

## Lecturer or Teaching Specialist, Retail Merchandising

COLLEGE OF DESIGN UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Retail Merchandising Program, College of Design, University of Minnesota seeks to fill a teaching specialist or lecturer position to teach foundation and other critical core retailing courses at the undergraduate level. The Retail Merchandising program focuses on merchandising principles that are applied across a broad spectrum of U.S. and global retail businesses. We are committed to attracting candidates from historically underrepresented groups knowing that diversity enriches the academic experience and provides a knowledge base for innovation.

**Position:** This is a 100%-time, nine-month (academic year), annually renewable, academic professional appointment at the level of Teaching Specialist or Lecturer. Appointment is expected to be renewed for up to two additional years; renewal is contingent upon performance, available funding, and the needs of the College. The expected start date is August 27, 2018, with the initial appointment term ending May 26, 2019. Salary and rank is commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**Responsibilities:** Contribute to the life of the department and a thriving and successful Retail Merchandising program.

The duties for this position include:

- Teach 6 undergraduate courses in the Retail Merchandising program
- Supervise student teaching assistants
- Attend and contribute to program meetings and events; attend department meetings
- Advise undergraduate students for Internships and Study Abroad
- Contribute to the ongoing development of the Retail Merchandising curriculum
- Develop and maintain a relationship with our industry partners, as appropriate
- Participate in department committees and events
- Contribute to and support the mission of the land-grant institution

**Essential Qualifications:**

- Retail industry experience
- Expertise in retail merchandising and at least one of the following areas:
  - retail environments
  - international retailing
  - promotion
  - visual merchandising
  - buying
  - sourcing
  - digital retailing
  - human resources
  - consumer behavior
- Demonstrated record of effective teaching in traditional, online, and/or hybrid environments.
- Evidence of attention to cultural diversity in teaching.
- Evidence of strong leadership, collaborative and interpersonal skills.

For Lecturer classification: Master's degree earned by start date required with at least one degree in retail merchandising or a closely related field

For Teaching Specialist classification: Bachelor's degree in retail merchandising, or a closely related field, with a minimum of 6 years of retail industry experience and proven professional leadership experience.

***Preferred  
Qualifications:***

- Earned terminal degree
- Executive level retail experience with a global perspective
- Technologically innovative approaches to teaching/learning
- Experience working collaboratively within academic departments, within retail businesses, and in the community
- Experience with community-based teaching practices
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with faculty, students, staff and the community

***Institutional  
Setting:***

The College of Design includes programs in apparel design, architecture, graphic design, housing studies, human factors and ergonomics, interior design, landscape architecture, product design, and retail merchandising.

Minnesota is recognized as a progressive state and the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul as one of the major design centers in the United States and home to companies like Target, 3M, General Mills, and Medtronic. Well known for its high quality of life, the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area offers world-caliber museums and theaters, an exceptional parks system, outstanding historical landmarks, excellent educational opportunities, and access to a well-regarded health care system. The Twin Cities are also home to 21 Fortune 500 companies, in addition to thriving small local businesses and a strong non-profit sector.

***Application  
Procedure:***

Application procedure is on-line. Go to <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/employment/index.html> The requisition number is 321348. Submit your letter of application, resume, a statement of teaching philosophy (1 page maximum), and contact information for three references. Send transcripts of your undergraduate and/or graduate work (may be unofficial transcripts at time of application) to: Julie Hillman, Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel, University of Minnesota, 240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108. Telephone: 612/624-7721; E-mail: [jhillman@umn.edu](mailto:jhillman@umn.edu). Priority consideration will be given to applications received by January 19, 2018.

Candidates selected for interview must submit a teaching portfolio including samples of syllabi and teaching evaluations. For more information, visit our web site at: <http://dha.design.umn.edu/>

***Diversity:***

The University recognizes and values the importance of diversity and inclusion in enriching the employment experience of its employees and in supporting the academic mission. The University is committed to attracting and retaining employees with varying identities and backgrounds.

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. To learn more about diversity at the U: <http://diversity.umn.edu>. To request an accommodation during the application process, please email [employ@umn.edu](mailto:employ@umn.edu) or call (612) 624-UOHR (8647), or please contact Julie Hillman, Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel, 240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108, (612) 624-7721.

***Background  
Check  
Information:***

Any offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check. Our presumption is that prospective employees are eligible to work here. Criminal convictions do not automatically disqualify finalists from employment.