



Job Description

Comp ID:	038680
Job Title:	Assistant Professor in Southeast Asian Studies
School/Department:	School of Linguistic, Speech, and Communication Sciences / Centre for Language and Communication Studies
Job Category and Level:	Academic; Assistant Professor

The Purpose of the Role

The School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences seeks to appoint a full-time Assistant Professor in Southeast Asian Studies to strengthen teaching and research in this strategically important area. We welcome applicants who hold a PhD in a relevant language-based discipline (e.g. anthropology, area studies, history, linguistics). The successful candidate will have a strong research profile, and be able to teach, use, and supervise in at least one major language of Southeast Asia (e.g. Thai, Burmese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay, Khmer).

The appointee will contribute to language and content teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels; supervise dissertations; help design and deliver new modules in Southeast Asian Studies; and participate in School and Centre administration and public engagement.

Context

The post aligns with the School's commitment to the growth of Asian Studies alongside existing strengths in Chinese Studies. The successful applicant will join a dynamic, research-focused team in the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies (TCAS), part of the School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences. TCAS is the University's focal point for Asian Studies, bringing together teaching and research in Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Studies, alongside broader regional and comparative work.

At postgraduate level, TCAS currently delivers the M.Phil. in Chinese Studies (with a corresponding Postgraduate Diploma). This is presently our only degree, but the Centre is actively developing new programmes, including a BA in Asian Studies and additional M.Phil. degrees. TCAS also coordinates public events, outreach, and cross-University collaborations that enrich teaching and research and sustain a vibrant academic community.



Main Responsibilities

Teaching

- Develop and deliver undergraduate and postgraduate modules in Southeast Asian Studies in line with School workload models.
- Provide research supervision to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students; contribute to PhD supervision where appropriate.
- Contribute to College-wide language electives and interdisciplinary offerings.
- Design assessment aligned with programme learning outcomes; provide high-quality academic advising and student support.

Contribute to curriculum development for Southeast Asian Studies, including new pathways, minor subjects, or certificate offerings as relevant.

Research

- Maintain an active, internationally visible research profile in Southeast Asian Studies.
- Produce high-quality publications and disseminate research at international conferences and seminars.
- Pursue external research funding individually and collaboratively; contribute to research networks within TCAS and across Trinity.
- Where relevant, conduct fieldwork and/or archival research; contribute to open, ethical, and reproducible research practices (e.g. data documentation, community engagement, research integrity).
- Build synergies with the School.

Administration

- Undertake administrative roles supporting TCAS and the School (e.g. programme coordination, admissions, quality assurance, events, outreach).
- Contribute to student recruitment and international partnerships relevant to Southeast Asia.
- Support public engagement and visibility for Southeast Asian Studies across Trinity and with external partners.



Person Requirements

The role-holder will require the following knowledge, skills and attributes for successful performance in the role.

Qualifications

Essential

- Hold a doctoral degree in a relevant language-based discipline (e.g. anthropology, area studies, Buddhist studies, history, linguistics).
- Demonstrable proficiency in and ability to teach at least one major Southeast Asian language (e.g., Thai, Burmese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay, Khmer).

Desirable

Evidence of fieldwork and/or archival training relevant to Southeast Asia.

- Research interests that reach beyond a single national setting (e.g., Burma)—for example, (i) expertise in a minority community (e.g., Shan, Chin, Rohingya), (ii) a secondary country or sub-region of Southeast Asia, or (iii) a comparative theme spanning multiple countries.
- Willingness and ability to contribute teaching on the existing undergraduate Linguistics (Joint Honours).

Knowledge & Experience

The successful candidate will be expected to clearly demonstrate the following:

Teaching

Essential

- Experience teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, including language and content modules relevant to Southeast Asian Studies.
- Experience in assessment design aligned to programme learning outcomes and use of a virtual learning environment (e.g., Blackboard/Canvas).
- Experience supervising undergraduate dissertations; willingness and capacity to contribute to taught-postgraduate supervision.

Desirable

- Experience designing and developing new modules and pathways (e.g., language electives, regional/cross-disciplinary offerings).
- Experience supervising research postgraduates.
- Evidence of innovative pedagogy (e.g., blended/online learning, community-engaged teaching).



Research & Scholarship

- An established record of conducting research pertinent to Southeast Asian Studies.
- A record of funded research and evidence of a research plan to building to a trajectory of research excellence and success.

Administration, Contribution to University and Engagement with Discipline & Society

Essential

- Evidence of competence in academic administration (e.g., module/programme coordination, admissions, quality assurance, events).
- Ability to plan and manage workloads, meet deadlines, and contribute to student recruitment.

Desirable

- Experience organising research seminars, outreach, and partnership activities (including international partnerships relevant to Southeast Asia).
- Experience with project management and data/admin systems.
- Ability to undertake administrative responsibilities as required by the Discipline, School and University.
- Ability to represent the School and University on appropriate national and international advisory boards and professional bodies.
- Organisational skills necessary to the performance of teaching, research and administration requirements of the role of Assistant Professor.

Skills

- Effective time management and workload planning.
- Proficient use of standard office software (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel) and a virtual learning environment (e.g., Blackboard/Canvas).
- Competence with online and blended teaching.



Personal attributes

- Honesty and integrity.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Excellent communication skills (written and oral).
- Strong organisational skills.
- Demonstrated commitment to continuing professional development.
- Willingness to contribute to the University, discipline, and wider community.

Further Information

For informal queries, please contact Professor Breffni O'Rourke, Head of Department, Centre for Language and Communication Studies, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences, Trinity College Dublin breffni.orourke@tcd.ie

Application Information

Candidates must submit the following to <http://jobs.tcd.ie>

Curriculum Vitae and a Cover Letter that specifically address the points below, along with a Teaching Statement and Research Plan.

- Applicants should clearly evidence proficiency to teach and use at least one major Southeast Asian language; sample syllabi or materials may be included.
- An understanding of the teaching and learning process is essential. Give examples of involvement in teaching and what was learned from the process.
- Illustrate, through past example, the ability to work on one's own initiative and to resolve problems.
- Applicants should clearly describe any work with minority languages of Southeast Asia (e.g. documentation, descriptive research, community engagement) and how this informs their teaching and research.

Please Note:

Candidates who do not address the application requirements above in their cover letter will not be considered at the short list stage. Candidates should note that the interview process for this appointment may include the delivery of a presentation and/or a practical teaching demonstration.