



# Job Description

## Lecturer/Associate Professor/Professor in Information Security

Grade: 8- 10 depending on experience and research

Department: Computer Science

Location: Bloomsbury, London

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### Reports to

Professor Steven Murdoch, Head of Information Security Research Group

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### Context

The Department of Computer Science at University College London (UCL) invites applications for a faculty position in Information Security. We seek world-class talent; candidates must have an outstanding research track record. Appointments will be made at the rank of Lecturer (equivalent to Assistant Professor), Associate Professor or Professor, depending on experience.

We seek applicants with expertise and experience that complements or builds on our current strengths, including but not limited to, the areas of: **human factors in security, systems and network security, machine learning and security, cybercrime, online safety, cryptography, embedded systems security, and software security.**

Since we are an experimental Computer Science department, and UCL is strongly committed to multi-disciplinary research, we are looking for researchers who are interested in collaboration with colleagues in the Faculty of Engineering (e.g., Crime Science) and with other research groups and centres within the Computer Science department, e.g., UCL Interaction Centre (UCLIC), Systems and Networks, Computational Statistics & Machine Learning (CSML) and the AI Centre, Software System Engineering.

UCL is one of the top-rated research institutions in the world, and currently the top recipient of Horizon 2020 funding in Europe. As of 2019, 30 Nobel Laureates and 3 Fields Medalists were UCL affiliates. In the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) evaluation, UCL Computer Science was ranked second in the UK for research power and first in England. The department holds an Athena Swan Silver Award, and UCL has received a Race Equality Charter Bronze Award.

Further information about UCL Computer Science and the Information Security Research Group can be found at <https://www.cs.ucl.ac.uk/> and <https://sec.cs.ucl.ac.uk/>

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### Main purpose of the job

The main purpose of this new role is to support the growth of UCL Computer Science and the Information Security Research Group (UCL ISec) through research, teaching, outreach and entrepreneurial activities in **any relevant area of Information Security.**

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### Duties and responsibilities

- To carry out **high-quality, original research and produce publications**, or other research outputs, in line with personal objectives agreed in the staff review process.
- To obtain **competitive research funding**.
- Demonstrate **impact** in research and, through this, help inform technical standards, policy, technology design, and public life.

- Contribute to **dissemination and public engagement activities**, including the planning/organisation/promotion of events, webinars, etc.
- Pursuing academic excellence through **continuing academic, professional and personal development**.
- Participate in and contribute to **staff review** and development.
- To engage with **the broader scholarly and professional communities**.
- To **teach modules in the MSc Information Security, and to support other undergraduate and graduate level teaching programmes** at UCL Computer Science and the Faculty of Engineering, as allocated by the Dean of Engineering and relevant Heads of Department.
- To **supervise or assist with supervision** of undergraduate, taught graduate (Masters) and research graduate (MPhil/MRes/PhD/EngD) students.
- To contribute to **the development, planning and implementation of a high-quality curriculum**.
- To participate in the development, administration and **marking of exams and other assessments**.
- To provide **pastoral care and support to students**.
- To participate in the **administration of Computer Science Department** and department's programmes of study and other activities as requested.
- To maintain own **continuing professional development**.
- To actively **follow and promote UCL policies**, including Equal Opportunities.
- To carry out **any other duties commensurate with the grade and purpose of the post**.
- All academic staff are expected to demonstrate their **on-going commitment to academic excellence**; that is, to the conduct of research, publication, teaching, enabling and other forms of knowledge transfer, at the highest levels of international achievement. For more information on UCL standards see: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/excellence/>
- This job description reflects the present requirements of the post, and as duties and responsibilities change/develop, the job description will be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the post-holder
- Further information on expectations for researchers and guidance for role grading can be found in the Academic Career Framework available at <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/policies-advice/academic-career-framework-and-promotions-processes>.

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## What we offer

- We offer a competitive starting salary with annual increments and lots of support to progress, regardless of how long you've been in post; we also offer a generous annual leave package and champion flexible working and a culture of continuous learning. Further details can be found at <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/work-at-ucl/rewards-and-benefits>

# Person Specification

Criteria	Essential or Desirable	Assessment method (Application/Interview)
<b>Qualifications, experience and knowledge</b>		
A strong <b>knowledge and track-record of a relevant subject area</b> and a demonstrated link to how this will grow research and teaching in the Information Security area	Essential	Application/Interview
<b>Completed PhD in Computer Science</b> or a closely related field by the start of the appointment	Essential	Application
Research in a field which clearly relates to <b>Information Security</b>	Essential	Application/Interview
A broad subject background enabling contributions to UCL <b>teaching programmes</b>	Desirable	Application/Interview
Track record of successful <b>grant applications</b> , evidence of research leadership, experience in developing new courses	Desirable Essential (Grade 9/10)	Application/Interview
Experience in assessment of <b>student work</b>	Desirable Essential (Grade 9/10)	Application/Interview
Experience in <b>curriculum design</b>	Desirable	Application/Interview
<b>Pastoral care</b> of students	Desirable	Application/Interview
<b>Skills and abilities</b>		
Excellent <b>interpersonal, oral and written</b> communication skills	Essential	Application/Interview
Proven record of ability to conduct high-quality research, which is reflected in the authorship of high-quality publications, or other research outputs, in an area directly relatable to Information Security.	Essential	Application/Interview
Ability to <b>supervise student at PhD level</b> and ability to lead research projects	Desirable Essential (Grade 9/10)	Application/Interview
Proven record of ability to <b>manage time and work to strict deadlines</b>	Essential	Application/Interview
Evidence of ability to teach and to supervise academic work by undergraduates, masters and doctoral students	Desirable Essential (Grade 9/10)	Application/Interview
Ability to work <b>collaboratively</b>	Essential	Application/Interview

Criteria	Essential or Desirable	Assessment method (Application/Interview)
<b>Personal attributes</b>		
Commitment to <b>academic research</b>	Essential	Application/Interview
Commitment to <b>high quality teaching</b> and fostering a positive learning environment for students	Essential	Application/Interview
Commitment to <b>public communication</b>	Essential	Application/Interview
Commitment to UCL's policy of equal opportunity and the ability to work harmoniously with colleagues and students of all cultures and backgrounds	Essential	Application/Interview

## How to apply

Applicants are welcome to join a pre-application webinar on 12 December 2023, 2–3pm. This will introduce the role, the hiring panel and provide further information about the Information Security Research Group and allow applicants to ask questions. The webinar will be recorded and made available online for those who cannot attend the session.

If you are unsure whether you meet all the application criteria, but are enthusiastic to join UCL please do still get in touch with us.

Applications for the position should be made online, via the UCL job pages.

Applicants should submit the following materials, such that all materials arrive on or before the closing date of 31 January 2024:

- Complete curriculum vitae, which must include:
  - education history,
  - details of previous employment,
  - details of current or most recent employer (name and address of current organization, job title and duties),
  - list of publications,
  - details of membership of any professional organisations.
  - three referees (name, relationship to you, address, e-mail address, telephone number) who are leading figures in the relevant subject. Letters from these referees will be requested should your application be shortlisted for interview.
- Statement of research interests and plans (no longer than two sides of A4 paper including any references)

- Statement of teaching interests and experience (no longer than two sides of A4).

If you do not wish to ask your current employer for a reference at the shortlisting stage, that is fine, so long as we still receive three letters for you, and on the understanding that a reference from your current employer will be required later, if you are the successful applicant. When providing your list of referees as part of your CV, it is suggested that you include the name of your current employer referee but clearly state 'not to be contacted unless selected' or write a comment to say that you are happy for us to contact your current employer if you are successful: this will make it clear to the selection committee why a letter from your current employer has not been provided when they are reading your application.

The closing date for applications is 31 January 2024.

## Help and Assistance

If you have any difficulty with the application process, please read the Frequently Asked Questions at <http://bit.ly/1SH42b>.

If you cannot find the answer to your question, please contact Ms Silpa Shah, Administrator for the Information Security Research Group, at [silpa.shah@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:silpa.shah@ucl.ac.uk). CVs e-mailed to this address will not be accepted unless a prior agreement has been made.

Any candidates unable to apply online should contact Ms Silpa Shah to discuss their individual circumstances and the best alternative arrangements to suit their needs: we will do all we can to accommodate any particular requirements or needs related to a disability.

Questions about this post may be directed to Steven Murdoch (Head of Information Security Research Group,

s.murdoch@ucl.ac.uk) and Steve Hailes (Head of Department, s.hailes@cs.ucl.ac.uk).

## Submitting your application

UCL's online recruitment system only allows applicants to upload two files with their application. As we are requesting you send us three documents (your CV, research statement and teaching statement), please be aware that you will either need to collate everything into one PDF file or upload your research and teaching statements as one file. A covering letter is not required but you may include one if you wish.

Please do not upload copies of: research papers you have written, your PhD thesis, your qualification certificates, data on teaching feedback scores, etc. Supplementary documents such as these will not be considered by the selection committee.

Submission of your application is final, and you will not be able to amend your application or add additional documents once you have pressed 'Submit', so please only submit when you are happy that your application is complete. Once all elements of your application are checked as completed, make sure you log back in and click on the Submit button before the closing date/time.

The latest time for submission will be 31 January 2024 at **23:59 hours Greenwich Mean Time**. Once you have submitted your application you will only be able to amend your personal details, i.e., address, telephone number etc.

## Closing date

The closing date for applications is 31 January 2024.

## After the closing date

Applicants shortlisted for interview will be contacted and asked to request references be sent to UCL. Interviews will be held either in person at UCL or online, based on the applicant's preference. In addition to the formal interview, applicants will meet with members of the research group and wider department on a more informal basis. Shortlisted applicants should prepare a research talk and an example lecture covering a topic suitable for undergraduate or taught MSc course. All shortlisted applicants will be provided feedback following their interview.