

Lecturer – Learning & Engagement

Job Description

Purpose

To inspire and support learning related to plant biodiversity for undergraduate horticulture programmes. This role also contributes to shaping and enhancing programmes, courses, and student experiences, aligning with the department and division's strategic goals.

Key Elements of the Role

1. Deliver high-quality teaching, learning, and assessment for students enrolled in undergraduate horticulture programmes.
2. Collaborate with colleagues and academic partners to develop and advance curricula, learning resources, environments, and student experiences.
3. Provide inclusive student support, including constructive feedback, guidance, and pastoral care, ensuring students can access the help they need.
4. Perform administrative responsibilities related to partnerships and teaching activities, ensuring timely processes and compliance with academic policies.
5. Engage in professional development and sector activities to strengthen teaching practice and stay current with developments in horticulture and education.

Core Responsibilities

- Plan and deliver engaging teaching and learning activities in coordination with the teaching team and academic partners.
- Prepare and facilitate learning experiences that are inclusive and accessible to our students.
- Assist with pastoral care and guidance, ensuring appropriate support systems are in place for student wellbeing and success.
- Provide timely, constructive feedback on assessments to encourage reflection and growth.
- Assess and manage risks associated with teaching and learning activities to maintain a safe environment and communicate these to students and colleagues.
- Maintain accurate student records using appropriate systems in line with academic policies.
- Connect with the horticulture sector to ensure teaching reflects current professional practices.
- Participate in training, workshops, and conferences relevant to education, biodiversity, horticulture, and organisational priorities.
- Undertake other reasonable duties as required to support the success of students and programmes.

Person Specification

Essential Skills

- Teaching and facilitation – deliver engaging learning experiences both in person and online, ensuring accessibility for our students.
- Communication – communicate effectively in written, verbal, and digital formats, adapting style to diverse audiences.
- Student support – demonstrate emotional intelligence, active listening, and empathy to create a supportive learning environment.
- Collaboration and teamwork – work constructively with colleagues and partners, showing diplomacy and a solutions-focused approach.
- Understanding of higher education – knowledge of the Scottish and UK higher education systems, including relevant policies and practices.
- Subject expertise – strong grounding in botanical and horticultural science.
- Qualifications – degree (SCQF Level 10) in plant biodiversity science, horticulture, botany, ecology, environmental science, or a related discipline, or equivalent knowledge and experience.

Desirable Skills

- Understanding of botanic gardens – Awareness of their role in conservation, education, research, and community engagement.
- Teaching qualification – A recognised teaching credential or equivalent experience that demonstrates commitment to high-quality, inclusive education.
- Driving licence – Full, valid licence to support travel requirements associated with the role.
- Experience in horticulture.