



## Job Description

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<b>Comp ID:</b>	035364
<b>Job Title:</b>	Assistant Professor in Ecology
<b>School/Department:</b>	School of Natural Sciences
<b>Job Category and Level:</b>	Academic; Assistant Professor

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### The Purpose of the Role

Applications are invited for the position of Assistant Professor in Ecology. This post will cover the substantive postholders secondment. This Assistant Professor position will contribute to research and teaching in Ecology. We have particular interest in recruiting a quantitative ecologist (data science, statistics, modelling) with additional expertise in field ecology and terrestrial population ecology (plants and/or animals).

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### Context

The position will be based in the Discipline of Zoology but will contribute to shared modules across Biology & Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Science & Engineering, Zoology, Environmental Sciences and Botany. Staff in Zoology currently work on a wide range of organisms from microbes to plants and animals in both aquatic (marine and freshwater) and terrestrial ecosystems.

The Assistant Professor will contribute to teaching in the School of Natural Sciences at undergraduate level, in statistics, data handling and their specialist area of ecology, to the Environmental Science & Engineering course and Biological & Biomedical Sciences stream of the Science Course (TR060), and to relevant modules in the Zoology, Botany and/or Environmental Science degree programmes in Sophister years (years 3 & 4). They will contribute to the School of Natural Sciences taught MSc programmes, including current cross-disciplinary Masters programs in Biodiversity & Conservation, Environmental Sciences and Development Practise.

It is envisaged that the candidate's research will be relevant to current national and international research priorities in ecology. A strong track record in publication is expected and the appointee will be required to compete for national and international research funding (e.g. SFI; EPA; Horizon Europe; ERC; DAFM) and to build a dynamic research group aligned with Professor Yvonne Buckley's research group.

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## Main Responsibilities

### Teaching

- Contribute to and provide academic leadership in all teaching and related activities in the School and College at undergraduate and postgraduate level.
- Delivery of high-class teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and a commitment to the development of new, relevant and evidence-based options
- Teaching will involve giving lectures, seminars and tutorials; setting and marking exams; organising and teaching practical classes; supervising student research projects; and organising and running field courses both locally and abroad.

### Research

- Contribute to the overall research profile of ecology in the School of Natural Sciences
  - Expectations in terms of numbers of publications and level of funded research will be in line with the Assistant Professor grade
  - Collaborating with colleagues and mentoring postgraduate students, junior researchers and/or post-docs.
  - The appointee's research will provide opportunities for cross-disciplinary research among Schools in E3 (Computer Science & Statistics, Engineering & Natural Sciences) and within Nature+: Trinity Centre for Biodiversity & Sustainable Nature-based Solutions ([www.natureplus.ie](http://www.natureplus.ie)) and The Trinity Centre for the Environment (<https://www.tcd.ie/environment/>).
  - The appointee will support the University's Strategic Plan by strengthening the ecological aspects of one or more of the University's research themes <https://www.tcd.ie/research/themes/>, in particular the "Smart & Sustainable Planet" research theme.
  - The appointee will be proactive in raising funds from Exchequer, non-Exchequer and industry sources and engage in international networks to support research, including funds to support postgraduate research students, research fellows and/or research assistants.
  - The appointee will be expected to act as supervisor or co-supervisor to research students.
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### **Standard Duties**

- Contribute to published research output in journals of high standing.
  - Contribute towards the future development of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
  - Undertake administrative responsibilities as directed by the Head of School or his/her nominee; these will, however, be kept to a minimum during the first year of appointment
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### **Person Requirements**

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

### **Qualifications**

- Excellent academic record and have completed a Ph.D. in Ecology, Zoology, Botany, Environmental Sciences, Statistics, Data Handling or another related discipline.
- High quality academic publications in peer reviewed international journals and/or publications of equal standing of recognised originality and value.

### **Knowledge & Experience**

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

#### **Teaching**

- Contribution to both face to face and virtual teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels within the School.
- Evidence of experience of teaching at undergraduate or postgraduate level and a personal contribution and commitment to excellence in teaching.
- A commitment to student care.
- Ability and willingness to to foster interdisciplinary, collaborative research and teaching

#### **Research & Scholarship**

- An established record of conducting research in ecology.
  - Evidence of research potential and achievements, including publications, in a cognate area.
  - A record of funded research and an evidence of a research plan to building to a trajectory of research excellence and success.
  - Experience of research student supervision.
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## **Administration, Contribution to University and Engagement with Discipline & Society**

- Ability to undertake administrative responsibilities as required by the Discipline, School and University.
- Organisational skills necessary to the performance of teaching, research and administration requirements of the role of Assistant Professor.

## **Skills**

- Well-developed written and verbal communication skills and interpersonal skills.
- Planning and organisational skills, particularly coordinating processes and systems.
- Ability to represent the School and College on appropriate national and international advisory boards and professional bodies.

## **Personal Attributes**

- Capability and confidence to take ownership of problems and seek long term solutions.
- Career driven, enthusiastic and motivated.
- A collaborative and collegial leadership and working style, with openness to collaboration with colleagues in other disciplines.
- A commitment to the contribution of knowledge to society.
- A commitment to own professional development.

## **Application Procedure**

Applicants should provide the following information when applying

1. A comprehensive curriculum vitae, including a full list of publications
2. The names and contact details (i.e. addresses, e-mail, etc.) of three referees
3. A research plan (summarising research to be carried out in the next two years and including details of funding to be sought - 2 pages) and a teaching statement (summarising teaching experience and approach – 2 pages)
4. PLEASE NOTE: Candidates who do not submit this additional information may not be considered for shortlisting

## **Further Information**

For further information about the Discipline of Zoology and the School of Natural Sciences, see <https://www.tcd.ie/Zoology/> and <https://www.naturalsciences.tcd.ie>.

Candidates wishing to discuss the post informally and in confidence should email Professor Ian Donohue, Head of Zoology, [donohui@tcd.ie](mailto:donohui@tcd.ie) or Professor Patrick Wyse Jackson, Head of School of Natural Sciences, [wysicknp@tcd.ie](mailto:wysicknp@tcd.ie).