



SEARCH

Assistant or Associate Professor in Special Education, with a specialty in Blindness and Visual Impairment

Department of Educational and Counselling
Psychology, and Special Education

Open date: December 2, 2022

Submit complete applications by:
February 15, 2023

This search will remain open until the
position is filled.



The Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education within UBC's Faculty of Education, one of the world's leading faculties of its kind, invites applications for the position of Assistant or Associate Professor in Special Education, with a specialty in Blindness and Visual Impairment.

The Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education (ECPS) in the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia (UBC) invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor or tenured Associate Professor position in Special Education with a specialty in Blindness and Visual Impairment. The appointment is expected to commence July 1, 2023 (or as negotiated with the successful candidate).

The Special Education program at UBC concerns the education of students with exceptionalities, such as students with visual impairments, developmental disabilities, emotional or behavioural disorders, learning disabilities, gifts and talents, and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is one of only two programs in Canada offering a Master's in Special Education with a concentration in Blindness and Visual Impairment (VI). It is also one of only two programs in Canada offering training in Orientation and Mobility (O&M).

Applicants for this position must have a doctoral degree in Special Education with an emphasis on Blindness and Visual Impairment. Preference will be given to candidates who are also certified in O&M, have experience teaching in K-12 settings with students with exceptionalities, particularly blindness and visual impairment and students with VI and multiple disabilities. We are looking for a scholar who is committed to promoting practices that facilitate inclusion, empowerment, and self-determination of individuals with disabilities and other special needs in home, school, and community settings. Preference will also be given to candidates with expertise in online course design and delivery, evidence of successful university-level teaching, and demonstrated enthusiasm about collaborating across the breadth of expertise in the Special Education area, the Department, and the Faculty of Education.

Candidates should demonstrate a promising (Assistant Professor) or established (Associate Professor) record of scholarly accomplishments and teaching in areas relevant to the education of students with blindness and visual impairment. A demonstrated commitment to excellence in research, teaching, and practicum supervision is important.

The successful candidate will be expected to engage in sustained and productive scholarly activities, including securing external research funding; teaching in both undergraduate and graduate programs in the Department; supervising master's and doctoral students; and contributing to scholarly and educational communities and service work of the Department, the Faculty of Education, and the University. The annual workload for this position is 12 credits (equivalent to four courses).

This is a tenure-track (Assistant Professor) or tenured (Associate Professor) position in the Professoriate stream. The appointment is subject to a positive review of the successful candidate's record of achievements based on UBC's appointment (and tenure) criteria as specified in the Collective Agreement, following the University's established processes. For more information on the review processes and criteria, please visit: <https://hr.ubc.ca/workingubc/faculty-titles-ranks-and-descriptions/tenure-stream-appointments-review>. The position is subject to final budgetary approval. The starting salary is determined both by the successful candidate's qualifications and experience and by their placement on the career progress scale within the Faculty of Education.

The Department of ECPS (www.ecps.educ.ubc.ca) is the largest of the six academic units in the UBC Faculty of Education and has 40+ tenure stream faculty members across five program areas, including Counselling Psychology; Human Development, Learning, and Culture; School and Applied Child Psychology; Special Education; and Measurement, Evaluation and Research Methodology. Approximately 430 graduate students, including over 100 PhD students, are currently enrolled in the Department. The Department has strong ties to schools, community, and governmental agencies, the Faculty of Education's Psychological Services & Counselling Training Centre, and other units across campus and in the community.

The UBC Vancouver campus is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. UBC is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world. The UBC Faculty of Education is one of the leading Faculties of its kind in the world, tied 1st in Canadian rankings and 10th globally. Our work advances educational research and understanding of teaching and learning in a way that affirms diversity, equity and innovation, and takes part in international collaboration in an interdependent globe. We provide a comprehensive set of programmatic offerings at the baccalaureate, magisterial, and doctoral levels. For more information on the Faculty of Education, please visit our website at www.educ.ubc.ca.

ECPS, the Faculty of Education, and UBC are dedicated to the goal of building a diverse and inclusive academic community. Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate a commitment to and expertise in decolonizing, reconciliation, anti-racist, and social justice

approaches to teaching and learning, and have a strong commitment to fostering inclusivity and teaching effectively in a welcoming environment. For more information about the Faculty of Education's commitments and work related to equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization, please visit www.educ.ubc.ca/equity.

Interested candidates are invited to submit an application package that includes:

- (i) a cover letter indicating the position being sought and outlining potential contributions to the Department (please indicate if you are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident);
- (ii) curriculum vitae;
- (iii) a statement of teaching philosophy;
- (iv) evidence of teaching effectiveness and excellence (including course outlines and student evaluations if available);
- (v) two to three sample publications that are most relevant to this position;
- (vi) a Diversity Statement that describes and documents your contributions to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) through your teaching, research/educational leadership, service, and community engagement, addressing the following three areas: 1) understanding of and knowledge about EDI, 2) track record in advancing EDI, and 3) future plans for EDI; and
- (vii) names and contact details of three references. Letters of reference will only be requested from candidates who are advancing to the next stage in the search process.

Applications must be provided in the format of one bookmarked PDF file (if possible), addressed to Dr. Jennifer Shapka, Department Head, and sent electronically to Ms. Silvia Almanza Alonso (Head's Assistant) at silvia.almanzaalonso@ubc.ca. Following the submission of the application, the applicant will receive an Equity Survey link via email. Completion of the Equity Survey is required as part of the application process.

While the search remains open until the position is filled, interested applicants are encouraged to submit their complete application package by **February 15, 2023**. Questions regarding this search and the application deadline should be directed to the Department Head, Dr. Jennifer Shapka, at jennifer.shapka@ubc.ca.

Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the British Columbia Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.