Western University
Director, Western English Language Centre

Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapéewak and Chonnonton peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom Western recognizes as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

Founded in 1878, Western University delivers ‘The Western Experience’ - an exemplary learning experience that engages students, challenging them to meet ever-higher standards in the classroom and beyond, informing every dimension of their lives – intellectual, social, cultural as well as physical. From its campus in London, Ontario across every continent, Western prepares future leaders to succeed.

The Western English Language Centre (WELC) develops and delivers a range of responsive, relevant, and accessible English language programs that support undergraduate and graduate international student success and contribute to the internationalization goals of Western and its affiliate institutions. With a focus on student success and a welcoming, engaging learning environment, WELC boasts a completion rate of 97% and has had thousands of graduates over the last decade.

Reporting to the Assistant Vice-President of Western Continuing Studies, the Director of WELC provides overall direction of the portfolio, including budget planning, leadership of the WELC team, establishing and driving WELC’s goals and objectives, and implementing policies, procedures, and programs that promote academic excellence, student success, and continuous improvement. In addition, the Director of WELC plays a pivotal role in establishing and maintaining relationships with key external partners, including relevant industry associations, educational institutions, agents, and governments. The Director works collaboratively across the University to fulfill WELC’s mandate to provide high-quality English language education and programming, including pre-degree and bridging programs, to foster student growth, retention, and success.

The ideal candidate holds a Master’s degree in a relevant field or equivalent professional experience and will bring a passion for language education, a commitment to student success, and knowledge of English language teaching standards, practices, programs, and delivery. An advanced understanding of strategic planning, business growth, and quality standards relative to operational improvement will be essential. Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, will be necessary to effectively interact with faculty, staff, students, and external stakeholders. The ability to build positive relationships, collaborate with internal and external partners, and represent the Centre professionally is paramount. To achieve success in the role, a track record of effective leadership, including the ability to inspire and motivate staff and foster a collaborative, respectful, and inclusive environment will also be essential.

Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression.

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process by contacting Odgers Berndtson. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

Applications are encouraged immediately at https://careers.odgersberndtson.com/en-ca/19076. The Committee will begin considering candidates in September 2023, with the new Director to take office in January 2024. To submit a nomination or to apply directly, please write to directorwelc@odgersberndtson.com.