



## **SENIOR LECTURER/READER**

### **IN ISLAMIC ECONOMICS AND FINANCE**

**Full-Time, Permanent**

#### **Further Particulars**

**Salary range: £44,361 – £54,515**

The Al-Maktoum College of Higher Education was founded in 2001 to bridge the possible gap between the Muslim and western worlds by focusing on intelligent debate and scientific understanding of Islam and the role of Muslims in the contemporary world. In its relatively short history, over 1800 students from over 40 countries have successfully graduated from College programmes. The College has widened its scope as a Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Centre and has collaborative arrangements with several higher education institutions at home and abroad. In collaboration with the University of Dundee, we deliver MSc and PhD Islamic Finance degrees, and soon a BSc in Islamic Accounting & Finance. The agreement between the two institutions brings together the considerable strength of the University of Dundee in conventional finance and the extensive understanding of Al-Maktoum College in Islamic political economy and finance.

Contents of the Islamic modules were designed by the College and have been incorporated into the University of Dundee BSc and MSc programmes that are subject to the University's quality assurance procedures. All the degrees are awarded by the University of Dundee.

The College campus is in central Dundee, but the College has partnerships and relationships throughout the UK and internationally.

Applications are invited for the above post at Al-Maktoum College. The position will be full time, permanent at the Senior Lecturer or Reader level. The successful applicant will have proven research and teaching expertise and be able to make a strong contribution to the academic profile of the College in 2024 and beyond. S/he will have proven teaching and research expertise in the area of Islamic Economics and Finance and be able to contribute to teaching in any relevant areas, including but not restricted to Islamic Moral Economy and Finance, Digital Islamic Finance and Blockchain Technology, Econometrics for Finance, Islamic Financial Markets and Instruments, Applied Islamic Banking and Insurance, Islamic Accounting and Auditing, and Risk Management in Islamic Banking and Finance, Active participation in the activities of College's other programmes is also expected.

The successful candidate will be expected to be an active researcher and teacher, with significant research publications appropriate to their level of appointment, and the ability to teach and supervise at postgraduate level and to make a substantial contribution to the College's research activities. Fluency in English is essential and the knowledge of one or more languages of Islam, preferably Arabic, is desirable for the post.

The successful candidate will be required to participate in administrative duties relating to various aspects of the work of the College as assigned by the Principal, including the effective delivery of Al-Maktoum College's quality assurance systems and other related activities, and the promotion of the College's programmes and activities. The successful candidate will also be expected to be always an excellent ambassador for the College.

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

1. Sustained and continued academic leadership together with close and positive cooperation with other academic colleagues both internal and external.
2. In-depth knowledge of Islamic economics and finance principles, Shariah-compliant financial instruments, and Islamic economic principles. Teach undergraduate and post graduate students undertaking College programmes of study (this includes interdisciplinary programmes delivery across the College and with external collaborators).
3. Supervise research students, lead research training, give focal lectures and seminars and join in the organisation of College research events.
4. Ensure that the quality of the delivery and assessment of courses meet the standards and expectations of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), and the College's other university collaborators.
5. Develop and deliver resources and teaching materials to meet programme/course frameworks and learning outcomes in a range of programmes.
6. Set, mark and assess students' work, ensuring learning outcomes have been met and feedback is both detailed and constructive.
7. Work closely with senior colleagues to increase levels of student achievement and learning opportunities in the areas of teaching and learning.
8. Assist other colleagues in the College to develop their research, scholarly activity and education through such means as joint publications and the leadership and collaborative development of research, scholarly activity and education projects.
9. Conduct and publish high quality research (at an international level) including a track record of publications with internationally recognised peer reviewed journals and publishers.
10. Apply for and secure research income from such bodies as the research councils, charitable and scientific foundations, commercial enterprises, government and other sponsors.
11. Interact on a professional level with relevant internal and external professional bodies to ensure currency of knowledge, relevancy and accreditations.
12. Participate in the development of internal and external partnerships to disseminate information, share best practice, establish opportunities for collaborative work and enhance the reputation of the College.
13. Contribute to the improvement and enhancement of education in the College through innovative curriculum and pedagogy.
14. Demonstrate a full and active role in the life of the College and enhancing its public reputation as a centre of education, research, enterprise and scholarship.
15. Carry out personal and professional development to enhance subject authority and to contribute to the College's reputation for academic and professional excellence.
16. Undertake such leadership roles as may be determined by the Principal of the College.

## **Person Profile**

### ***Essential characteristics:***

#### *General*

- Effective communication skills, both written and verbal to convey complex financial concepts to students and peers.
- A well-established reputation at the national and international level in the field of Islamic Economics and Finance and a track record of publications as a researcher.
- Completion and award of a PhD from a recognised university.
- Evidence of consultancy and/or professional practice.
- Experience of teaching undergraduate & postgraduate students
- Experience of curriculum design and development
- Experience of using blended learning and e-learning technologies such as virtual learning environments
- Ability to provide research supervision to doctoral level in a broad range of Islamic Economics and Finance.
- Fluency in English in both written and verbal communication.
- Ability and willingness to work within the requirements for quality assurance, learning and teaching frameworks, and research excellence of the UK higher education system.
- Enthusiasm and commitment for the vision, mission, aims and objectives of the College in relation to its expansion policy and strategy, whilst always remaining an excellent ambassador for the College.
- Ability to contribute significantly to the organisation of seminars, offering subject specific training in research methodology, and to attend and contribute to the College's research seminars and workshops.

#### *Technical Skills in Statistics and Econometrics:*

Strong technical skills in statistics and econometrics are crucial for an Associate Professor in Islamic Finance, especially given the quantitative nature of financial research. Here's an emphasis on those technical skills:

- Proficiency in advanced statistical methods and techniques relevant to financial research.
- Sound understanding of probability theory, hypothesis testing, and statistical inference.
- Expertise in econometric modelling to analyse financial data and derive meaningful insights.
- Experience in applying econometric methods such as time-series analysis, panel data analysis, and cross-sectional analysis to financial datasets.

#### *Mentorship and Advisory Role:*

- Proven track record of successfully supervising PhD students in Islamic Finance or related fields.
- Commitment to fostering an environment that promotes independent research and scholarly excellence among PhD candidates.
- Demonstrate ability to support students in publishing research findings in reputable academic journals.

- Effective communications and collaboration with PhD students to ensure their academic and professional development.

*Industry Experience:*

- Practical experience in the Islamic Finance Industry, providing insights into real-world applications of theoretical concepts.

***Desirable characteristics:***

- Interest and/or research expertise/experience in one or more area within the broad subject of Islamic Studies.
- Good administrative skills and experience of administration at the departmental level.
- Up to date professional accreditation e.g. ACCA, CIMA, ATT or other professional qualification or relevant professional experience.
- Knowledge of Arabic Language in terms of dealing with concepts related to Islamic Economics and Finance.

***Interviews***

Interviews will be held in Dundee during May/June 2024.

***Salary and Conditions***

The post will be full time, permanent at the Senior lecturer/ Reader level.

Salary will be within the range of £44,361 – £54,515 per annum.

Further particulars are available from Benjamin Roberts (tel: 01382 908070; email: [hr@almcollege.org.uk](mailto:hr@almcollege.org.uk)) or from the College web site at <http://www.almcollege.org.uk>

***Applications***

Informal inquiries can be made to Prof Alija Avdukic (email: [a.avdukic@almcollege.ac.uk](mailto:a.avdukic@almcollege.ac.uk))

You are required to send a completed application form, covering letter and a full CV. The applications should include the names and addresses of three referees. These should be asked to send their references at the same time of application directly to:

Benjamin Roberts, HR, Head of Operations, ([b.roberts@almcollege.ac.uk](mailto:b.roberts@almcollege.ac.uk)) Al-Maktoum College Higher Education, 124 Blackness Road, Dundee DD1 5PE, UK

Applicants should ensure that their references reach the College by the end of business on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Failure to do so may result in the application not being considered for short listing.

Closing date for applications: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**Applicants will only be contacted if invited for interview.**