4 hours (3 teaching hours + 1 hour for tutoring)
(according to the time schedule, the course will be offered every Tuesday and Friday, at 1500-1630, with tutoring every Wednesday, at 1000-1100).
- BIO 865 Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing in Ecology
4 hours (3 teaching hours + 1 hour for tutoring)
(according to the time schedule, the course will be offered every Monday and Thursday, at 18:00-19:30, with tutoring every Wednesday, at 11:00-12:00).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

BIO858 Course Title: Conservation Biology (10 ECTS)

The principles of biodiversity conservation comprise the core content of this course. The basic principles of ecology and genetics used in conservation will be discussed, as well as the effects of human activities on global and local biodiversity. Particular emphasis will be given on the role of spatial scale in conservation and on the basic principles of species distribution modelling for predicting future distribution changes caused by human activities. The basic principles and methods of biodiversity monitoring will be presented, a selected part of which will be implemented by students during field work. The most important international initiatives and legislation will be presented, and the students will be introduced into approaches for communicating and collaborating with researchers from other disciplines to achieve an integrated planning of species and ecosystems conservation.

BIO859 Course Title: Management of Protected Areas (10 ECTS)

Protected areas are an important tool in global conservation efforts, with >14% of the terrestrial realm

and >4% of the marine realm under some type of protection. In this course, students will be introduced to the key concepts needed to understand protected area management at a national and an international level. The main topics that will form the basis of the course's lectures include: a) an overview of protected areas and relevant national and international initiatives and policies; b) current definitions of protected areas based on management categories and governance types; c) management planning and effectiveness evaluation; d) designing protected area networks; e) main threats to biodiversity to be alleviated in protected areas. Selected cases of protected areas will be critically evaluated by students in terms of conservation targets' success.

BIO 865 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing in Ecology (10 ECTS)

An introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing, with an emphasis on their applications in ecology. The course will involve a research project applying these methods to an ecological study. Students will learn how to incorporate data obtained from remote sensing, such as topographic, vegetational and climatic data, into analyses with geographic coordinates (e.g. from GPS) in GIS software and prepare results for presentation of research findings.

08 March 2021