Applications are invited for the post of Language Assistant in Irish Sign Language (Deaf Studies)

Comp ID: S112-24-010
Job Title: Language Assistant in Irish Sign Language (Deaf Studies)
School/Department: Centre for Deaf Studies, School of Linguistic, Speech & Communication Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Job Category and Level: Academic; Language Assistant. Three-year fixed term contract. Point 1, Language Assistant pay scale €31,257 per annum.

The Purpose of the Role

The School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences at Trinity College Dublin seeks applications from qualified candidates with a proven teaching record for the post of Language Assistant in Irish Sign Language (Deaf Studies). The post-holder will join an experienced team of staff based in the School’s Centre for Deaf Studies (CDS).

The purpose of this role is to support the teaching of undergraduate students in Irish Sign Language/Deaf Studies at the Centre for Deaf Studies, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. They will support in particular to the growth and development of the university’s Bachelor in Deaf Studies as well as the other teaching activities delivered by the Centre (extramural, continuous professional development, etc.). The successful candidate will join a department that is active at a national and international level.
Context

The School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences at Trinity College Dublin is a centre of research and teaching in Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, Phonetics and Speech Science, Clinical Speech and Language Studies. The Centre for Deaf Studies in Trinity affords students the opportunity to develop insights into, and genuine appreciation for the culture, contributions, and contemporary issues related to Deaf people in Ireland and worldwide. The undergraduate programme is the only one of its kind in Ireland. Irish Sign Language (ISL) is the indigenous language of the Deaf Community in Ireland and is the working language at the Centre for Deaf Studies.

Within its Centre for Language and Communication Studies, the School delivers a Joint Honours undergraduate programme in Linguistics, contributes to an undergraduate degree in Computer Science, Linguistics and a Language, and offers five taught postgraduate programmes (Linguistics, Speech & Language Processing, Applied Linguistics, English Language Teaching, Chinese Studies) as well as a range of credit-bearing and elective language programmes. The university’s Centre for English Language Learning and Teaching (CELLT) is based within the School, providing a research-and-development-based approach to pre-sessional and in-sessional English language support across Trinity’s undergraduate and postgraduate cohorts. The School also is home to the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies (TCAS), an interdisciplinary teaching and research centre which aims to advance knowledge of Asia through interdisciplinary teaching, research and engagement, and especially through the study of Asian languages and linguistics, politics, history and religions. The Department of Clinical Speech and Language Studies offers a four-year undergraduate degree programme in Speech and Language Therapy as well as postgraduate courses for qualified Speech and Language Therapists and opportunities for research and continuing professional development.

Main Responsibilities

Teaching

Supporting the development of ISL language learning environments that are consistent with modern language teaching and learning practices, through being flexible, student-centered, accessible and making use of appropriate technology.
Person Requirements

Qualifications

**Essential**

- A good academic record including a minimum NFQ level 7 qualification.
- High level of proficiency in Irish Sign Language, at C1/C2 level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (Proficient User) and in English.

Knowledge & Experience

**Essential**

- Evidence of ability to deliver undergraduate modules in ISL from complete beginner to advanced levels.

**Desirable**

- Teaching qualification in Irish Sign Language.
- Experience of providing support and supervision of final year undergraduate students in capstone projects.
- Experience of module leadership, module development and module management.
- Experience with Blackboard or an equivalent Virtual Learning Environment.

Skills

- Excellent communication, organisational and interpersonal skills, with the ability to work independently, as well as part of a team.
- Good presentation skills and the ability to enthuse listeners.
- Good organisational skills with the ability to effectively manage a busy workload.
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
Personal attributes

☐ Capability and confidence to take ownership of problems and seek long-term solutions.
☐ Career-driven, enthusiastic and motivated.
☐ Commitment to own professional development.
☐ Commitment to contributing to a collegial atmosphere.

Further Information for Candidates

For information about the post, the department and the School, please contact Professor Breffni O’Rourke, Head of Department, Centre for Language and Communication Studies, Trinity College Dublin (CLCS_HoD@tcd.ie).

Application Procedure

Candidates should submit the following documentation via email to Professor Breffni O’Rourke at CLCS_HoD@tcd.ie indicating “Language Assistant in ISL (Deaf Studies)” in the subject line by 5pm, Friday 14 June, 2024.

Informal queries may be addressed to Professor John Bosco Conama, Director of the Centre for Deaf Studies, by email to COMAMAJ@tcd.ie.

Candidates should note that the interview process for this appointment will include the delivery of a short presentation. Applicants must provide the following information in applying for this position:

1. Cover letter
2. Comprehensive curriculum vitae, including teaching track record
3. Name and contact details of three academic referees
4. Teaching Philosophy statement.

Salary

This appointment will be made on Language Assistant Salary Scale (commencing Point 1 €31,527 per annum) and in line with current Government pay policy.

Hours and place of work

Hours of work for academic staff are those as prescribed under Public Service Agreements. For further information please following link below: http://www.tcd.ie/hr/assets/pdf/academic-hours-public-service-agreement.pdf The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform requires that all staff, including Teaching Fellows, working in Irish public sector must discharge duties from the jurisdiction of Ireland.