



HAMILTON JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN FRENCH

FURTHER PARTICULARS

Location	The Queen's College, University of Oxford
Grade and salary	£36,024
Hours	Full time (37.5 hours/week)
Contract type	Fixed-term for 3 years
Reporting to	The Governing Body of The Queen's College

The role

The Queen's College, University of Oxford, is offering a Junior Research Fellowship in French for candidates who hold, or are close to completing, a doctorate in French, including literature of the French-speaking world or a related field. The Fellowship offers early career researchers the opportunity to develop their research within one of the world's leading universities and so strengthen their future position in the academic job market. Many previous Junior Research Fellows have moved on to permanent faculty positions at leading world universities.

We are committed to fostering equality, diversity, and inclusiveness. We particularly encourage applications from women, disabled people and people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, as these groups are currently under-represented in the College's academic staff.

The Hamilton Junior Research Fellowship is tenable for a fixed term of three years and it is expected that the successful candidate will take up the post no later than 1st October 2024. Consideration will be given to any field of specialisation in literature from the French-speaking world. Candidates are advised that the College has chosen 'perception' as a theme for 2024/5, and 'extraction: the environmental legacy of imperialism' for 2025/6; candidates are invited to indicate if their research intersects with either theme. Eligible candidates should have no more than two years of post-doctoral research experience by 1st October 2024.

The Hamilton Junior Research Fellow will be a member of the Senior Common Room at The Queen's College, and entitled to free meals. The appointee will be nominated for membership of the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages.

There are no teaching responsibilities associated with the post. However, the Hamilton Junior Research Fellow may engage in paid teaching up to a maximum of six hours weekly and, if teaching undergraduates, would normally be expected to give priority to the College's own undergraduate teaching needs.

Responsibilities

The postholder is required to perform the following duties to the satisfaction of the Governing Body:

- To engage in research of a quality commensurate with publication in leading international journals of French studies;
- To develop and manage their own programme of independent research;
- To present their research at international conferences and research workshops;

- To participate in the intellectual life of the College by attending, and where possible by organising, seminars, workshops, conferences, and other academic events;

Selection criteria

The successful candidate will meet the following criteria. They will:

- Hold a doctorate in French (or a related field) or be close to completing such a doctorate;
- Have a well-developed and intellectually ambitious plan for post-doctoral research over the three-year period of the Fellowship;
- Be able to present research findings effectively to fellow professionals and other informed members of the public;
- Be willing to contribute more generally to the intellectual life of the College;
- Have excellent oral and written communication skills in English and at least one other language.

Salary: the salary for this post is £36,024 per annum. The Junior Research Fellow will be automatically enrolled in the USS pension scheme unless they opt out.

Research Allowance: a personal research allowance of £1,921 per annum is provided by the College for research activities such as conference attendance, research assistance, and the purchase of books and IT equipment.

Place of Work: The College will provide a non-residential study room on the main site in central Oxford. It may also be possible to provide, as an alternative, single residential accommodation at a charge. The successful candidate is expected to reside in or near Oxford.

The Queen's College

The Queen's College, founded in 1341, is one of the oldest Colleges in the University of Oxford and represents most aspects of the University community and its scientific and scholarly work. There are approximately 45 fellows, about 160 graduate students and about 330 undergraduates.

Modern Languages is represented in the College by Official Fellows and Career Development Fellows in French, Spanish, and German, as well as lecturers to support language teaching to undergraduate students. Laura Lonsdale specialises in modern Spanish literature, especially 20th century narrative and theatre, and her publications include a monograph on multilingualism and modernity in Spanish and American literature. Charlie Louth's research focuses on German poetry from the 18th century onwards, especially romanticism, translation, and comparative literature. Marina Perkins is a specialist in early modern French literature, with particular interests in the relationship between communication and power in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Macs Smith's research focuses on intersections between biopolitics and media, and ephemerality in contemporary French culture. Seth Whidden specialises in poetry in French from the 19th century to the present. Information about their research interests is available on the College web site: www.queens.ox.ac.uk/whos-here. In addition, the College regularly elects post-doctoral scholars in Living Foreign Languages to a Laming Junior Fellowships. Finally, the successful candidate will also have the opportunity to interact extensively with other members of the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages.

The College admits up to thirteen undergraduate students per year to read Modern Languages, either as a single honours subject or in combination with English, History, Classics, Philosophy, Linguistics, or with a Middle Eastern language. The College Fellows also supervise a number of postgraduate students.

The College has one of the finest college libraries in Oxford, with around 50,000 volumes in the current lending collection—used extensively by students—and around 100,000 volumes in the antiquarian collection. The library's recent expansion provides new reading rooms, enhanced accommodation for its special collections, and more space for students and the working collection. The College organises a symposium that meets twice a term for graduate students and faculty to showcase their research and discuss their interests.

For more information about the College please visit www.queens.ox.ac.uk.

The Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages

The Faculty is one of the leading centres for the study of European language, literature, and culture world-wide, offering expertise in the entire chronological range from the earliest times to the present day, and with specialists in film studies, cultural studies, history of the book, and cultural history as well as languages and literatures. The Faculty offers expertise in French, German, Italian, Modern Greek, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Polish, and Czech, as well as in a range of other languages spoken in Europe. Colleagues across the various languages work together in various interdisciplinary projects and research centres, which bring specialists in language and literature together with historians, philosophers, and social studies scholars.

The Faculty is partly college-based, and partly housed in University buildings in Wellington Square, where some academic staff and the Faculty's administrative staff have offices, and at the Taylor Institution in St Giles' where some teaching takes place and the main Faculty and research library is based. The Taylor Institution, a fine nineteenth-century building sharing with the Ashmolean Museum a commanding site on St Giles', contains both the Taylorian Library, the largest and best resourced Modern Languages library in the country, and the Faculty's largest teaching rooms.

The Faculty is divided into seven sub-faculties: French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and other Slavonic Languages, Spanish, and Modern Greek. It includes nine established professorships and 77 permanent academic post-holders. The colleges, which are responsible for undergraduate admissions and undergraduate tutorial teaching, admit a total of about 270 students a year to read for the Honour School of Modern Languages and its joint schools with Classics, English, History, Philosophy, Oriental Studies, and Linguistics. The Modern Languages Faculty Board is responsible for the admission and supervision of graduate students. There are about 60 graduates taking taught Master's degrees, and about 120 research students.

The Sub-Faculty of French

The Sub-Faculty of French is the largest French department in the UK, and one of the largest in the world. It has one statutory professor and a visiting professor, up to 30 associate and full professors and a senior instructor. It also benefits from the presence of a number of colleagues who support the teaching of the permanent postholders, and enhance the research profile of the sub-faculty. These include some tutors employed solely by colleges, research fellows, college lecturers and some academic librarians. The total membership of the sub-faculty is over 60.

The average annual intake of students to read French is 160. The sub-faculty aims to teach a command of grammatically correct and idiomatic spoken and written French, the ability to write accurately and idiomatically in French and to translate into and out of French with precision and sensitivity to a range of registers and styles. The curriculum allows students either to study a broad range of literature or to focus their studies on the medieval period, the early modern period, or the modern period up to the present day, or to concentrate on options in Linguistics. The emphasis in finals is very much on students' choice, and the main papers are supplemented by options ranging widely from Grail Romances and Anglo-Norman to European Cinema, Women's Writing, Literature and the Visual Arts, or Francophone Literature.

Graduates reading French can study either for a research degree (DPhil or MLitt) or follow a taught Master's course in Modern Languages of one or two years' duration (MSt and MPhil respectively). There are also a number of other taught courses in which French can form a component (for example in Women's Studies, Medieval Studies, and General Linguistics and Comparative Philology). The sub-faculty has an excellent record in supplying graduates for university posts both in the UK and across the world.

For more information, please visit www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk.

The Humanities Division

The Humanities Division is one of four academic divisions in the University of Oxford, bringing together the following faculties: Classics; English; History; Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics; Medieval and Modern Languages; Music; Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; Philosophy; Theology and Religion; the Ruskin School of Art. The Division has over 500 members of academic staff, approximately 4,100 undergraduates (more

than a third of the total undergraduate population of the University), 1,000 postgraduate research students and 720 students on postgraduate taught courses.

The Division offers world-class teaching and research, backed by the superb resources of the University's libraries and museums, including the famous Bodleian Libraries, with their 11 million volumes and priceless early book and manuscript collections, and the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology. Such historic resources are linked to cutting-edge agendas in research and teaching, with an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary study. Our faculties are among the largest in the world, enabling Oxford to offer an education in Arts and Humanities unparalleled in its range of subjects, from music and fine art to ancient and modern languages.

The Humanities Division has embarked on a major building project on the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, following the recent announcement of the £150 million gift to create the [Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities](#). The Schwarzman Centre will serve as a dynamic hub dedicated to the Humanities. The building will bring together seven Humanities faculties, the Humanities Divisional Office, a new library and significant cultural and public engagement spaces in a space designed to encourage experiential learning and bold experimentation through cross-disciplinary and collaborative study.

For more information, please visit: www.humanities.ox.ac.uk.

The University of Oxford

Oxford's departments and colleges aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial, and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy, and economic impacts.

Oxford's self-governing community of international scholars includes Professors, Associate Professors, other college tutors, senior and junior research fellows, and over 2,500 other University research staff. Research at Oxford combines disciplinary depth with an increasing focus on inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary activities addressing a rich and diverse range of issues.

Oxford's strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, Oxford aspires to build a truly inclusive community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While Oxford has long traditions of scholarship, it is also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. It consistently has the highest external research income of any university in the UK (the most recent figures are available at www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/finance-and-funding), and is ranked first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 spin-off companies created to date. Oxford is also recognised as a leading supporter of social enterprise.

Oxford admits undergraduate students with the intellectual potential to benefit fully from the small group learning to which Oxford is deeply committed. Meeting in small groups with their tutor, undergraduates are exposed to rigorous scholarly challenge and learn to develop their critical thinking, their ability to articulate their views with clarity, and their personal and intellectual confidence. They receive a high level of personal attention from leading academics.

Oxford has a strong postgraduate student body which now numbers over 10,000. Postgraduates are attracted to Oxford by the international standing of the faculty, by the rigorous intellectual training on offer, by the excellent research and laboratory facilities available, and by the resources of the museums and libraries, including one of the world's greatest libraries, the Bodleian.

For more information, please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation.

How to apply

Click on the 'Apply online' button on the vacancy webpage.

Applicants are asked to upload two supporting documents (which will be read by colleagues working in a variety of languages):

- Their C.V.
- A supporting statement of around 1,500 words of the planned post-doctoral research

A cover letter is optional; if you wish to upload one as part of the two permitted documents, you may include it as page one of your supporting statement.

Applicants are also asked to arrange for two letters of recommendation to be emailed by their referees directly to Cameron Ott, the College's Academic Administrator (academic.administrator@queens.ox.ac.uk) no later than midday on the closing date.

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

All applications and references must be received no later than midday on Friday 12th January 2024.

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Prof Seth Whidden, Fellow in French (seth.whidden@queens.ox.ac.uk). If you experience any technical difficulties with the online application form, please contact vacancies@queens.ox.ac.uk.

Selection committee and process

Applications will be considered by a selection committee containing representatives from Modern Languages at The Queen's College and the Sub-Faculty of French. The College is committed to fairness, consistency, and transparency in selection decisions. Members of the selection committees will be aware of the principles of equality of opportunity, fair selection, and the risks of conscious and unconscious bias. The entire Governing Body of Queen's voluntarily participated in and completed an unconscious bias training programme in 2019.

If, for any reason, you have taken a career break or have had an atypical career and wish to disclose this in your application, the selection committee will take this into account, recognising that the quantity of your research may be reduced as a result.

The selection committee is responsible for conducting all aspects of the recruitment and selection process; it does not, however, have the authority to make the final decision as to who should be appointed. The final decision will be made by the Governing Body of The Queen's College. No offer of appointment will be valid, therefore, until and unless the recommendation has been approved by the Governing Body, and a formal contractual offer has been made.

Interviews

Interviews will be held in the week beginning Monday 4th March 2024. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to submit a sample of written work not to exceed 6,000 words, including notes; during the interview they will be expected to deliver a research presentation to the selection committee.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at: www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

Visa Applications

If the successful candidate requires a visa, the College will cover the visa application fee, but not the immigration NHS surcharge.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity at Queen's

The Queen's College embraces diversity and equal opportunity. Applications are particularly welcome from women, disabled people, and people from Black, Asian, and minority ethnic backgrounds, as these groups are currently under-represented in academic posts in Oxford. The more inclusive we are, the better our work will be. For more information, visit www.queens.ox.ac.uk/equality-information.

The College invites all applicants to familiarise themselves with its equal opportunities policy, also available on its Equality Information page: www.queens.ox.ac.uk/equality-information.

The College also shares the university's commitment 'to fostering an inclusive culture which promotes equality, values diversity and maintains a working, learning and social environment in which the rights and dignity of all its staff and students are respected.' The university's full policy is available at: edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/equality-policy.

We are committed to the principles of equal opportunities and respect for individuals in creating and maintaining an inclusive environment that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. We value and celebrate diversity and feel that is critical to achieving our strategic aims and long-term success. We work to recruit employees and admit students from a wide range of backgrounds and promote an inclusive culture in which:

- everyone feels that they are valued and can work to achieve their potential;
- opportunities are open to everyone, and decisions are based on merit and are free from bias; and
- all of our current and prospective students, staff, and visitors are treated fairly and with dignity and respect, and do not face discrimination.

All College meetings include consideration of its duties under the Equality Act 2010 as they pertain to the meeting's actions and decisions. In formal and informal settings alike, the College endeavours to make decisions that afford equal opportunities to, and foster good relationships between, different groups of people. This commitment, supported by data and routinely monitored, extends to all aspects of our activities: in our outreach activities, in admissions, and in financial support, for undergraduates and postgraduates alike; in the procedures related to hiring and retaining academic and non-academic staff members of the highest calibre; in student support; and in all aspects of fostering an inclusive community in which everyone feels respected, valued, and heard.

November 2023