

The University of Manchester

Job Description

Job title:	Senior Software Developer (Management)
Reports to:	Head of Digital Development
Organisation unit:	University of Manchester Library: Research and Digital Horizons
Date:	January 2021
HERA:	MAPPS-UML-R&DH-DD-B (540, Grade 7)

Overall purpose of the job:

- To manage the development of digital services and applications within the Digital Development Team in support of the strategic objectives of The University of Manchester Library
- To oversee all aspects of software development including design, development, testing, documentation, release management and technical support
- To liaise with colleagues across the University to gather requirements and to manage and implement service developments using an appropriate development methodology

Key responsibilities:

- To contribute to an environment that values and celebrates the diverse nature of the University of Manchester's population and to take positive steps to achieve equality in the workplace and to both meet and exceed our obligations under equality legislation
- To manage the development work of the Digital Library Applications Development team and to ensure effective performance against agreed targets
- To ensure appropriate standards for coding, testing, documentation, versioning and maintenance are followed and align with University procedures
- To work closely with colleagues across the Library to establish business requirements for services and to plan and coordinate their delivery including, where applicable, the identification and employment of existing solutions
- To lead development projects using agreed Project Management methodologies
- To ensure business requirements are delivered to agreed timescales
- To coordinate the second level technical support arrangements for software and services developed by the team and to establish service definitions and performance indicators as required
- To work with end users to identify and resolve problems and issues with applications
- To work on their own initiative to investigate and provide solutions to problems including undertaking research into new technologies and methodologies

- To ensure developed services comply with relevant national and international standards on data integrity, interoperability, usability, accessibility and security etc
- To plan, develop and carry out training for new systems and applications as appropriate
- To represent the University Library at internal and external meetings and to become involved in appropriate professional bodies
- To contribute proactively to the development and implementation of Library-wide operational planning and initiatives in support of University strategy and Library priorities
- To be responsible for compliance with and the embedding of University policies, procedures and requirements - in particular those relating to health and safety; equality, diversity and inclusion; and information governance
- Such other duties as may reasonably be associated with the grade and a role of this nature
- To work at any Library site as required
- To be flexible in relation to hours of work as may be reasonably requested from time to time
- To wear supplied Library branded clothing during defined promotional activities and special events
- To understand the specific context within which the role operates and how it relates to the wider University goals and business processes, in order to facilitate informed decision making
- To ensure the working environment reflects the University's and Library's values

Person Specification

Essential knowledge, skills and experience:

- Either a good Honours degree in a relevant subject plus appropriate practical experience in a similar or related role(s) **OR** significant vocational experience, demonstrating development through the acquisition of appropriate professional and specialist knowledge and involvement in a series of progressively more demanding relevant work/roles
- Proven ability to manage and motivate a technical team
- Excellent time management, interpersonal and communications skills
- Experience of managing the planning, development and implementation of software applications and services
- Proven analytical and problem-solving capability
- Strong service orientation and customer focus
- Successful project management experience, using a formal methodology such as Prince2
- Experience of reviewing policies and procedures and the proven ability to manage change successfully in an academic environment
- Knowledge of and familiarity with user requirement gathering techniques
- Significant IT development skills including familiarity with systems analysis and with programming methodologies
- Understanding of the requirements for information resources by academic users in a research-intensive university
- Knowledge of usability and accessibility issues governing the use of web-based systems

Desirable knowledge, skills and experience:

- Knowledge and experience of software frameworks such as Java, MEAN-stack etc
- Experience of application user interface design
- Experience of using web services technology
- Experience of using GIT or equivalent code versioning and management system
- Awareness of policies and standards relating to the development of web applications
- Awareness of the security issues surrounding web application development
- Ability to use and design complex datatypes and algorithms
- Experience in the Higher education sector