Position Announcement

Western Connecticut State University
Assistant Professor – Digital and Interactive Media Arts
Tenure Track
Academic Year 2022 - 2023

Western Connecticut State University is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for a tenure track Assistant Professor of Digital and Interactive Media Arts. The position will be part of the Department of Communication & Media Arts or the Department of Art.

WCSU is committed to enhancing our diverse university community by actively encouraging people with disabilities, members of LGBTQIA and BIPOC communities, veterans, and women to apply. We take pride in our pluralistic community and continue to seek excellence through diversity and inclusion.

The Macricostas School of Arts & Sciences is home to 13 departments, 21 undergraduate majors and five graduate majors, and offers a variety of ways for students to further their education. The Department of Communication & Media Arts offers Bachelor of Arts degrees in Communication Studies and Media Arts. Additional information about the department may be found at https://www.wcsu.edu/com/. The School of Visual and Performing Arts is home to the departments of Art, Music, and Theatre Arts. The Art Department offers undergraduate majors in graphic design, illustration, photography and studio art and an MFA. Additional information is available at https://www.wcsu.edu/art/.

Position Summary: The successful candidate will teach courses in media production and interactive digital media, serve as the Director of our multi-disciplinary program in Digital and Interactive Media Arts (DIMA), and spearhead development of a Master’s program and undergraduate option in game design. The DIMA program integrates various media that interact with users in video, computer science, and art/design forms. Students in the program take an interdisciplinary core of media production, computer science, and art and then specialize in one of the options (www.wcsu.edu/dima/). The successful candidate will participate in departmental and university service by taking an active role in advising and mentoring students, serving on departmental and university committees, assisting student groups on campus, and engaging in professional activity and scholarship. WCSU’s small classes allow for student-based teaching and learning and project-based activities. The teaching load for all full-time faculty members is four courses (12 credits) per semester; however, the incumbent will receive release time while developing the graduate program.

Qualifications: Candidates must have a terminal degree in Communication, Media Arts, Digital Media, or a closely related discipline. Evidence of teaching excellence is required. The candidate will have a record of creative work, and high level of professional accomplishment in a DIMA-related field. Relevant industry experience is desired, and the ability to collaborate with other departments is required. Additional responsibilities depend upon departmental need and applicant's expertise. WCSU is particularly interested in applicants who have experience working with students from different backgrounds and a demonstrated commitment to improving access to higher education for first-generation and under-represented groups.
Salary & Benefits: The salary range is $64,422 – $85,896 and is commensurate upon candidates’ experience. Western offers a comprehensive benefits package. Additional information on benefits can be found at www.wcsu.edu/hr/benefits/. There are grant opportunities to support research and conference attendance.

Prior to extending an offer of employment, the finalists for state employment must prove that they (1) are fully vaccinated against COVID-19; (2) have received the first dose and has either received a second dose or has an appointment for the second dose in a two-dose series vaccination, or has received a single-dose vaccine; or (3) have applied for an exemption from this requirement because a physician, physician’s assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse has determined that the administration of COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be detrimental to their health, or the finalist objects to vaccination on the basis of a sincerely held religious or spiritual belief.

Each application for an exemption will be considered on an individualized, case-by-case basis, and any applicant for an exemption must provide appropriate supporting documentation if requested. Executive Order https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-13G.pdf

Application Process: Interested applicants must submit a cover letter (2-page maximum) which outlines interest in, and qualifications for, the position; areas of teaching expertise and experience, areas of service and/or leadership and research interests; a current curriculum vitae, a statement of creative and teaching philosophy (2-page maximum), the names and contact information for at least three (3) professional references who can comment on the applicant’s teaching, scholarship, and/or service/leadership, and examples of candidate’s work, students’ work, or other examples of creative work such as portfolio, reel, website, etc. All documents must be submitted in three (3) PDF files to facultyvitae@wcsu.edu. In the Email Subject Line, Reference Search #900-051. All materials should be submitted as PDF files. Applications must be received by Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Late applications will not be accepted.

State and Federal requirements expect that organizations with 100 or more employees invite applicants to self-identify gender and race. We kindly request all applicants to complete the Affirmative Action Data Questionnaire via the following link. http://wcsu.edu/diversity/affirmative-action-data-questionnaire/. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Keisha Stokes in the WCSU Office of Diversity and Equity at stokesk@wcsu.edu. Completion of this data will not affect your opportunity for employment, or terms or conditions of employment. This form will be used for reporting purposes only and will be kept separate from all search records and only accessed by the Office of Diversity and Equity.

Western is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer