

**Head of Professional Studies (0.6 FTE)**  
**Mackintosh School of Architecture**  
**Permanent**

**The Mackintosh School of Architecture**

---

The Mackintosh School of Architecture is a highly regarded school, based at the Glasgow School of Art. Here, architecture is understood as a socially-informed and rigorous creative discipline which harnesses construction and technology to make better places for people to live out their lives as individuals and communities. We consider imaginative, holistic thinking and making is vital in mapping and reaching architectural destination- the key role of the architect of the 21st century. The school is known nationally and internationally and draws high quality students from around the world.

Our approach is fundamentally simple - we care about how buildings and places are made and used. This deep concern is reflected in the design reputation of the 'Mac' - for aesthetically and intellectually rigorous architecture. Professional Studies is taught through a range of inputs including lectures, workshops and tutorials, and embedding knowledge of Professional Studies and practices across the programmes is an important principle.

This role is for a Subject Leader who has a deep knowledge of Professional Studies, and who is passionate about teaching this to students. The post holder will lead a team who delivery specialist input, and will also be responsible for the development and coordination of the Professional Studies curriculum within our Professionally Accredited programmes.

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Head of Professional Studies (0.6 FTE)</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow</b>
<b>Reports to</b>	<b>Head of School</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>To lead teaching to inform and inspire a wide-ranging critical debate about architecture and the role of the architect within professional and societal contexts.</p> <p>To shape and oversee and contribute to all activities relating to the teaching of Professional Studies within UG and PG programmes, and support for students undertaking practical training, and preparing for Part 3 Exemption examination.</p> <p>To make a significant contribution to the development and direction of high-quality research and knowledge exchange within MSA.</p> <p>To contribute to the development of continuing professional development both within MSA, and in the wider architectural profession</p>

## **The Role**

---

### **Principal Accountabilities:**

#### **Strategic**

- Contribute to the development of the core programme for students in line with external professional developments and research, and quality assurance and enhancement frameworks.
- Lead the development and integration of Professional Studies within professional programmes and in line with professional competencies and industry developments.
- Develop curriculum and course content in response to the ambitions of the school and the requirements of PSRBs.
- Keep in touch with developments in learning and teaching, maintaining a reflective and critical view of our performance, investigating and initiating ways of achieving improvements
- Contribute to the strong teaching, research and studio cultures within the school
- Contribute to the strategic planning of MSA and GSA.
- Contribute to the development of an innovative approach to work related learning which builds mature, confident, enterprising graduates able to apply real world experience in shaping their careers.
- Contribute to the income generating activities of the School, actively seeking and exploiting opportunities for current and future income generation within the area of expertise.

#### **Operational**

- Shape, organise and oversee to the teaching of the Professional Studies subject area within the context of the academic programmes and strategy of the Mackintosh School of Architecture.
- Prepare, deliver and assess Professional Studies course content in discussion with Programme leaders and Stage leaders
- Line manage the Professional Studies team, and support appropriate activities such as staff development, career review and activity planning.
- Contribute to the cycle of Professional Statutory and Regulatory body activity in conjunction with the Head of School and Senior Management Group.
- Lead staff in the coordination and curriculum development of Professional Studies content, delivery and assessment
- Contribute to the academic planning and management of the delivery of academic programmes and courses in the subject area of Professional Studies.
- Undertake research tutorial supervision at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels
- Participate in GSA research and teaching initiatives

#### **Academic / Educational**

- Maintain a continued engagement in areas of pedagogy, practice and research within the field, maintaining and developing industrial liaisons where appropriate.
- Engage actively in the School's teaching and research culture and associated activities.
- Be actively engaged in knowledge exchange and impact activities and be aware of and able to exploit external funding opportunities
- Contribute to cross school teaching, curriculum development, scholarship and research project where appropriate.

**Other**

- Undertake Health and Safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the post
- Implement and promote the School's Equal Opportunities policies

**Principal Challenges**

- Maintain links with external environments and contexts in order to maintain the relevance of courses, linking the school to the outside world, locally, nationally and internationally
- Work closely with and advise the Head of School and Senior Management Group on the academic development of the subject area and its relationship to the teaching and research of the school.
- Contribute to maximising opportunities for cross school activity and growth, and the development of new areas of study.
- Contribute to the development of the profile for GSA programmes, including at an international level through projects and partnerships, and enhance the School's reputation as a leading centre in the creative disciplines.
- Contribute to the development of additional modes of learning, and to the development of platforms to support online and distributed forms of learning.
- Actively promote and encourage equal opportunities and widening participation.

**Relationships**

---

**Principal Internal Contacts:**

Head of School  
Undergraduate & Postgraduate Programme Leaders  
Academic Development Lead  
Stage leaders  
Academic Support Manager

**Principal External Contacts:**

Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies  
Professional and subject specialist networks  
APEAS Examination Authority

**Person Specification****Experience and knowledge**

- Possess an excellent postgraduate qualification in architecture or a relevant discipline, and be able to demonstrate significant comparable academic or industry / practice skills and experience.
- Be a qualified architect with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience and be on the UK Register of Architects.
- Have significant experience in Professional Studies education, and have knowledge of professional and regulatory frameworks relevant to architectural education and professional qualification.
- Demonstrate current knowledge and experience of teaching and curriculum development within contemporary Higher Education in Architecture, and the management of academic delivery and personnel.

**Skills**

The postholder will be a highly motivated individual with excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and experience of working in creative, technical and scientific disciplines.

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- An enthusiasm for architecture practice and professional skills, with a demonstrated ability to pass this on to others.
- Ability to theorise and explain ideas and principles, however complex, in plain jargon free language and to be able to relate a specialist field of knowledge to wider professional practice.
- The ambition and imagination to make the most of the opportunities made available through being part of a school of art located in a unique city.
- Ability to work individually, with a high degree of initiative and self-motivation
- Ability to co-ordinate and manage resources, to agreed objectives and within tight deadlines
- Have strategic and management skills, and the ability to line manage a staff team
- Proven analytical, organisational, and communication skills
- High level IT skills including analytical and communication tools
- Concern for the ethical implications of architectural practice and research
- Awareness of, and sensitivity to, cultural diversity.
- Commitment to equal opportunities and widening participation

## Terms and Conditions

---

- **Staff Development:**  
A minimum of five days (pro rata) are guaranteed under HE2000 terms and conditions. However, the School is committed to encouraging staff development for all its employees, which is to the benefit of the individual as well as the Institution as a whole.
- **Activity Plan:**  
Duties and pattern of working will be set out in an Activity Plan. The plan will include: jointly agreed objectives including milestones and outcomes and an appropriate balance of teaching, research, consultancy, scholarly activity, personal development and other possible activities within the duties of an academic.

<b>Contract</b>	Permanent
<b>Probationary Period</b>	It is recognised that there is an inevitable 'settling in' period in any post. The probationary period is therefore an opportunity for the employee to fit within the culture of the School. It should also be determined during this time whether the job is in line with expectations as expressed in pre-appointment discussions, interview and as set out in the Job Description. The probation period for this role is 12 months.
<b>Salary</b>	Grade 8 £51,799 - £60,022 per annum (pro rata)
<b>Hours</b>	21 hours per week
<b>Holidays</b>	35 days plus 11 statutory holidays per annum (pro rata)
<b>Pension</b>	Option to join Scottish Teachers Superannuation Scheme (STSS)
<b>Notice Period</b>	3 months