



LAMING JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN LIVING
FOREIGN LANGUAGES
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 Living Foreign Languages for candidates who hold a doctorate in the languages, literatures and cultures represented in the Faculties of Medieval and Modern Languages and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, or are close to completing such a doctorate. 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 Laming 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.

Junior Research Fellowships are 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 Living Foreign Languages, but particular consideration will be given to comparative projects with a focus on literary translation. In addition, 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 three years of post-doctoral research experience at the anticipated start date of the appointment, 1st October 2024.

The 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 and/or Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

There are no teaching responsibilities associated with the post. However, the 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;
- To develop and manage their own programme of independent research;

- To propose and undertake a course of study which requires a period of residence, of normally no less than three terms, in a foreign country, provided always that English is not the official language of the country selected (occasional exceptions to the latter conditions may be made);
- 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 the languages, literatures, and cultures represented in the Faculties of Medieval and Modern Languages and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies 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 (under review). 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.

Travel expenses: The Laming Junior Research Fellow may request reimbursement of reasonable travelling expenses incurred at the beginning and end of their period of residence in a foreign country.

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. When not abroad, 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.

Living Foreign Languages are represented in the College by Dr Jennifer Guest (Fellow in Japanese), Dr Laura Lonsdale (Fellow in Spanish), Prof Charlie Louth (Fellow in German), Prof Dirk Meyer (Fellow in Chinese), Dr Marina Perkins (Career Development Fellow in French), Dr Macs Smith (Career Development Fellow in French), and Prof Seth Whidden (Fellow in French). Information about their research interests is available on the College web site: www.queens.ox.ac.uk/whos-here.

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.

About the Faculties

For more information about the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, visit www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk.
For more information about the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, visit www.ames.ox.ac.uk.

About 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 in PDF format 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 9th February 2024.

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Prof Seth Whidden, Secretary to the Laming Committee (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 Living Foreign Languages at The Queen's College. 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 the College 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 22nd April 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

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: www.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