

**BRASENOSE COLLEGE
OXFORD**

6-HOUR STIPENDIARY LECTURESHIP IN ENGLISH

FURTHER PARTICULARS

The Appointment

Applications are invited for a six-month (two University terms) Fixed-Term Stipendiary Lectureship in English at Brasenose College, Oxford. The post is tenable from 1 January 2015 (finishing date: 30 September 2015). This is a teaching-only post and the salary scale will be within the range of £12,757 to £14,348 per annum, plus allowances, according to qualifications and experience. The appointee will have the option of becoming or remaining a member of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

This fixed-term post is to cover the teaching of Professor Simon Palfrey while he is on sabbatical. Consequently, candidates must be available at the specified start date. The salary range will require candidates to demonstrate that they possess the right to work in the UK since the salary will not meet the UKBA's minimum threshold to enable a Tier 2 Visa appointment.

Brasenose College

Brasenose College is one of the older foundations in the University of Oxford. Across all years within the College, there are approximately 377 undergraduates and 232 graduates. At the start of the 2014-15 Academic Year, the College's senior members comprised the Principal, 71 Fellows (43 of whom constitute the Governing Body), and 28 College Stipendiary Lecturers. Brasenose values academic excellence above all other considerations and is concerned to foster research as well as high-quality teaching. The College has a substantial library, mainly for undergraduate use, and well-developed IT provision. Further information about the College can be found at www.bnc.ox.ac.uk.

Brasenose has a strong tradition in English. There are currently two Fellows, Dr Sos Eltis, who specializes in Victorian and Modern literature, and Professor Simon Palfrey, who specializes in the Renaissance through to the Romantic period. In addition, Dr Olivia Robinson is a College Lecturer in Medieval English

Literature, and Dr Jeni Johnson a College Lecturer in in Victorian and Modern literature. Brasenose admits approximately 7 undergraduates a year to study English Language and Literature, and two or three in the Joint Schools of English and Modern Languages and Classics and English. The college has an excellent record of results in English, with Brasenose undergraduates also having secured a number of university prizes in recent years, including for the best overall performance in English Course I, English and Modern Languages, and Classics and English. The college also admits graduate students of high calibre studying for the M.St. and D.Phil. in English.

Duties

The person appointed will provide tutorials and classes in Paper 1 (Shakespeare), Paper 4 (1660-1760), Paper 5 (1760-1830), plus revision teaching in papers 1, 3 (1550-1660), 4, & 5 (see below for Faculty Handbook descriptions of each paper). Details of the Oxford English course can be found on

<http://www.english.ox.ac.uk/prospective-undergraduates/course-structure>

The teaching will predominantly take the form of tutorials (usually one or two students), classes (usually six or seven students) and revision consultations (on request or at the tutor's discretion). The tutorial stint will average 6 hours per week during full term, although the load is likely to be lighter in Hilary and heavier in Trinity. A weighting system determines the amount of contact time needed to meet stint. For tutorials given to one student the weight is 1, for two students it is 1.25, and for three or more students the weight is 1.5.

The Stipendiary Lecturer will work alongside the English Fellows and will be expected to play an active part in the life of the College, sharing in the general responsibilities towards English teaching. He or she will undertake all the normal duties of an undergraduate tutor, including mentoring and pastoral oversight, writing references, writing termly reports, attending end of term collections, setting and marking College exams and providing feedback, and organising and attending relevant start of term meetings.

Brasenose encourages its College Lecturers to participate in annual personal development planning meetings. In addition, the College offers undergraduates the opportunity to give feedback on Tutorial and class teaching each year. The current system consists of Academic Feedback Sessions, whereby groups of students studying the same subject meet in a structured session.

Informal enquiries about this post should be made to Professor Simon Palfrey (simon.palfrey@bnc.ox.ac.uk)

English Faculty Handbook descriptions of papers

Paper 1: Shakespeare

The Shakespeare paper provides an opportunity to get to grips with an entire canon and its contexts. Although you can study Shakespeare chronologically or generically (tracing his development from the early plays and poems or through a genre), the exam portfolio (like your tutorials from which the portfolio develops) provides opportunities to mix and match. Thinking thematically you can place early comedies with later histories (identity in *Comedy of Errors* and *Henry V* for example); thinking generically you can consider sonnets and poems alongside poetry within the plays for instance. This is also a paper in which you can make full use of your reading for Papers 3, 4 and 5 (as well as your knowledge of Victorians and the twentieth/twenty-first centuries) – Shakespeare and performance, political receptions, colonial and postcolonial appropriations, cultural attitudes and uses, editorial history, the history of specific actors and actresses, adaptations (in forms from film to novels), and literary theory. Your teaching will cover a representative range of the canon, and you are also expected to have an in-depth knowledge of a number of plays. There is opportunity to investigate genres and periods ('farce'; 'Senecan tragedy'; 'late style') as well as to pursue a topic-based approach. Two of your three portfolio examination answers will require you to address more than one work by Shakespeare. Teaching and lecturing for the paper generally takes place in Trinity term of your second year and Michaelmas of your third year.

Structure of the examination

The paper will be examined by a portfolio of three essays. Each essay is to be a minimum of 1500 words and a maximum of 1800 words. (The word count includes footnotes but excludes bibliography). The portfolio is designed to make your Shakespeare topics as exciting and as expansive as possible. This is more feasible with tutorial essays in which you choose your own topics than it is in an exam format. Of the three essays, one can be an attempt to edit a passage (the passage will not be included in the word total; only the glossing will count towards the word limit); a commentary; or something similarly innovative in the scholarly canon but not catered for in the usual exam format. (Creative writing, however, is not eligible.) There is no obligation to include an essay that is different in this way: analytical essays in the normal format are equally acceptable. The portfolio must be submitted by noon on Thursday, Week 4 Hilary term of the third year.

Breadth and depth

The portfolio is designed to show your depth and range as a scholar. Two of your essays must be on more than one work by Shakespeare (NB the *Sonnets* count as a single work.) Your portfolio will show your depth/breadth of reading and understanding both of the Shakespeare canon and of critical approaches to Shakespeare's works. Thus, in submitting this portfolio you should think in terms of what the portfolio shows as a whole and not just in terms of your three best essays. Three essays that cover a range of plays where all the essays deal with feminist or Marxist approaches to the plays will not be considered to have as wide a range as a portfolio that demonstrates a variety of ways of thinking about the plays.

Reference to Shakespeare's contemporaries is also encouraged: one essay may be on the relation between Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

Choosing and consulting

The three essays can be selected from your tutorial work throughout the year or they can be written specially for the portfolio. (If written specially for the portfolio they will not be read

or marked by your tutor.) You may rewrite your tutorial essays for submission in the light of discussion during the tutorial and written feedback on your essay; your tutor, however, will not discuss the revised version with you or mark it. You may choose your three essays for submission in consultation with your tutor or independently, but you may not discuss with any tutor your choice of content or the method of handling it after Friday, Week 8 of Michaelmas Term of the third year.

Titles

Each essay in your portfolio must have a title. Titles take many forms. You can choose a Shakespeare quotation. You can choose a quotation from a critic or from another early modern writer or from a writer from any period. (Quotations from previous exam papers are permitted.) Look at journal articles to see how they form their titles. Your title should not look like an exam question ('Discuss Shakespeare's attitude to...').

Bibliography

Each essay should have its own bibliography (if appropriate to the essay). Not all essays require bibliographies – for instance, if you are doing a close reading of language a bibliography may not be appropriate. The bibliography is excluded from the word count.

Word Count

Each essay should total between 1500-1800 words, excluding the bibliography. Footnotes are included in the word count.

Paper 4: Literature in English 1660-1760

This paper encourages you to consider writings from 1660 to 1760 in terms of author, genre, and theme, and to range across the whole span of the period. Teaching aims to provide a sense of both the important political contexts for this period (which spans the Restoration of Charles II to the Seven Years War) as well as of its major literary traditions and innovations, including the emergence of the novel as a major new form, and the shift in literary sensibility in the mid-eighteenth-century towards the proto-Romantic.

Paper 4 encompasses a very wide range of authors, both male and female, including Milton (the later poems such as *Paradise Lost*, *Paradise Regained*, and *Samson Agonistes*), Aphra Behn, Katherine Phillips, Anne Finch, John Bunyan, John Dryden, Andrew Marvell (who can also be studied as part of Paper 3), John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, Margaret Cavendish, Jonathan Swift, Alexander Pope, John Gay, Bernard Mandeville; Mary Leapor, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Samuel Johnson, Thomas Gray, William Collins, drama of the Restoration, and the early periodicals such as the *Spectator* and the *Tatler*. The scope of the paper offers the chance to chart the rise of the novel through Behn, Haywood, Defoe, Richardson, Henry and Sarah Fielding, Smollett, Sterne, and the novel's relationship to the literature of sentiment and sensibility.

Topics or genres for study include: the literature of science and the Royal Society; the Ancients and Moderns debate; Grub Street and print culture and the relationship between manuscript and print; the literary coterie and court culture; literature and the rise of finance (capital satires); the representation of women; women as authors and women as readers; politics and genre; life writing; the familiar letter; ideas of nationhood; trade and empire and the city; labouring class poetry; epic and mock-epic; political satire, and travel writing. Colleges usually teach this paper in the second term of the second year. Regular lectures covering different aspects of the literature of the period take place in this term and sometimes in earlier terms as well.

Structure of the examination

This paper is examined by a three-hour timed exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions.

Paper 5: Literature in English 1760–1830

In this paper you may study texts from the period 1760 to 1830 by author, theme, genre, or historical context. Teaching is designed to give you a sense of the major literary and cultural developments, as well as an opportunity to explore both well-known and less well-known materials in a very diverse period.

In terms of the better-known figures the period covers novelists such as Sterne, Scott, Burney, Radcliffe, Austen, Peacock, Edgeworth, and Mary Shelley; poets such as Barbauld, Blake, Macpherson, Cowper, Yearsley, Crabbe, Smith, Burns, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Hemans, Keats, Smart and Clare; dramatists such as Sheridan, Goldsmith, and Baillie; and non-fiction prose writers such as Boswell, Equiano, Burke, Paine, Godwin, Wollstonecraft, Hazlitt, Lamb, and De Quincey; work on other writers of the period is also encouraged.

Genres such as the Gothic novel, the fiction of sensibility, closet drama, epistolary fiction, regional novels, life-writing, historical fiction, travels and tours, literary criticism, fragments, narrative poems, lyric, satire, ballads, pastoral and epic are all popular subjects. Aesthetic ideas such as ‘the sublime’, the picturesque, the figure of the poet, the defence of poetry, literary language, ekphrasis, literary influences and reception, or questions of personal identity, madness, gender, childhood, sexuality, addiction, as well as ideas of national identity, religion, the sense of the past, slavery and the abolition movement, the rights of women, radical circles, literary coteries, working class literature, dialect poetry, the review culture, orientalism, science, the city, Napoleon, war poetry, the literary response to the French Revolution or the union between Britain and Ireland, are also taught for this paper. Colleges usually teach this paper in the last term of the second year. Regular lectures covering different aspects of the literature of the period take place in this term and sometimes in earlier terms as well.

Structure of the examination

This paper is examined by a three-hour timed exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions.

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria for the post are:

1. A high quality of education and training at first-degree and postgraduate level in the appropriate areas of English. A doctorate in English is preferred but applicants studying for a doctorate in the subject who are close to completion will be considered.
2. Evidence of an ability to provide a high standard of tutorial teaching across a range of student abilities in relevant areas, and of a willingness to share in the supervision of the undergraduates’ academic studies.
3. Evidence of an ability and willingness to participate in the full range of pastoral, administrative and similar duties required in the post.

Remuneration

Stipend. The salary scale will be within the range £12,757 to £14,348 per annum, plus allowances, according to qualifications and experience. The figure will be adjusted in line with any reviews of the University's recommended salary scale for University Lecturers that may occur during the tenure of the post.

Allowances. The Stipendiary Lecturer will be entitled to five lunches or dinners per week free of charge at common table at Brasenose, when the College kitchens are open during Term and the vacations. The College will provide a Hospitality Budget (currently £133 p.a.) and an Academic Budget (currently £140 p.a.)

Medical Questionnaire

The appointment is subject to the satisfactory completion of a medical questionnaire.

Crèche Facilities

There are two University nurseries, with 74 places for children from four months to five years: about half of the places are reserved for nominees of the University Press and certain colleges. Brasenose may nominate to one place (currently taken up). Enquiries about the nurseries themselves and requests for application forms, should be directed in the first instance to the Nursery Manager, Mansion House Nursery, Summertown House, Oxford, OX2 7QZ. In other respects the University Childcare Officer may be able to help, and may be contacted at the University Offices, Wellington, Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD.

Equal Opportunities Policy

The colleges of Oxford University are equal opportunities employers. They will work to remove any barriers, real or perceived, which might deter people of the highest quality from applying to the colleges as staff. Entry into employment and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of his or her gender, marital or civil partnership status, sexual orientation, religion or belief, racial group, age or disability.

To comply with UK employment legislation the successful candidate will be required to provide documentary evidence of his or her eligibility for employment before taking up the post.

HOW TO APPLY

The closing date for applications is **noon on Monday 3rd November 2014**. Candidates should submit a) an application form; b) a letter of application, which should include statements of what they are able to teach, their research interests and activity, and other relevant experience; c) a curriculum vitae (including the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two academic referees); and d) a recruitment monitoring form (optional).

Applications should be sent to Mr Henry Jestico, College Academic Administrator, Brasenose College, Oxford OX1 4AJ (henry.jestico@bnc.ox.ac.uk). Candidates should ask their referees to write directly to Mr Jestico, also by **noon on Monday 3rd November**.

Timetable for applications and appointment

The timetable for making the appointment is as follows:

- (a) The final date for the receipt of applications and references is **noon Monday 3rd November**
- (b) A short-list will be drawn up shortly afterwards. Candidates are asked to provide a telephone and email address, indicating where they can be reached during the week beginning Monday 3rd November.
- (c) Interviews will be held during the week commencing Monday 10th November (exact date subject to confirmation).

Data Protection

All data supplied by applicants will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Disclaimer

This summary of terms and conditions is provided for information purposes and the contents do not constitute a contract of employment.