



# All Souls College

## University of Oxford

### SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### WHAT IS MEANT BY 'STATUTORY PROFESSORSHIP IN THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD'?

See [Academic posts at Oxford | HR Support](#) for information on University of Oxford Professorships.

#### CAN I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION VIA EMAIL OR POST?

No. Candidates should use the online application form, and must upload all supporting information into their application before they submit it. For any technical problems or questions, please contact [srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk).

#### I HAVE SUBMITTED MY APPLICATION BUT ONE OF MY REFEREES HAS NOT YET RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM THE COLLEGE

Re-open the link to your original application and check that you have entered the correct email address for your referee. Then ask the referee to look in their Junk email box to see if the email is there. If not, please contact [srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk) for more help.

#### HOW CAN I VERIFY THAT ALL MY REFERENCES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED?

You can log into your online application, even after you have submitted your application, to see which of your references have been uploaded.

#### I NEED TO CHANGE THE NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS FOR ONE OF MY REFEREES

You can log into your online application, even after you have submitted your application, to change the details of your referee.

#### CAN I INCLUDE MORE THAN THREE REFERENCES WITH MY APPLICATION?

No. To be fair to all candidates, the College can only accept three references per application.

#### HOW CAN A REFEREE CHECK THAT THEY HAVE UPLOADED THE CORRECT REFERENCE?

For security reasons, it is not possible to re-open an uploaded reference. If unsure that the correct document has been uploaded, the referee should re-open the link provided with the original reference request, delete the originally uploaded document and upload the correct one.

#### I NEED TO CHANGE SOME DETAILS ON MY ORIGINAL APPLICATION

Once submitted, it will not normally be possible to change the details on your application to add additional publications etc. In exceptional circumstances, e.g. unforeseen change of your own contact details, please contact [srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:srf.admin@all-souls.ox.ac.uk).

#### CAN I APPLY IF I AM NOT A UK OR EEA CITIZEN?

The College welcomes applicants of any nationality and will support a successful applicant who needs a visa to work in the UK in applying for a Global Talent visa <https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/tier1-global-talent>. The College will reimburse the Global Talent visa fee and associated NHS Surcharge costs for international Fellows and their dependents (normally considered to be a partner and/or dependent children under the age of 18).

**SHOULD THE 'RESEARCH PROPOSAL' COVER THE WHOLE PERIOD BETWEEN 2026 AND MY EXPECTED DATE OF RETIREMENT?**

No. It should say what research you plan to do in your initial seven-year term (or in a shorter period if your expected date of retirement is before 30 September 2033). Our SRFs write a fresh research proposal for each subsequent term of Fellowship.

**DOES THE WORD COUNT FOR THE 'RESEARCH PROPOSAL' INCLUDE FOOTNOTES AND A BIBLIOGRAPHY?**

Yes, footnotes and bibliography are included in the word count.

**CAN I INCLUDE IMAGES AND ILLUSTRATIONS IN MY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS?**

No. Images and illustrations should not be included in supporting documents uploaded into application.

**FAQs FOR MODERN LANGUAGES**

**WHAT DO YOU MEAN HERE BY 'MODERN' IN THE PHRASE 'MODERN LANGUAGES'?**  
 'Modern' here simply means a living language.

**DOES 'MODERN LANGUAGES' MEAN EUROPEAN ONES ONLY?**  
 No.

**IN RELATION TO WHICH LANGUAGES WILL YOU CONSIDER APPLICATIONS?**  
 In relation to any of the modern (i.e. living) languages taught at the University of Oxford in the Faculties of [Medieval and Modern Languages](#) and [Asian and Middle Eastern Studies](#) or in [Celtic Studies](#).

**WILL YOU CONSIDER APPLICATIONS RELATING TO OTHER MODERN LANGUAGES?**  
 No.

**WHY NOT OTHER LANGUAGES TOO?**  
 To keep application numbers manageable and to foster synergy with existing specialists at the University of Oxford.

**WHICH FIELDS WITHIN MODERN LANGUAGES WILL BE CONSIDERED?**  
 Applications are invited relating to the study of literature, screen media, and culture associated with any of the living languages specified above.

**WILL OTHER FIELDS WITHIN MODERN LANGUAGES BE CONSIDERED?**  
 No, this vacancy is limited to the study of literature, screen media, and culture, not to other fields within Modern Languages (for example not to ones that overlap substantially with history, politics, area studies, linguistics, and so on).

**WILL YOU CONSIDER APPLICATIONS RELATING TO LINGUISTICS OR TO THE HISTORY OF LANGUAGE?**  
 No: please see the answer to the previous question.

**DO I NEED TO THINK OF MY OWN DISCIPLINE AS BEING 'MODERN LANGUAGES'?**

You need to belong to the discipline in the senses outlined above, whether you call it 'modern languages', 'languages', 'languages and cultures', 'living languages', or something similar.

**I USE THE RELEVANT LANGUAGE CONSTANTLY IN MY RESEARCH, BUT MY READING AND LISTENING ARE STRONGER THAN MY SPEAKING AND WRITING. WILL I BE CONSIDERED?**

No. Applicants are expected to belong to the discipline of Modern Languages in the sense of being highly trained/adept in (i) the advanced production (and typically teaching) of the language, as well as in (ii) the uses of the language for research purposes, but importantly not just in (ii).

**MY RESEARCH IS ON ANCIENT GREEK. SINCE MODERN GREEK IS A LIVING LANGUAGE, WILL I BE CONSIDERED?**

No.

**MY RESEARCH IS ON CLASSICAL ARABIC. SINCE ARABIC IS A LIVING LANGUAGE, WILL I BE CONSIDERED?**

It depends. Yes if you meet the conditions above, i.e. if you belong to the discipline of Modern Languages in the sense of being highly trained/adept in (i) the advanced production (and typically the teaching) of Arabic as a living language, as well as in (ii) knowledge of the language for research purposes.

**MY RESEARCH IS ON MEDIEVAL SPANISH. SINCE MODERN SPANISH IS A LIVING LANGUAGE, WILL I BE CONSIDERED?**

It depends. Yes if you meet the conditions above, i.e. if you belong to the discipline of Modern Languages in the sense of being highly trained/adept in (i) the advanced production (and typically teaching) of modern Spanish, as well as in (ii) knowledge of the language (including in this case its Old Spanish varieties) for research purposes.

**THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF MY RESEARCH IS COMPARATIVE LITERATURE. WILL I BE CONSIDERED?**

Yes if your main language(s) of study are among those listed above. But no if you work mainly on material that is in English.

**FAQs FOR PHILOSOPHY****WHAT DOES THE COLLEGE MEAN BY 'RESEARCH IN PHILOSOPHY'?**

For the purposes of this appointment, 'research in Philosophy' means: research in any of the areas of philosophy pursued by the academic 'postholders' in the Philosophy Faculty of the University of Oxford. Those areas are: Aesthetics, AI Ethics, Ancient Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Epistemology, Ethics, Feminist Philosophy, History of Analytic Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Indian Philosophy, Kant, Logic, Medieval Philosophy, Metaphysics, Moral Philosophy, Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Practical Reason, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Science, Political Philosophy, Post-Kantian Philosophy, Practical Ethics, Wittgenstein. The boundaries of these specific areas are best delineated by looking at the research which is being done by the postholders who are working in them. See <https://www.philosophy.ox.ac.uk/>.

**WHY NOT OTHER AREAS OF PHILOSOPHY?**

To foster synergy with existing members of the Oxford Philosophy Faculty.

**I WORK IN LOGIC. AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

Yes, 'Logic' appears on the list above. However, your work to date, and your research project, should address philosophical questions, not just mathematical ones.

**I WORK IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS. AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

Yes, 'Philosophy of Physics' appears on the list above. However, your work to date, and your research project, should address philosophical questions, not just issues in theoretical physics.

**I WORK IN THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY. AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?**

Yes, 'History of Philosophy' appears on the list above. However, your work to date, and your research project, should address philosophical questions, not just historical ones. They should also draw upon, and manifest, philosophical expertise.

**WHAT LEVEL OF SENIORITY AND ACCOMPLISHMENT IS EXPECTED?**

As the Further Particulars say, the College regards a Senior Research Fellowship to be 'of comparable academic standing to a Statutory Professorship in the University of Oxford'. Five statutory chairs sit in the Faculty of Philosophy: the Professorship of the History of Philosophy (holder: Ursula Coope); the Sekyra and White's Professorship of Moral Philosophy (holder-elect: David Owens, King's College, London); the Waynflete Professorship of Metaphysical Philosophy (holder: Ofra Magidor); the Wilde Professorship of Mental Philosophy (holder: Michael Martin); the Wykeham Professorship of Logic is currently vacant. Information about the work of current and recent chair-holders may be found on the Faculty's website and should provide a guide to prospective candidates for our SRF.

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