



DEPARTMENT NAME

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Science, Medicine and Literature
Division	Humanities
Department	Faculty of English Language and Literature
Location	St Cross Building, Manor Road
Grade and salary	Grade 7: £29,249 - £31,020 (pay award pending)
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term (two years, externally funded)
Reporting to	Sally Shuttleworth, Professor of English Literature
Vacancy reference	106634

Introduction

The University

The University of Oxford is a complex and stimulating organisation, which enjoys an international reputation as a world-class centre of excellence in research and teaching. It employs over 10,000 staff and has a student population of over 21,000.

Most staff are directly appointed and managed by one of the University's 130 departments or other units within a highly devolved operational structure - this includes 5,900 'academic-related' staff (postgraduate research, computing, senior library, and administrative staff) and 2,820 'support' staff (including clerical, library, technical, and manual staff). There are also over 1,600 academic staff (professors, readers, lecturers), whose appointments are in the main overseen by a combination of broader divisional and local faculty board/departmental structures. Academics are generally all also employed by one of the 38 constituent colleges of the University as well as by the central University itself.

Our annual income in 2010/11 was £919.6m. Oxford is one of Europe's most innovative and entrepreneurial universities: income from external research contracts exceeds £376m p.a., and more than 70 spin-off companies have been created.

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

Humanities Division

The Humanities Division is one of four academic divisions in the University of Oxford, bringing together the faculties of Classics; English; History; Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics; Medieval and Modern Languages; Music; Oriental Studies; Philosophy; and Theology and Religion, as well as the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine 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 Library, with its 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.

The Division's 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.

Within the overarching policies, frameworks and guidance set by the University's Education Committee, the Division is responsible for the development and implementation of strategy, policy, and quality assurance in teaching and learning within its subject area; for representing the views and aspirations of the Division to the central University; representing the central University to the Humanities faculties and implementing central University initiatives within the Division.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/>

The successful applicant will work with a team of academics based in the area from the Faculties of English Language and Literature, and of Medieval and Modern Languages, in particular: Professor Sally Shuttleworth, Professor Helen Small, Dr Kirsten Shepherd-Barr, and Dr Michael Whitworth (English) and Dr Caroline Warman, Professor Ritchie Robertson, and Professor Terence Cave (Modern Languages) .

Faculty of English Language and Literature

The Faculty of English Language and Literature is by far the largest English Department in the UK, and has a very distinguished research record (awarded the top grade in the last two research assessment exercises). We were voted the top university for English in the *Independent's* Complete University Guide 2011, and our teaching has been graded 'Excellent' in every Quality Assurance review.

The Faculty currently has 79 permanent members of academic staff, including 9 Professors. This is in addition to a further 80 or so members teaching in the colleges and temporary members of staff. A list of Faculty members and their research interests is available on the website. There are currently approximately 900 undergraduate students (with roughly 260 admitted each year to the single honours school and a further 20 to joint honours school programmes). The Oxford English Faculty has the largest graduate school in the country, with approximately 70 Masters students, with a further 170 graduate research students.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.english.ox.ac.uk>

Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages

The Modern Languages Faculty has roughly 1,000 undergraduates reading for the Honours School of Modern Languages or one of five Joint Schools, and approximately 150 graduate students; there are around 100 academic and support staff holding university posts. 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, and cultural history as well as languages and literatures.

The main subjects studied are French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Modern Greek, and Linguistics. 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.

For more information please visit: <http://www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/>

Summary of the Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship scheme

The Mellon postdoctoral fellowships are funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation as part of a wider Oxford University initiative which is designed:

- to provide an intensive and supported career development opportunity for outstanding academics at an early stage of their career;
- to recruit the very best of the next generation of potential academics;
- to promote equality of opportunity by helping to create a more diverse pool of potential candidates for future academic posts at Oxford.

The Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Science, Medicine and Literature will:

- take up the appointment by 1 October 2013;
- receive a salary in the range of £29,249 - £31,020 (pay award pending);
- be able to develop expertise in both research and teaching;
- have an academic mentor as well as a personalised career and professional development package, including the opportunity to undertake the University's postgraduate diploma in learning and teaching; and
- have an association with St Anne's College.

The successful applicant will pursue a project in Science, Medicine and Literature, under the mentorship of Professor Sally Shuttleworth, with additional support being given by another member of the team, according to area. He or she will be based in either the Faculty of English Language and Literature, or the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, again depending on the area of specialism. The proposed project may be in any area of science, medicine and literature studies, from the medieval period through to contemporary times, and in English or a European language (with a preference for French, Italian or German).

Science, Medicine and Literature Studies in the University of Oxford

The University of Oxford has one of the highest concentrations of academics working in this area in the world. In the Faculty of English Language and Literature there is research in every period, from Marion Turner's Wellcome funded work on illness narratives in the Medieval period, to Kirsten Shepherd Barr's research on staging science in contemporary theatre. In Medieval and Modern Languages, research includes Dr Caroline Warman's work on physiology in eighteenth and nineteenth-century French Literature, Professor Ritchie Robertson's work on Freud, Barry Murnane's work on German literature and pharmaceuticals, and Professor Terence Cave's Balzan Project, Literature as an Object of Knowledge, which explores the potential intersections of cognitive science and literary analysis. Relevant recent books include: Helen Small, *Love's Madness: Medicine, the Novel and Female Insanity, 1800-1865*, and *The Long Life*; Michael Whitworth, *Einstein's Wake: Relativity, Metaphor and Modernist Literature*; Kirsten Shepherd-Barr, *Science on Stage: From Doctor Faustus to Copenhagen*; Sally Shuttleworth *The Mind of the Child: Child Development in Literature, Science and Medicine, 1840-1900*, and co-author, *Science in the Nineteenth-Century Periodical*; Sophie Ratcliffe, *On Sympathy*; Caroline Warman, *Sade: from Materialism to Pornography*.

There is an abundance of lectures and seminar series in the field. Michael Whitworth, who was co-founder of the British Society for Literature and Science, runs a regular seminar series on Science and Literature with Kirsten Shepherd-Barr. Professor Laurie Maguire, who works on literature and medicine in the Renaissance, runs a seminar series on Literature and Medicine, together with Professor Peter Friend of the Medical Sciences Division, as well as other events in Medical Humanities. The Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine (<http://www.wuhmo.ox.ac.uk/>) also runs a seminar series every term. The Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine supports graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, specialist faculty and visiting researchers working on the global history of medicine. The Unit also runs a weekly seminar of guest speakers in the History of Medicine. Pietro Corsi, Professor of the History of Science, runs another seminar series specifically in the History of Science. The Balzan Project hosts seminars in cognitive approaches to literature, and the Voltaire Foundation and the Maison Française hold numerous conferences and seminars which touch on the field in Enlightenment literature, or French culture more broadly. There are specialist Master's courses in the History of Medicine, and the History of Science, and in both English and Modern Languages there are optional MA papers in the area. English is currently introducing a range of centrally taught options at undergraduate level which will include papers in literature, science and medicine.

St Anne's College

St Anne's College was founded in 1878 to promote the education of women within the University of Oxford, and was fully incorporated as a College in 1952, as one of the four solely for women. It was one of the first to admit both men and women undergraduates, some thirty years ago, and quickly established a near equal mix of men and women in both the Senior, Middle, and Junior Common Rooms, spread quite uniformly across the subjects taught in the University. St Anne's is a modern College both physically and in outlook, and is noted for its lively and unstuffy approach to teaching and research, a legacy of the pioneering spirits of the College's founders. The Postdoctoral Fellow will be expected to contribute actively and fully to the intellectual life of the College, and to matters that support and enhance it.

St Anne's has long had a strong and growing commitment to Science, Medicine and Literature. As one of the largest combined colleges in the University, we support a large English School with two Professorial Fellows (including Professor Sally Shuttleworth), as well as three Tutorial Fellows. We have two Fellows in Modern Languages (Professor Patrick McGuinness in French and Dr Geraldine Hazbun in Spanish) as well as Lecturers in German and Italian. We support all the science programmes offered by the University, with Fellows (Professorial and Tutorial, as well as Postdoctoral) in all the subjects, from Mathematics, Materials and Earth Sciences, to Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Engineering. The Medical School at St Anne's is a thriving and scholarly community, comprising Pre-Clinical and Clinical Medicine, Experimental Psychology, and Biochemistry. With Dr Tim Lancaster (Clinical Reader in General Practice and Director of Clinical Studies), Professor Paresh Vyas (WIMM - MRC Molecular Haematology Unit), as well as Professor Peter Donnelly (Professor of Statistical Science [Dept of Statistics] & Director of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics) there is leading research in abundance. St Anne's is making progress on scoping the putative research centre in St Anne's on Personalized Medicine. Our ambition is to have inaugural events in 2013/14. Productive talks are on-going with the Medical Sciences Division. Some of our most distinguished alumnae are most encouraging of this project. Similarly, we are moving to establish at St Anne's a Centre for Translation and Comparative Criticism, involving Fellows in English, Modern Languages, Music and Fine Art.

St Anne's is committed to developing subjects at the boundaries of traditional disciplines and to integrating undergraduates, graduates, Research and Tutorial Fellows, and Professorial Fellows. Subject family evenings are held regularly, with lectures by graduates and researchers, organised by our Research Fellows in each of four subject areas (Humanities, Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences). We also hold a termly Domus seminar, where a Fellow presents aspects of their own research to the Fellowship, and hence we aim to ensure a broad and stimulating intellectual environment for our entire academic community. All our Visiting Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows are warmly encouraged to engage in similar ways.

College Benefits

Postdoctoral Fellows are given a shared office.

All meals are free of charge during term, and up to 7 main meals per week in vacation, when Hall is available.

More detailed information about St Anne's can be found on our website: <http://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/>

Job description

A two-year research and teaching appointment in Science, Medicine and Literature from September or October 2013 for an outstanding academic at an early stage of his or her career.

Applications from women and ethnic minorities, who are under-represented in academic posts at Oxford, are particularly welcome.

Overview

The Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships are designed to give their holders supported experience in a broad range of academic duties.

The scheme aims to find some of the ablest and most promising academics, at the stage at which they have completed their doctorates and are starting out on a second research theme, and to equip them for an academic career. We expect the scheme to produce a group of talented academics equipped with the necessary teaching and research skills and experience to be prime candidates for appointment to tenured, or tenure-track, posts at top universities.

The Fellows are hosted by the Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities, which stimulates and supports research activity that transcends disciplinary and institutional boundaries. In 2013, there will be 11 Mellon Fellows in the Centre pursuing interdisciplinary research on a variety of topics, of which this fellowship will be one.

For more information, please visit <http://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/TORCH>.

Professional and career development

Each Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow will have an academic mentor who will discuss work-in-progress and support the individual in making effective use of the scheme to plan for an academic career.

Each Fellow will be entitled to research support funds, up to £4,000 a year, to facilitate their research development. The uses to which this can be put will be intentionally open, but could include visits to overseas libraries, or attendance at international conferences.

Fellows are offered a carefully tailored package of professional development. Soon after taking up their appointment, individuals will have the opportunity to meet with a professional development adviser from the University's Oxford Learning Institute. The Learning Institute has a well-developed programme of courses for academic and research staff and fellows will have access to these. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellows are eligible to take the Diploma in Learning and Teaching in HE subject to an application once in post. For more information, please visit <http://www.learning.ox.ac.uk/>.

The Humanities Division has a full-time training officer who coordinates a range of training opportunities, including teaching-training and events designed to enhance academic and transferable skills. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellows will also have access to career development advice via the University Careers Service, including one-to-one sessions with a careers adviser specialising in the career needs of academic and research staff, career planning and interview skills workshops, and access to information resources.

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

Responsibilities/duties

1. To produce significant publication(s) in a field that is not a derivative of the Fellow's doctoral work;
2. To teach for an average of 2-3 hours per week (with a maximum of 6 hours per week) across the two years of the fellowship.

In more detail the teaching will involve:

A mixture of tutorials, seminars or lectures in the candidate's field in either the Faculty of English Language and Literature, or the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages

Selection criteria

To be eligible for the Mellon Fellowship scheme, candidates will:

1. at the time of taking up the appointment, hold a masters degree and **either** have completed a PhD **or** for candidates in national education systems where the PhD does not apply, be a candidate for the appropriate doctoral examination;
2. be at an early stage of an academic career, and if holding a doctorate have completed it not longer than in the previous four years from 1 October 2013 (excluding justified career breaks);
3. be aspiring to a substantive academic appointment and have career development needs which could reasonably be met by the scheme.
4. normally have **at least** one peer-reviewed publication either published or in press.

Candidates who already hold a permanent academic appointment will not be considered.

To be successful, candidates will also need to demonstrate that they meet the following essential selection criteria:

5. be working on, or proposing to work on, a new line of research that is not derivative of their PhD thesis;
6. show outstanding promise in their field;
7. have an informed interest in the full range of academic duties and in progressing to an academic post; and
8. have a commitment to their own professional development.

Working at the University of Oxford

For further information about working at Oxford, please see:

http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/research/

How to apply

If you consider that you meet the selection criteria, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a user. You will then be required to complete a number of screens with your application details, relating to your skills and experience.

When prompted, please provide details of two referees, at least one of whom should be from outside Oxford University, and indicate whether we can contact them at this stage.

You will also be required to upload:

- a covering letter explaining how you meet the eligibility and selection criteria for the scheme (see above);
- a research proposal, which is not derivative of your doctoral work, outlining the work you would undertake during your appointment as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow (no more than two pages);
- a *curriculum vitae* and publications list

You are also asked to arrange for **two** academic referees (at least of whom should be from outside Oxford) to submit references **by the closing date** to english.office@ell.ox.ac.uk.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to submit a sample of written work of between 5,000 and 10,000 words.

Separate application is not required for the college of association.

Please save all uploaded documents to show your name and the document type.

All applications must be received by **12.00 pm (UK time) on 12th March 2013**.

Information for Priority Candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment owing to the fact that he or she has been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-

*health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments and this letter **must** be attached to any application they submit.*

The priority application date for this post is 12.00 pm UK time on 4 March 2013

Full details of the priority application process are available at:

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/red/redproc/prioritycandidate>

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk

To return to the online application at any stage, please click on the following link

www.recruit.ox.ac.uk

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic e-mails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all e-mails.