Job description

The ULB opens a position for a full-time academic in epidemiology. The main activities of the position are divided into teaching (including the supervision of student master theses) and research, each for approximately half of the time.

The candidate will also participate in administrative responsibilities related to the usual functioning of the School of Public Health (juries, deliberations, internal commissions). He/she will contribute to the visibility and strengthening of the School’s position in national and international expertise related to epidemiology and public health.

He or she will be required to carry out high-level research. These developments will be facilitated by partnerships with other research centres of the School of Public Health, along with the proximity to the Faculties of Medicine, of Motricity sciences, and of Pharmacy shortly to come, all on a single campus (named “Pôle Santé”, Health Division), other faculties of the university, as well as with other national and international institutions.

Within the SPH, five Research Centers develop projects in the various fields and topics related to the Public Health, which enables interactions and pluridisciplinary approaches. Research therefore is based on partnerships between the Research Centers, with the faculties mentioned above and also, with other national and international research institutions. Lastly, a broad teaching catalogue (Masters, Specialized Masters and University Certificates) is available, which permits to diversify the kind of teaching in which teachers are involved.

Research area:
The research activities developed by the candidate will be complementary to the activities already carried out and linked to the main research areas developed at the School of Public Health.

The candidate had beforehand developed research skills. The research activities are more particularly linked to the research centre "Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Clinical research (CR2). Since the health topics covered at the CR2 are very diverse, opportunities to develop research in Epidemiology are numerous. Additional topics complementary with the ongoing CR2 research projects would be an asset. A description of the research centres and their activities is available at https://esp.ulb.be/fr/la-recherche/les-centres-de-recherche.
As an epidemiologist affiliated to the CR2, he/she will be able to carry out research integrated to those of the CR2 or in collaboration with the other Research Centers at the SPH (cf. SPH website), along with other “Pôle Santé” faculties and the academic Hospital “Erasme”. Such collaborations will be opportunities to develop innovative research topics, especially in line with emerging public health issues or insufficiently addressed in Belgium. The topics he/she will propose may belong to the field of infectious diseases; non-communicable chronic diseases (cancer included); environmental, occupational or behavioral diseases; mental health... Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention; intervention evaluation; case management... may be involved. Close collaborations with other scientists and biostatisticians at the SPH may be implemented.

The candidate will be required to develop his/her own research programmes and to submit projects to calls for funding or projects outside the University (FNRS, Regions, Europe, etc.). In this perspective, he/she will propose a research development plan in his/her application file.

The candidate will also initiate doctoral thesis projects and supervise theses. He/she will supervise PhD students in Public Health and Epidemiology, including co-supervision with other universities and will participate in PhD steering committees.

Among the “services to the community”, he/she may also contribute to consultancy activities related to the “Pole Santé” and the BIOPS platform (https://biops.helsci.be/).

For all those activities, the candidate will benefit the technical and administrative support at the SPH, at the ULB Research Department and at the European Service, for the preparation and the implementation of his/her research projects.

Educational and scientific goals:

The selected candidate will be involved teaching related to the “Master in Public Health Sciences” (French-speaking; Epidemiology and Biostatistics option) and the “Pôle Santé” (Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Motricity Sciences). He/she will also contribute to the development of online teaching, especially within continuing education.

He/She will mobilize teaching skills so that the students will efficiently master theoretical and applied epidemiology, which will enable them to face professional situations that necessitate to reliably implement a rigorous scientific approach, especially for the research protocol development. Hence, he/she will teach methods in epidemiology which are consistent and adapted to the quantitative approaches used in public health, including clinical research. He/She will aim at developing critical appraisal on existing studies and scientific publications. Supervision of Master thesis is also possible along with internships in his/her research team.

Expected teaching proficiency includes interactive teaching and use of IT communication technology. Course content and evaluation will be adapted to the students’ profiles and class sizes. Hybrid teaching is encouraged as far as they are an added value for learning by students.

For the application preparation, the candidate may refer to the “competency profile” of the Master in Public Health Sciences available on: https://esp.ulb.be/

The selected candidate will supervise the assistants’ (or assistant-students) activity within the tutorials related to his/her courses. In addition, he/she will frequently interact with the other Learning Units’ teachers in which he/she is involved, in order to ensure its consistency. For that purpose, a specific
attention will be paid to the Learning Units combining Epidemiology and Biostatistics teaching. Also, he/she will collaborate with the teachers of courses that logically precede his/her own. Lastly, he/she will implement learning evaluation including modalities defined in accordance to the content of the course and used methods (sitting exam, individual or in-group works, reflective assessment...).

In the first year, the maximum teaching load will be 90 hours and will gradually increase to 120 hours after three years.

ULB has developed a comprehensive support to develop and enhance teaching methods.

Courses that may be covered at the time of recruitment:

All those courses are given in French. They are presented with their original label in French below.

**Master en Sciences de la Santé publique (ESP)**
- SAPU-L-4118 Analyse approfondie des données de santé – partim Epidémiologie : Lectures 25h - Tutorial 15h.
- SAPU-L-4122 Du projet aux résultats – partim Epidémiologie/cadres conceptuels : Lectures 8h.
- STAT-L-5215 Analyse du changement et des données groupées – partim Cadrage épidémiologique : Lectures 12h.
- SAPU-L-5216 Application des méthodes quantitatives dans les questions prioritaires de santé : Lectures 18h – Supervision of personal work 8h.

**Faculté de Médecine & faculté des sciences et de la motricité**
- MEDI-G-3605 Epidémiologie, médecine factuelle – partim Epidémiologie clinique : Lectures 12h.

In order to evaluate the detailed content of these courses, the candidate can consult the catalogue of courses on the websites of SPH, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Motricity Sciences. This is an indicative allocation and may evolve according to the selected candidate proficiency or to the program’s needs. He/She may be involved in the continuing education programs through the BIOPS platform.

**Qualifications required**

Master degree in Sciences and PhD degree (including thesis) in:
- Medicine with epidemiology and public health orientation
- Public Health with epidemiology orientation
- Or equivalent fields.

**Skills required**

- You have acquired skills in epidemiology or clinical research, including advanced proficiency of methods and tools usually used in quantitative analyses (including software in biostatistics such as R, Stata®, SAS...).
- Your scientific experience has lasted for 4 years at least (PhD may be included in the period) at the time of hiring. During this period, you have especially acquired theoretical and operational capacity to lead research, including the development of methods in epidemiology and their interpretation in a Public Health perspective.
- You have a sizable postdoctoral experience and an excellent scientific record, including peer-reviewed publications in good-quality journals.
• A several-month mobility outside the institution where you accomplished your PhD (during your PhD or after) will be favorably taken into account when your application will be assessed.
• You have capacities to develop teaching and research projects through national and international collaborations.
• You have capacities to implement in-class and online courses.
• If you do not fluently speak French (C1 level), a period of adaptation may be allowed. However, you must be able to teach in French by the end of the 3-year period following the hiring.

Interested?

For more information regarding research and teaching, please contact:

Prof. Yves COPPIETERS (Head of the Research Center in Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Clinical Research; phone number: +32 2 555.40.93 – email address: yves.coppieters@ulb.be);

Prof. Catherine BOULAND (Dean of the School of Public Health; phone number: +32 2 555.40.20 – email address: catherine.bouland@ulb.be).

For more information on administrative issues, please contact: Mrs Joëlle HERZET, phone number: +32 2 555.40.21 – email address: joelle.herzet@ulb.be.

Applications must be sent by e-mail to the rectorate of the Université Libre de Bruxelles (email address: rectrice@ulb.be) and to the faculty deanship: presidency.esp@ulb.be

They must include the following:

• An application letter;
• A Curriculum vitae including a complete list of publications: if you want, you can complete a standard form via our website at https://www.ulb.be/fr/documents-officiels/completer-votre-cv-en-ligne. Once completed, it must be downloaded and attached to the application file.
• A 7,000-character report (around 4 pages) presenting the applicant’s research past activities, and a report about planned research projects (around 6 pages maximum), including how these will integrate into ULB’s research, in the SPH especially;
• A note on the applicant’s international research achievements and projects (collaborations, involvement in international networks and projects (no more than 4 pages);
• A teaching dossier including a 7,000-character report (around 4 pages) on the applicant's previous teaching activities and a teaching project for the first five years in this position (around 6 pages maximum); these must be relevant to the faculty and to the teaching profiles for the programmes to which the applicant is to contribute
• Names and e-mail addresses of five referees (respecting the gender balance) who may be contacted by those in charge of evaluating applications. These referees should not have conflicts of interest because of family or emotional ties.
Equal opportunities policy

ULB’s personnel management policy is geared towards diversity and equal opportunities.

We recruit candidates on the basis of their skills, irrespective of age, gender, sexual orientation, origin, nationality, beliefs, disability, etc.

Would you like to be provided with reasonable accommodation in the selection procedure because of a disability, disorder, or illness? Please contact Marie Botty, the person in charge of diversity aspects for the academic and scientific staff (marie.botty@ulb.be). Be assured of the confidentiality of this information.


You will find all the regulations relating to academic careers on our site at http://www.ulb.ac.be/emploi/academique.html.

The appointment to the academic staff of ULB is made at “Chargé de Cours” level. As of their appointment, members of academic staff are authorised to use the honorary title of “Professeur”.