

Assistant Professor, physical geography (Tenure Track position), Department of Geographical and Historical Studies**Description of the post**

The position of Assistant Professor, physical geography, is a fixed-term Tenure Track position at the University of Eastern Finland. The position will be hosted by the Department of Geographical and Historical Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies on the Joensuu Campus.

The Department of Geographical and Historical Studies carries out research addressing the use of natural resources, environmental changes, well-being and cultural interactions in border and peripheral areas, and their geographical, social and historical dynamics of development. The high level of education provided by the Department of Geographical and Historical Studies is based on the above-mentioned research, serving as a foundation for the development of the students' analytical and critical skills. The department's research activities offer its staff a means to actively participate in social debate.

The field of the post is physical geography, which aims to understand the diversity of geomorphologic, ecological, climate, and socio-ecological systems in different spatial and temporal scales, and the related interaction mechanisms in the changing environment. Methodologically, we require that the applicant has extensive and innovative expertise on, e.g., geospatial modelling and machine learning, big data, and data mining methods. In addition, the applicant is expected to have expertise in developing teaching in physical geography.

The duties of the Assistant Professor include carrying out and promoting research in the field, giving teaching at all levels of education, and participating in other activities of the department.

The person to be appointed to the post is expected to participate in project activities, in the acquisition of national and international research funding, and in international research networks.

Persons to be appointed as Assistant Professors shall hold a suitable doctoral degree and have good teaching skills (UEF University Regulations, section 31).

The person to be appointed to the post is expected to have demonstrated experience in research addressing the above-mentioned fields or general experience in research, which is supplemented by skills, to be explained in the work plan, to direct research towards these fields later on, as well as experience in university-level teaching and supervision.

When assessing the research achievements, the applicant's scientific publications, international research collaboration, experience in leading a research group, and acquired competitive funding will be taken into consideration.

The person to be appointed to the position is expected to be fluent in the English language and to be able to supervise students and teach in English. Proficiency in the Finnish language will be regarded as a merit.

Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies

According to section 1 of the Government Decree on Universities (770/2009), teaching and research staff at universities are required to have proficiency in the language in which they shall provide instruction, either Finnish or Swedish. Command of the language of instruction can be demonstrated in a manner defined in the University Regulations of the University of Eastern Finland. When filling a post of professor, the Rector may grant an exemption from the language proficiency requirements laid down in the Government Decree on Universities. When filling other teaching and research posts, the Dean of the faculty may grant an exemption from the language proficiency requirements laid down in the Government Decree on Universities.

The post concerns the evaluation of a scientifically merited person to the Assistant Professor level of the Tenure Track. The filling of the position is prepared by an appointments committee appointed by the Dean. In accordance with the decision of the faculty, external expert evaluations will be used to assess the person's merits in connection to tenure track recruitments and progress along the tenure track.

The criteria, goals and results to be achieved during the term in order to proceed to the next level of the tenure track will be agreed upon in more detail with the appointee when the contract of employment is signed. At the end of the term, the merits of the person will be evaluated to determine whether they can proceed to the next level of the tenure track, i.e., be appointed to an Associate Professor position without public notice of vacancy.

The position is intended to be filled for a four-year (4) term starting on March 1, 2024 or as agreed. The position is filled for a fixed term due to it being a fixed-term research and teaching position (Tenure Track).

Documents (excluding publications) should be submitted in English in case international experts are used to assess the applicant's qualification and merits.

For the assessment, the applicant must submit the following:

1) a curriculum vitae (curriculum vitae template for researchers, www.tenk.fi/en/advice-andmaterials/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae)

2) a portfolio of teaching merits (in accordance with the faculty's instructions, www.uef.fi/en/open-positions)

3) a complete list of publications compiled in accordance with the Ministry of Education and Culture's classification, www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-toapply-for-funding/az-index-of-application-guidelines2/list-of-publications/

4) a work plan (max. 3 pages), in which the applicant makes a research proposal for the next four years (including the acquisition of external funding and development of a research group) should they be appointed, and describes how they intend to achieve the merits required for promotion to a professorship in the Tenure Track.

5) selected publications (up to 10) with which the applicant wishes to demonstrate their qualification and merits for the position, and a list of selected publications. The applicant may also include manuscripts that have not yet been approved for publication but are in the final stages of the evaluation process. The publications must be submitted electronically.

Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies

Further information on the position: head of department, puh +358 505988192, pieter.dhondt@uef.fi and on the application procedure: Marko Junkkarinen, Executive Head of Administration, +358 504738422, marko.junkkarinen@uef.fi and Tuula Ranne, Financial and Human Resources Coordinator, tel. +358 500257467, tuula.ranne@uef.fi