Non-Tenure-Track Visiting Assistant Professor – Media for Social Change
Occidental Media Arts & Culture Department

POSITION SUMMARY

Occidental College’s Media Arts & Culture Department (MAC) seeks a Visiting Assistant Professor in Media for Social Change for a 1-year full-time, terminal appointment.

We are seeking a theorist/practitioner or critically-engaged media practitioner/activist whose professional work is dedicated to both the critical study and practical application of socially- and politically-engaged media making. A terminal degree (M.F.A. and/or a Ph.D.) in film and media studies or practices is required at the time of appointment.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will provide our students with critical frameworks for understanding the ways that media both reinforce and subvert dominant social, economic, and political structures, while teaching practical strategies for using media skills and tools to raise awareness, foster understanding, and motivate socially-engaged action and outreach at the local and global levels.

A digital media practice is essential for all candidates. Such practice may involve more traditional forms of media production (fictional or documentary media) but should demonstrate innovative use of emerging technologies, platforms, and/or digital tools for social justice and action campaigns, including: content creation and distribution; community building, organizing, and outreach; and/or media literacy and analysis.

The position entails teaching a 5 course load (3/2), supporting essential core components of MAC’s curriculum (such as our Intro to Digital Media and Culture critical class and/or our Introduction to Media Practices production course) while also developing new topical courses that speak to the candidate’s own areas of expertise (curricular areas might include Topics in Representation, Topics in Digital Culture, Topics in Media Theory and Practice, Topics in Media Production, or Topics in Film and Media Studies). In addition to these courses, the position also requires curating a semester of the Oxy Cinematheque event series, mentoring of honors projects, and serving as a second reader/consult on senior comprehensives projects.

Our ideal candidate will help us continue developing and supporting a signature approach to media arts and cultural studies that leverages Occidental’s location in Los Angeles and manifests our commitments to local/global dialogues, community-based learning, undergraduate research, co-curricular curation and exhibition, and social justice.

Position start is August 10, 2020 and includes medical benefits package. For more information about the Media Arts & Culture Department, please visit the MAC website at http://www.oxy.edu/mac. The mission of Occidental College is accessible at https://www.oxy.edu/about-oxy/mission.
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The deadline for receiving application materials is Tuesday, February 4, 2020. Please submit the following as a single electronic file (PDF) to msc2020@oxy.edu: (1) a cover letter detailing your professional activity and pedagogical experience, as well as how each resonates with the position criteria and your interest in teaching in a liberal arts environment; (2) a current CV; (3) a link to a professional work sample; (4) names and contact information of three professional references; and (5) a course syllabus from a past class.

Questions about the position should be directed to MAC Department Chair Dr. Broderick Fox (bfox@oxy.edu).

Occidental College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not unlawfully discriminate against employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, breastfeeding or related medical condition, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic characteristic or information, sexual orientation, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by State or Federal Law.

We strongly encourage all underrepresented candidates, especially women and persons of color, to apply.

As a condition of hire for a staff position and for appointment to a faculty position, Occidental College requires that all candidates who have received a conditional offer of employment complete an application form (if they have not already done so) and consent to a background check. Satisfactory completion of a background check, along with pre-employment verifications and references are required as a condition of employment, but only as permitted by federal, state, and local law, including the City of Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.

We will consider for employment all qualified Applicants, including those with Criminal Histories, in a manner consistent with the requirements of applicable state and local laws, including the City of Los Angeles’ Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.