Assistant Professor of English

**Department:** English

**Position:** Full-time, 10-month position

**Wage:** Within the range established in the Collective Bargaining Agreement ($40,000 to $56,000)

**Union Affiliation:** MEA/MFT

**Posting Date:** October 2014

**Description**

The English department at the University of Montana Western invites applications for an assistant professor position (three, four-credit courses per semester). Teaching responsibilities will include British literature surveys and seminars (18th to 21st century), literary theory, first-year composition and other general education classes as assigned. Other responsibilities include scholarly activity, participating in campus committees, attending faculty meetings, and, after the first year, student advising and assisting with student recruitment.

Since 2005, the University of Montana Western has been the only publicly funded, four-year baccalaureate degree granting university to operate fully on a block schedule. Each semester, students enroll in a fulltime load of four classes that they take once at a time for three hours per day for 18 days. Experiential learning, in the sense that it is the authentic practice of a given academic discipline, is emphasized at UMW.

**Qualifications**

The successful candidate must possess the following qualifications:

- A Ph.D. in English, specializing in British literature (18th to 21st century). Secondary specialties in literary theory and/or world literature also desirable.

- Innovation and excellence in postsecondary teaching along with proven experience teaching a variety of courses from first-year composition to upper-division literature.

- A commitment to create an experience-centered learning environment in the block format with special attention to first-generation college students.

- Evidence of scholarly productivity (or potential for such productivity) in the area of specialty.
Application

Interested applicants should send a complete application to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Shane Borrowman at shane.borrowman@umwestern.edu. Review of applications will begin on Dec. 1, 2014, and will continue until the position is filled. The start date for the position is Aug. 1, 2015.

A complete application includes:

1. A current curriculum vita.

2. Unofficial academic transcripts that verify the required degree qualifications (official transcripts will be required at the time of hire).

3. A well-composed and concise teaching statement (two pages, single-spaced maximum) that illustrates how the candidate meets or exceeds the qualifications for the position listed above.

4. A list of three current professional references and their telephone and e-mail contact information. These references should be able to speak frankly to the candidate's qualifications for this position.

The University and Dillon Area

The University of Montana Western, located in Dillon, Mont., is an innovative institution nestled in a scenic valley in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Montana. The current campus student headcount is 1,447 and the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for student enrollment is approximately 1,392.

Montana Western has over 60 FTE faculty members, features small classes for all students and has been recognized for excellence by U.S. News and World Report. Montana Western’s small size and focus on education innovation have earned it the reputation of being a place where faculty and staff choose to collegially and creatively make a difference in the education of students. Montana Western is the first and only public four-year college in the nation to use block scheduling in which students take a single class at a time. This immersion learning program facilitates increased opportunities for experiential types of learning.

The mission of the University of Montana Western is to provide innovative interdisciplinary education through experiential learning that combines theory and practice. Montana Western services citizens of all ages with its academic, community service, and lifelong-learning programs. As part of the global community, Montana Western encourages diversity, international awareness, environmental responsibility, and mastery of technology as a gateway to the world.

Dillon, a community of 5,000 people, is known for outstanding public schools, safe environments, recreational opportunities and an excellent quality of life.

The University of Montana Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from qualified women, minorities, veterans and people with disabilities. Qualified candidates may request veterans, or disabilities preference in accordance with state law. Reasonable accommodations are provided in the hiring process for persons with disabilities. Finalists for this position will be subject to a criminal background investigation.