

Job Description

Job title	Senior Lecturer in Microbial Genomics and Bioinformatics
School / department	School of Medicine and Biosciences
Grade	Grade 7
Line manager	Professor of Microbiology
Responsible for (direct reports)	N/A
Date of creation or review	02/06/2025

Main purpose of the job

We are pleased to invite applications for a Senior Bioinformatician/Senior Lecturer to join the Centre for Innovation in Genomics and Microbiome Sciences (CIGMiS) at the University of West London. CIGMiS is a centre of excellence dedicated to addressing complex, system-wide questions in microbiome science to improve public health outcomes. Our research spans from fundamental discovery to translational science, supporting the development of new technologies, therapeutics, and evidence-based policy change.

We are seeking an enthusiastic and experienced Senior Lecturer with expertise in Microbial (meta)genomics and Bioinformatics. The successful candidate will bring a strong academic background and a commitment to developing and delivering an innovative postgraduate programme and short courses. We particularly welcome applicants with a demonstrated passion for postgraduate teaching and supervision in areas such as computational genomics, metagenomics, and bioinformatics. S(he) will also support the New Genomics Services at CIGMiS, UWL.

The majority of academic staff will undertake a balance of research and teaching. This balance will be discussed and agreed with individuals during annual appraisal in line with operational needs, Centre, School and University strategy and with consideration of the individual's career goals and development plans.

As an equal opportunity employer, we are committed to creating an inclusive and supportive working environment. We welcome applications from all sections of the community, regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic background. All appointments are made on the basis of merit.

Key areas of responsibility

Research:

Develop research objectives, and proposals that align with the Centre's strategic research priorities and identify emerging areas of research opportunity and contribute to shaping the Centre's research agenda. Produce and publish high-quality, peer-reviewed research outputs in leading academic journals. Actively disseminate research findings through conferences, seminars, workshops, and outreach activities. Proactively develop and submit applications for external funding and oversee the delivery of funded projects.

Supervise and mentor postgraduate students (Masters and PhD), providing academic guidance, pastoral support, and professional development opportunities and foster an environment which encourages research among students at postgraduate level.

Maintain collegial, collaborative, and constructive working relationships with academic colleagues, students, and external partners, supporting a positive and inclusive research culture.

Teaching:

- To develop and deliver postgraduate programmes, ensuring that the curriculum reflects the latest scientific advancements, industry standards, and emerging research trends.
- To employ a range of innovative and inclusive teaching, learning, and assessment strategies to foster engagement, critical thinking, and practical skill development among students.
- To deliver academic supervision for postgraduate research projects and dissertations.
- To deliver academic advice, pastoral care and support to students.
- To participate in quality assurance processes, ensuring compliance with university standards
- To engage with continuous personal and professional development, advances in microbial genomics and bioinformatics, and relevant educational technologies to enhance teaching delivery and improve student outcomes.

Enterprise and Knowledge Exchange:

- To actively engage with UWL Genomic services by providing technical guidance, and strategic input.
- To design, develop, promote and deliver short courses in Genomics/Bioinformatics. Ensure courses are accessible to a range of learners, including professionals seeking continuing education.
- To build and sustain relationships with industry, healthcare, and academic partners. Collaborate to identify skills gaps, co-develop training opportunities, and support knowledge exchange initiatives. Represent CIGMiS and UWL at networking events, conferences, to enhance the visibility and impact.

In addition to the above areas of responsibility the post-holder maybe required to undertake any other reasonable duties relating to the broad scope of the position, commensurate with the post, and in support of the University.

Dimensions / background information

The University of West London (UWL) is widely recognised for its commitment to advancing human health and wellbeing, as well as for fostering an excellent research environment. Over the past five years, the University has made significant investments in cutting-edge equipment, enabling the pursuit of world-leading research. By working collaboratively with a range of external partners, UWL provides strong leadership and support across a broad spectrum of research activities, including the coordination of projects funded by Innovate UK, UKRI, and various charitable and international funding bodies. UWL is dedicated to supporting all staff and cultivating a nurturing and inclusive research culture.

School of Medicine and Biosciences continues to deliver high-quality, internationally recognised research through strategic academic and industry partnerships and competitive international collaborations. The school places a strong emphasis on fostering multidisciplinary research across a range of scientific domains.

The **Centre for Innovation in Genomics and Microbiome Sciences (CIGMiS)** undertakes research aimed at addressing complex, systems-level questions in microbiome science. Its work spans fundamental

investigations, such as elucidating the genetic makeup of microbiomes and pathogens and their interactions to applied research, including the development of novel therapies, technological and methodological innovations, and contributions to public health policy.

Person Specification

	Criteria	Essential or Desirable ¹	Demonstrated ²		
			Application	Interview	Test / Exercise
Qualifications and/or membership of prof. bodies	PhD in Genomics and Bioinformatics	Essential	x		
	A recognised teaching qualification /membership of the Higher Education Academy.	Desirable	x		
Knowledge and experience	Experience of design, development and teaching of postgraduate programmes	Essential	x	x	
	Experience of teaching and assessing within a degree programme and using VLE, e.g. Blackboard	Essential		x	
	Experience of writing and publishing peer reviewed papers in high impact journals	Essential	x	x	
	Experience of supervising postgraduate students	Desirable		x	
Specific skills to the job	Whole genome sequencing and metagenomics data analysis	Essential	x	x	
	Excellent communication skills	Essential		x	
	Good level of independence and creativity	Essential		x	
	Ability to develop own teaching materials	Essential		x	
General skills	Team working	Essential		x	
	Able to take initiative, work flexibly to meet deadlines within tight time schedules and solve problems.	Essential		x	
	A strong commitment to student success and the ability to support a diverse student population	Essential		x	
Other					



Disclosure and Barring Scheme Is a DBS Check required: ☐ DBS ☒ This post does not require a DBS check

Before making a selection, please refer to the University's [Disclosure and Barring Checks Guidance for Staff](#) and [Criminal Convictions, Disclosures and Barring Staff Policy and Procedure](#). If a DBS check is required for the role, a **Check Approval Form** will need to be completed.