



All Souls College University of Oxford

EXAMINATION FELLOWSHIPS 2023

The College intends to make up to two elections to Examination Fellowships on Saturday, 4 November 2023 if candidates of sufficient merit present themselves.

Eligibility

The examination is open to any candidate who meets **ALL** the following conditions:

- a) has a degree (or by 1 October 2023 will have a degree) from the University of Oxford; or is registered (or by 1 October 2023 will have registered) for a higher degree at the University; and
- b) has completed or is studying for a degree in the Humanities or Social Sciences; and
- c) has successfully completed all the examinations necessary for a first BA or equivalent degree whether at the University of Oxford or elsewhere; and,
- d) has successfully completed their first degree not more than seven terms before the relevant election., i.e. no earlier than Summer 2021.

If you are over the term limits for exceptional reasons (e.g. prolonged illness), you should write to the [College](#) saying why you think you should be allowed to be a candidate.

Terms of Fellowship

The Fellowships are for seven years and cannot be extended. They are open to those who intend to pursue an academic career and the College pays the University fees of Fellows registered for a higher degree at the University of Oxford. They are also open to those who, while intending to take up non-academic work (such as the practice of the law, politics, the arts, diplomacy, etc.), nevertheless wish to maintain and strengthen their links with Oxford academic life. It is therefore a requirement that all Examination Fellows in the first two years of their Fellowship pursue a course of study or training approved by the College.

Examination Fellows are members of the Governing Body and are obliged to attend College Meetings (three *per annum*) and Election Meetings (two *per annum*). Fellows will be entitled to a study, dinners, and lunches without charge, and may be assigned single accommodation in the College or one of its annexes or, if resident within 25 miles of Oxford, are eligible to receive a housing allowance (see below). Fellows are conventionally required to dine in College at least twenty-eight times in each academic term of the first year of tenure. Non-academic Fellows can comply with this convention by, for example, spending the weekends during term in College and the weekdays working elsewhere. The College is prepared to consider deferment of this requirement in exceptional cases.

Remuneration, Allowances, and Entitlements

During the first two years Fellows are entitled to receive a stipend or scholarship allowance,

which they may supplement, of up to £15,480 *per annum* (see Note below) and may be eligible for a housing allowance of currently £6,386 *per annum*. At the end of that period the Fellowship will (with the approval of the College) be extended for a further five years, during which a Fellow who decides to take up or continue:

- a) full-time academic work in the College will receive a stipend of £25,004 to £27,297 *per annum*, rising by annual increments over five years to £31,315 to £34,233 *per annum*, the actual level of pay depending on whether and if so, how much public lecturing is undertaken, plus a housing allowance of £10,865 *per annum*, if eligible;
- b) an academic or non-academic appointment elsewhere will receive a stipend of £3,710 *per annum*.

Full-time academic College Fellows may draw on academic allowances of up to £4,275 *per annum* and can apply for academic grants from the College's Academic Purposes Committee.

Note: All salaries and allowances are reviewed annually. In the case of Fellows who are already in receipt of another scholarship or Research Council funding, the College will top up the scholarship or grant to the same level given above for the remainder of the first academic year, after which the College will assume full responsibility for the payment of University of Oxford tuition fees and the scholarship and subsequent stipend.

Applications

Prospective candidates should [make applications online by 4.00 pm \(UK time\) on Monday, 14 August 2023](#). Those who for good cause do not meet the normal eligibility criteria but nevertheless wish to be admitted to the examination should make their case when prompted on the online application form.

All eligible applicants will be sent an email in the week commencing **4 September** and must respond to this email to confirm their place in the examination. Candidates who do not reply by the deadline specified in the email will not be admitted.

The online application system is hosted by the Colleges' Administrative Software Consortium Fellowship Application System (in Cambridge). All technical queries or inquiries about the application process and submitted applications should be made to the Academic Administrator (Examinations, Projects and Communications): exams@all-souls.ox.ac.uk.

Covid-19

The examination will be held in line with all Covid-19 policies in place at Oxford University at the time. The College fully expects the examination to take place and to have examination space for all eligible applicants. The College reserves the right to cancel the examination or to cap candidate numbers if exceptional circumstances arise.

Examination Details

The examination will be held at [Ewert House](#), Summertown, starting on **Wednesday, 27 September at 9.30 am** and ending on **Thursday, 28 September at 5.00 pm**.

The examination will consist of four papers of three hours each:

- two Specialist Papers in one of the following:
 - Classical Studies
 - Economics
 - English Literature
 - History
 - Law
 - Philosophy
 - Politics
- two General Papers.

Candidates must select one and the same subject for both their Specialist Papers. While having a degree in a specific subject is not an absolute requirement for sitting a specialist paper in it (provided the degree falls within the Humanities or Social Sciences), experience suggests that candidates without prior formal education in that subject, or a closely related one, are very unlikely to be shortlisted.

Subject-Specific Notes

Classical Studies

- Paper I: Greek world;
 - Paper II: Roman world;
- On each paper, candidates will be required to answer one question from Section A, requiring demonstration of technical mastery of **either** language **or** archaeological material; and two from Section B, covering language, literature, history, archaeology, philosophy;

English

The English Literature I specialist paper may be answered on any literature written in English. Section A of the English Literature II paper will be a compulsory practical criticism question. In Section B you may answer the essay questions in relation to literature written in languages other than English if you wish.

History

Each paper will contain a series of questions on the history of the ancient world. Candidates should note that the rubric for both History I and II papers this year (2023) will follow the same format as that of the 2021 examination papers:

‘Candidates should answer **THREE** questions. Their attention is drawn to the more thematic questions at the end of the paper which are to be answered with reference to periods after 300 CE. (Answering any of these questions is not a requirement, and confers no advantage.)’

Philosophy

In the Philosophy papers candidates should feel free to answer questions that are not explicitly of a historical nature through the history of philosophy, and they are encouraged to address both theoretical and practical topics in their choice of questions.

General Papers

In the first General Paper, you have the opportunity to answer questions on a range of topics including the arts, science, politics, literature, current affairs, and issues in education and sport. These questions are not linked directly to the specialist subjects. In the second General Paper, the questions are broadly related to each of the subjects on which there are specialist papers. You can focus on the questions concerning your specialist subject, or answer questions relating to other subjects, or a mixture of the two. In both General Papers, you should write for an educated, but non-specialist, readership.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria will be used in marking all papers:

Engagement

- Incisiveness of engagement with the question
- Range of issues addressed within or across essays
- Depth and sophistication of comprehension of issues and implications of the question
- Directness of answer to the question

Argument

- Coherence of argument
- Analytical clarity and power
- Intellectual penetration
- Originality and/or independence of thought

Information

- Relevance of the deployment of information
- Knowledge of original sources
- Range, depth, and detail of evidence cited
- Accuracy of information

Organisation & Presentation (See Note below)

- Clarity and coherence of structure
- Clarity, fluency, and elegance of prose
- Correctness of grammar, spelling and punctuation

Potential

- Potential for future intellectual development

Note: These criteria will be interpreted in the light of the University's policies and individual assessments regarding candidates with specific learning difficulties, e.g.

dyslexia.

Most candidates have performed outstandingly well in their academic careers thus far, and the examination, including the viva, is designed to allow the College to distinguish among very talented people. We are impressed by thoughtfulness and scholarship beyond the level of Finals, but do not expect candidates to be perfectly right about everything: flexibility and responsiveness to argument count for a lot, both in the written papers and in the viva. The specialist papers contain a broad range of questions within each subject. On those papers, as in a Finals paper, you should write for specialists in your field. The College is seeking candidates who can display exceptional abilities in argument and analysis. Breadth of knowledge, independence of judgment and thought, clarity and carefulness of exposition and awareness of unresolved difficulties are all especially welcome. In the General Papers we look for signs of broad interests and awareness of the relevance of your particular areas of knowledge to wider issues

Past Papers

[Examination papers from previous years](#) may be seen on the College website.

Equal Opportunities

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford. In order to enable the College to monitor the effectiveness of its equality policy and procedures, all candidates are invited to complete the confidential recruitment monitoring form which is processed entirely separately from the applications, and plays no part in the selection process.

Requests for Special Examination Arrangements

Candidates who require any special examination arrangements to be made for them should indicate this on their online application. Supporting documentation will be needed, and we will be unable to make special arrangements if this is not provided as part of the online application.

Visa Requirements

Applicants from outside the UK are asked to note the [UK's visa requirements](#).

Timetable

Tuesday, 26 September	4.00 pm	
		Candidates are invited to attend a meeting in the Hall when the Chair of Assistant Examiners and others will talk about the Fellowship and take questions.
Wednesday, 27 September	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Specialist Paper I
	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	General Paper I
Thursday, 28 September	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Specialist Paper II
	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	General Paper II

All examinations will take place at [Ewert House, Summertown](#).



Dress for examinations

Men are expected to wear suit and tie at the examinations. Women should wear equivalent attire. Gowns should be worn, but sub-fusc clothing is **not** required.

Ink

Candidates are requested to use BLACK ink or ballpoint pen for all scripts.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and other communication devices must not be taken into the examination.

Lunch and Accommodation

Candidates are asked to make their own arrangements for lunch and accommodation.

Short-listing of Candidates

The College will prepare a short list of candidates by Wednesday, 25 October, at the latest. Candidates not short-listed will also be notified by email on or around that date.

Viva for Short-listed Candidates

All short-listed candidates will be invited to a viva in the presence of Fellows of the College on the morning of Saturday, 28 October. The vivas solely concern the candidates' scripts and issues raised by them.

Fellowship Election

The Fellowship Election will take place on Saturday, 4 November and Fellowships are normally tenable from that date, though in some circumstances deferral may be agreed.

All Souls College
May 2023