



Further Particulars

This document includes information about the role for which you are applying and the information you will need to provide with the application.

1. Role details

Vacancy reference:	7344
Job title:	Part-time SL UX Developer
Reports to:	SocialLearn Senior Project Manager
Salary:	Ranging from £24,370 – £29,099
Terms and conditions of service:	Part-time Support Staff
Grade:	Grade 6
Duration of post:	Until 31 st July 2012
Working hours:	Part-time – 18.5 hours per week
Location:	Knowledge Media Institute of The Open University
Closing date:	11 August 2011
Type of application form accepted:	Standard form
Number of referees required:	Three
Unit recruitment contact:	Ortenz Rose

2. Summary of duties

The Open University's Knowledge Media Institute has an opening for a *part-time User Experience Developer* on the SocialLearn project. The SocialLearn project is investigating the future of online social learning, and draws on expertise from across the OU [www.open.ac.uk/sociallearn]. You will work closely with the SocialLearn team and report to the Senior Project Manager.

The appointment will be made on the Grade 6 Salary Scales for Support Staff, ranging from £24,370 - £29,099 pa depending on qualifications and experience.

Job Description

- Develop and prepare use cases and feature specifications that can be implemented in liaison with a web designer/developer;
- Carry out requirements gathering with groups and individuals both within the university and external to the university;
- Design and conduct user trials to gather qualitative (and, as appropriate, quantitative) data;
- Communicate results of user trials and requirements gathering to the SocialLearn team in a clear, timely manner;
- Work with the SocialLearn team to translate these results into design improvements, for further evaluation;
- Propose UI improvements that can be implemented by programmers;
- Advise on analytics which the system could log to inform usability questions;
- Liaise with other technical and non-technical audiences within the university;
- Using a variety of media, communicate progress on developments in liaison with other members of the project team;
- Design, record and produce user-oriented screen casts about the system;
- Contribute to the provision of documentation for new or improved products and services.

3. Person specification

Person Specification

Essential

- Degree (or equivalent experience);
- Experience of carrying out interviews and conducting surveys;
- Excellent interpersonal, visual, oral and written communication skills;
- Ability to clearly communicate complex information using a range of media;
- Team-working and networking skills;
- Initiative and ability to work independently;
- Ability to work accurately, methodically and speedily;
- Organisational, planning and problem-solving skills;
- Ability to cope with pressure and unforeseen problems, and to offer pragmatic solutions to these;
- Willingness and ability to embrace new ideas, learn new skills and adapt to changing situations or requirements;
- Interest in distance-teaching practices and an awareness of the implications of open access in higher education.

Desirable

Some experience or knowledge of the following would be an advantage:

- Experience in evaluating collaboration technologies to clarify the experience and needs of users/learners;
- Interest in the contribution that learning environments and new technologies can make to successful distance education;
- Interest in the use of mobile technologies to support learning;
- Familiarity with the use of social media for education.

4. Role specific requirements e.g. Shift working

n/a

5. About the unit/department

The Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) of the UK's Open University is a highly successful interdisciplinary research centre founded at The Open University in 1995, and located in attractive premises at The Open University's main campus in Milton Keynes, UK. We offer a stimulating environment, widely acknowledged to be at the leading edge of European research and development, particularly in semantic web technologies, multimedia and information systems, new media systems, and scholarly hypermedia. The style, impact and content of our work are described in detail in our Web pages at <http://kmi.open.ac.uk/>

6. How to obtain more information about the role or application process

If you would like to discuss the particulars of this role before making an application please

contact Mark Glaister on Tel: +44 (0)1908 332748 or email m.glaister@open.ac.uk

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact Ortenz Rose on +44 (0)1908 654774 or email o.rose@open.ac.uk

7. Where to send completed applications

Please ensure that your application reaches the University by: **11 August 2011**

Post it to:

Name/Job title: [Ortenz Rose / Senior Staffing Coordinator](#)

Department/Unit: [Knowledge Media Institute](#)

Address: [The Open University](#)
[Walton Hall](#)
[MILTON KEYNES](#)
[Bucks](#)

Post Code: [MK7 6AA](#)

Or e-mail your application to: kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk

8. Selection process and date of interview

The interview panel will be chaired by Mark Glaister. Other members of the interview panel will include members of the project team. Interviews will be arranged as soon after the close date as is possible.

We will let you know as soon as possible after the closing date whether you have been shortlisted for interview. Further details on the selection process will also be sent to shortlisted candidates.

Applications received after the closing data will not be accepted.