Academic English Program – Lecturer Position

UBC Vantage College
The University of British Columbia

UBC Vantage College invites applications for one or more Lecturer position(s) with the Academic English Program. The application deadline is March 31, 2018.

About UBC Vantage College

UBC Vantage College offers a first-year credit-bearing enriched curriculum for international students who need to improve their academic English proficiency. Upon successful completion of their first year in the program, Vantage One students are able to register in the second year of a BA, BSc, BASC or BMGT at UBC. The innovative Vantage One program streams in Arts, Engineering, Management and Science integrate new educational technologies, subject-area courses, and English for Academic Purposes courses. For more information on UBC Vantage College, please see www.vantagecollege.ubc.ca.

The Academic English Program (AEP) courses consist of two foundational credit-bearing academic reading and writing courses (LLED 200 and LLED 201) and a series of credit-bearing adjunct courses (VANT 140) linked to respective courses in the disciplines. AEP and disciplinary course instructors collaborate in the design of the lesson plans and materials, and coordinate course and program activities (e.g., through regular meetings and attending each other’s classes).

Vantage College provides a highly dynamic, stimulating as well as demanding teaching and learning environment, and is establishing itself as a place for pedagogical innovation in first year undergraduate programming embedding English for Academic Purposes instruction. We are seeking individuals with experience in and passion for EAP teaching and curriculum and materials development, as well as a keen interest in professional growth.

Position details

The lecturer position is a one-year appointment without review (non-tenure track), with the possibility of renewal. The renewal is subject to availability of funds, satisfactory performance and University policies. Successful applicants are expected to carry a full workload (teaching plus administrative/service duties). Selected applicants will be expected to teach undergraduate credit-bearing courses offered through the Academic English Program at UBC Vantage College; contribute to curriculum, syllabus, and materials development; collaborate with instructors from the partner faculties; participate in UBC-Vantage College academic preparation activities; attend course planning and program-related meetings; contribute to the program through service on committees; and provide academic support to students (e.g., through regular tutorials and workshops), as needed.

Successful applicants will work closely with the Academic English Program Director and other members of the instructional team at UBC Vantage College, which currently includes academic English and
disciplinary-area faculty members across the faculties of Applied Sciences, Arts, Management and Science.

The anticipated start date is July 1, 2018 and the end date is June 30, 2019.

Qualifications and expected applicant profile

Applicants should hold a PhD in English for Academic Purposes, Applied Linguistics, Teaching English as a Second/Additional Language, Second Language Writing or a related discipline. Applicants with a Master’s degree and demonstrable expertise in the above-mentioned areas will also be considered. Exceptional candidates without a degree in the above-mentioned areas may be considered provided they:
(a) hold a postgraduate degree (Master or Doctoral level) related to Science or Engineering; (b) have extensive experience teaching first/second year undergraduate courses in either of these two disciplines; (c) have extensive experience and interest in working with international students needing academic language and literacy support; and (d) have an interest in the role of language in building disciplinary knowledge. In all cases, demonstrable teaching experience (particularly in EAP or EAP-like contexts) is required.

Preference will be given to applicants with the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

- A strong foundation in socio-cultural approaches to research and pedagogy and/or educational linguistics, and familiarity with (ideally also with pedagogical experience informed by) the following genre/register-based approaches: systemic functional linguistics (e.g., Halliday, Martin, and colleagues), ESP (e.g., Swales), and/or associated corpus approaches (e.g., Biber, Hyland, Gardner).
- Substantial experience teaching English for academic purposes to undergraduate students from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. A minimum of five years of demonstrable successful, full-time English for Academic Purposes instruction at the tertiary level is preferred.
- Familiarity with CLIL/CBI (content and language integrated learning/content-based instruction); task-based instruction; and multi-literacies pedagogies.
- A principled approach to curriculum and materials design (in face-to-face as well as in technology-mediated modes); pedagogical approaches grounded in sound research and theory in the field of EAP; familiarity with assessment practices.
- Familiarity with Arts (Social Science), Engineering, Management and/or Science discourse, and ability to work with subject specialists in these areas. Individuals lacking the above specified background but with a keen interest in developing familiarity in any of these disciplinary fields are also encouraged to apply.
- Familiarity with quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Additionally, ideal candidates will demonstrate a passion for language education as well as awareness of strategies to fully engage students in their (language) learning trajectories.

Salary

Salary is commensurate with qualification and experience. All positions are subject to final budgetary approval.

Application instructions
Applicants should submit the following information and supporting documentation:

(a) a detailed cover letter addressing how the applicant meets specific criteria for the position.

Applicants are expected to provide enough information about their teaching experiences, their background, training and (disciplinary) interests.

(b) a detailed CV (i.e., including information helpful to understand the courses taught as well as the institutional/teaching contexts);

Applicants are encouraged to highlight (i.e., provide more details about) any experiences that support the described applicant profile.

(c) a statement about the linguistic and language learning theoretical approaches underlying their EAP pedagogy;

Applicants are encouraged to refrain from including a broad review of teaching methods; rather, include information that illustrates the candidate’s principled approach to teaching and materials design.

(d) evidence or record of teaching effectiveness.

Teaching effectiveness can be demonstrated via the inclusion of sample copies of institutional student evaluations of teaching as well as an overall summary (e.g., compilation of results and inclusion of sample comments) of student evaluations from the different teaching contexts; official/institutional teaching observation reports completed by either a supervisor or qualified colleague).

(e) three reference letters addressed to Dr. Sandra Zappa-Hollman, Academic English Program Director. Letters should be e-mailed by the referees directly to the following e-mail address: employment@vantagecollege.ubc.ca

Completed application packages should be sent electronically as PDF or Word documents to employment@vantagecollege.ubc.ca. Please indicate in the subject line: UBC Vantage College AEP Lecturer Position. Enquiries should also be sent to the same e-mail address.

The application deadline is March 31, 2018, or until the position(s) filled

Receipt of application submissions will be confirmed by e-mail. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview to take place in April-May. All applicants will be contacted once the search process is completed.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is strongly committed to equity and diversity within its community. We especially welcome applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and others with the skills and knowledge to productively engage with diverse communities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.