Position Description – Associate Professor in Media and Communications

Updated 22 October 2026

POSITION DETAILS	
College	**College of Business, Creative Arts, Law and Social Sciences**
Organisational Unit	**Media and Communications**
Supervisor	**Dean, People and Resources (or Delegate)**
Classification	**Teaching Specialist (Academic) Level D**
Employment Type	**Continuing, full-time**

POSITION SUMMARY

This Teaching Specialist (Academic) position, with its primary focus on teaching and teaching-related activities and has an important role to play in the University's achievement of its strategic plan, Agenda 2035: Impact. With Purpose.

The University is committed to a student-centred ethos and to developing creative, enterprising, career-ready graduates prepared to become lifelong contributors to society. In accordance with the strategic plan, the University seeks to:

- deliver a richly interactive and personalised approach to learning focussed on student success;
- be an international leader in educational innovation, advanced learning technologies and learning analytics; and
- develop enterprising graduates equipped with the skills required for success in the knowledge economy.

The Associate Professor will provide high level leadership and direction in delivering excellence in teaching and learning across the suite of Media and Communications and related topics and courses in the College. The Associate Professor will be responsible for providing sustained leadership in teaching and scholarship of teaching through original and innovative contributions which deliver excellence in teaching. The Associate Professor will also make a significant contribution to leadership and managerial activities of the College and/or University and be recognised for their contribution to the profession at the local, national and international level.

Expertise and experience in one or more of the following areas will be highly regarded: Journalism, Digital Media, and Corporate Communication. Strong industry connections and a demonstrated capacity to develop and maintain productive industry partnerships will also be viewed favourably.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University's code of conduct and are expected to:

- demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence;
- demonstrate consistent alignment with the University's strategic priorities through daily decisions, teamwork and behaviours that reinforce the strategic intent;
- contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University's objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one's supervisor;
- promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity;
- perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and



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- familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

Flinders University is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment, free from gender-based violence. Appointment to this role is conditional on the completion of required pre-employment checks and declarations, each of which must be satisfactory to the University. This includes a Gender-Based Violence declaration, in accordance with the National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence (2025), and a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

This position is predominantly concerned with providing leadership and direction related to teaching and teaching-related duties involving the creation, delivery and continuous quality improvement of university-level education. It includes (but is not limited to): direct teaching informed by approaches that enhance the student experience; educational leadership; curriculum design and review; delivery innovation; advancements in education technologies; and leadership in ensuring internal and external compliance and accreditation of courses. The position is also expected to make a leadership contribution to high-quality university, professional and community service, which may extend from the local level to national or international. The position does not include making a research contribution.

Teaching:

- Create, coordinate and conduct inspiring teaching informed by approaches that enhance the student experience, with a focus on Media and Communications and related topics, across all levels and modes of the College.
- Contribute to the planning and evaluation of these topics, undertaking the roles of Topic Coordinator and Couse Coordinator as required.
- Play a lead role in the review, renewal, development and design of curricula and courses that are attractive to existing and new cohorts of students and that nurture creativity and critical-thinking skills.
- Provide support, academic counselling and professional advice to students concerning their studies, professional development and career opportunities.
- Make effective use of innovations and technologies in teaching practice.
- Provide educational leadership and dissemination of best practice, ensuring awareness and utilisation of contemporary education principles.
- Engage in coaching, mentoring, supervising student projects; research higher degree supervision as an Adjunct Supervisor.

University, Professional and Service:

- Undertake leadership and managerial level administrative activities as determined by the Dean, People and Resources.
- Undertake a leadership and managerial role to mentor colleagues and involve industry mentors in academic and professional development activities.
- Significant involvement in and/or leading activities relating to internal and external compliance and professional accreditation of courses.
- Maintain professional knowledge relevant to teaching within their discipline through scholarship and professional development.
- Engage in activities within a relevant external professional domain such as professional associations, conferences and workshops, and within a wider community context at local, national or international level.
- Provide leadership in, coordination of, development of and/or leading international activities including student mobility programs, internationalisation of curricula and ensuring the relevance of curricula to international students or that enhance intercultural skills development in students.
- Provide high quality contribution to community service on behalf of the College and University.
- Undertake activities that promote the development of productive partnerships to provide opportunities for students and promote graduate employability.

- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

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KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in Media and Communications or relevant areas or equivalent.
- Evidence of a strong understanding and application of pedagogical theory and contemporary educational practice relevant to the discipline.
- Significant and sustained evidence of excellence in teaching performance at a tertiary level, inclusive of the relevant professional setting with evidence of a distinguished personal contribution.
- Significant and sustained evidence of leadership in the successful development, delivery and evaluation of learning and teaching innovations across disciplines, both in the classroom and in the professional education setting.
- Demonstrated evidence of sustained capability of providing a distinguished contribution to scholarship in teaching through participation in teaching and learning strategies.
- Evidence of management of a teaching program including ability to lead a team of academics and mentor such individuals in the delivery of innovation and excellence in teaching.
- Significant leadership of academic quality at course/program level.
- Evidence of successful use of e-learning technologies.
- A demonstrated track record of establishing effective teaching collaborations with cross-University or external partners.
- Demonstrated excellent interpersonal, collaborative and communication skills, including the ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with staff, students and industry.
- Strong industry connection/partnership is desirable.
- Expertise and experience in one or more of the following areas will be viewed favourably – Journalism, Digital media and Corporate communication.

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