

BRASENOSE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

3-HOUR STIPENDIARY LECTURER IN ENGLISH LITERATURE FURTHER PARTICULARS

The Appointment

Applications are invited for a fixed-term Stipendiary Lecturer in English Literature at Brasenose College, Oxford. The post covers a fractional contract variation for Dr Sos Eltis. It is tenable from 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022. This is a teaching-only post and the salary scale will be within the range of £6,878 -£7,736 per annum, plus allowances, according to qualifications and experience. Note that this is not a full-time role and the salary reflects this. The appointee will have the option of becoming or remaining a member of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

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 Skilled Worker (formerly Tier 2) Visa appointment. Since this is a teaching-only position, candidates must also be available to start by the specified start date.

Brasenose College

Brasenose College is one of the older foundations in the University of Oxford. Across all years within the College, there are approximately 365 undergraduates and 230 graduates. The College's senior members comprised the Principal, Fellows (43 of whom constitute the Governing Body), and College 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.

The College has a reputation for being open and friendly and we are keen to be inclusive, encouraging applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds. As a Stipendiary Lecturer, you will be welcomed into the Brasenose community, and through our various events, and especially over lunch (which is very popular and well-attended), you would have the chance to interact with a broad range of other academics across many different disciplines. The appointment offers



scope to get as involved in the social and intellectual life of the College as you wish. Throughout the year, there are also opportunities to invite guests — a hospitality allowance (detailed below) encourages academics to do this. Brasenose also seeks to be a family-friendly employer and wherever possible will consider a flexible approach to work.

Brasenose admits 7 students per year to study English Literature, plus some students taking joint degrees with English. The College also admits graduate students of high calibre studying for the MSc and D.Phil in English.

Duties

The person appointed will be expected to have relevant experience of undergraduate teaching. They will co-ordinate with Dr Eleanor Parker to teach the literature element of the Introduction to Language and Literature paper for first-year students. They will also provide tutorials and classes on Victorian Literature (1832-1910) and Modern Literature (1910 to the present day) in coordination with Dr Sos Eltis. An outline of these papers is given below, and further details of the Oxford English course can be found on http://www.english.ox.ac.uk/prospective-undergraduates/course-structure and https://www.english.ox.ac.uk/course-structure.

Details of these papers are as follows:

Paper 1: Introduction to English Language and Literature

This paper is intended to introduce students to English language and literature as a discipline, and to a variety of approaches to reading texts. It will introduce students to formal study of the English language, with particular reference to its historical development, its use as a literary medium, and the role of cultural and social factors on its development and use. The paper will also acquaint students with a wide range of theoretical issues and reading skills, but in doing so seeks to encourage them to think for themselves and to exercise critical scrutiny.

There is a course of 16 core lectures which run weekly through Michaelmas and Hilary terms. The lectures in Michaelmas Term will cover topics relating to literature, and those in Hilary Term will cover language.

Colleges will normally supplement these by eight college classes spread over those two terms, and by four tutorials. This college teaching will give



students the opportunity to practise written work for their portfolio examination.

NOTE: College tutors will not necessarily base classes and tutorials on the weekly lecture topics and the further reading that accompanies them. The lectures are designed to introduce topics and to suggest approaches to them. Students' college work will supplement and challenge what they have learnt in lectures. They will be expected to make connections between and around the lecture topics, and will want to think about how studying for this paper informs and enriches their first year work as a whole.

Assessment for this paper will be by portfolio. The examination paper, consisting of a section on language and a section on literature, will be released by the Faculty on Monday of week 4 of Trinity Term. The portfolio will consist of two pieces of written work of between 1,500 and 2,000 words each (including footnotes but excluding bibliography). The portfolio must be submitted online on Thursday of week 5, Trinity Term. Questions in the literature section require an answer in the form of an essay.

Paper 3: Literature in English 1830 – 1910

This paper examines literature in English from roughly 1830 to 1910, though students are permitted to look at material earlier and later than these boundaries in order to make sense of any particular writer's development. The essay questions in the examination tend to be based on topics, rather than authors. This gives students the opportunity to write across a range of authors, focusing on some of the major preoccupations, both thematic and stylistic, of the period. Alternatively, they may choose to focus each of their examination answers on the work of only one or two authors. Issues that students might choose to cover could include (for example) the development of realism, responses to industrialism, women's writing, concepts of identity and selfhood, guilt and transgression, memory and uses of the past, verbal and metrical experimentation, attitudes towards nation, race and Empire, decadence, the roots of modernism, symbolism, science, religion, class, domesticity, writing for children and the treatment of childhood, romance, popular fiction, melodrama, the social problem play, drama and identity, theatre and performance issues, the relationship between literature and art. These are only some of the possible topics that might legitimately be



studied for this paper; there is no set list of texts or topics you are expected to cover.

Among the authors students might consider studying are the following: Arnold, Braddon, the Brontës, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Browning, Carlyle, Carroll, Clough, Wilkie Collins, Conrad, Dickens, Emily Dickinson, Frederick Douglass, George Eliot, Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Elizabeth Gaskell, George Gissing, Hardy, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Hopkins, Harriet Jacobs, Henry James, Melville, Meredith, John Stuart Mill, Newman, Pater, Patmore, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Poe, Christina Rossetti, Ruskin, Olive Schreiner, Shaw, R. L. Stevenson, Swinburne, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Tennyson, Thackeray, Thoreau, Twain, H. G. Wells, Wharton, Whitman, and Oscar Wilde. However, you may also choose to study groups of writers or particular genres, such as spasmodic poetry, Gothic, the dramatic monologue, elegy, and so on.

Candidates are encouraged to read widely within the period. They may discuss any literature written in the English language: there are no exclusions based on the author's citizenship, country of origin, or residence.

This paper is examined by an 8 hour online, open book exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions, and to show substantial knowledge of the work of at least three authors. Student should not repeat material. They should not write more than one essay substantially on the same author.

Paper 4: Literature in English 1910 – present day

This paper examines 20th and 21st century literature. The essay questions in the examination tend to be based on topics, rather than authors. This gives students the opportunity to write across a range of authors, focusing on some of the major thematic and stylistic preoccupations of the period. Alternatively they may choose to focus each of their examination answers on the work of only one or two authors.

Issues that students might choose to cover would include (for example) modernism, post-modernism, ideas of literary language, postcolonialism, literary experimentalism, primitivism, national (and other) identities, popular culture, concepts of literary value, journalism, gender,



intertextuality, literature and other art forms, technology, innovations in modern theatre, war literature, and representations of the city.

Among the authors students might consider studying are Achebe, Atwood, Auden, James Baldwin, Djuna Barnes, Beckett, Bishop, Bowen, Kamau Brathwaite, Caryl Churchill, Coetzee, Conrad, DeLillo, Duffy, T. S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Forster, Friel, Greene, Heaney, Hemingway, Hill, Langston Hughes, Ted Hughes, Joyce, Larkin, Lawrence, Lessing, Mamet, Mansfield, Miller, Toni Morrison, Muldoon, Nabokov, Naipaul, Ondaatje, Orwell, Osborne, Pinter, Plath, the poets of the two World Wars, Pound, Roth, Rushdie, Shaw, Soyinka, Stein, Stoppard, Dylan Thomas, Walcott, Waugh, Tennessee Williams, Woolf, and Yeats.

Candidates are encouraged to read widely within the period. They may discuss any literature written in the English language: there are no exclusions based on the author's citizenship, country of origin, or residence.

This paper is examined by an 8 hour online, open book exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions, and to show substantial knowledge of the work of at least three authors. Student should not repeat material. Students should not write more than one essay substantially on the same author.

A weekly average of 4 hours Tutorial teaching will be offered to Brasenose undergraduates (further details of teaching hours are given below).

A weighting system moderates the amount of contact time needed to fulfil the teaching obligation. 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. As far as possible, the tutorial teaching will be provided to pairs of students. Consequently, teaching hours can normally be expected to range between 2.6 and 3.2 contact hours per week over an eight-week Term but may exceed this slightly depending on the pattern of teaching.

Teaching will principally be to undergraduates of Brasenose College, but some exchange of teaching with colleagues in other colleges may be possible, and is often desirable in order to enable undergraduates to be taught by experts in their range of options.



The Stipendiary Lecturer will work alongside Dr Sos Eltis, Dr Eleanor Parker and Professor Simon Palfrey. He or she will be expected to play an active part in the life of the College, sharing in the general responsibilities of 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.

The undergraduate admissions duties associated with the post are: participation in College open days; communication with potential candidates if required; preparation for the annual admission process, including analysis of candidates and attendance of meetings, and participating in interviews.

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 termly individual electronic feedback.

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 Literature (essential). A doctorate is preferred, but applicants studying for a doctorate in the subject who are close to completion will be considered.
- 2. It is essential that the successful candidate have experience of teaching undergraduate papers as set out above ('Duties'). The CV and covering letter should provide full details of relevant teaching experience.
- 3. The successful candidate will show evidence of an ability and willingness to participate in the full range of pastoral, administrative and similar duties required in the post.
- 4. The successful candidates must be available to start at the advertised start date.



Notice Period and Probation

The Stipendiary Lecturership is offered on a fixed- term basis to cover the fractional contract variation of Dr Sos Eltis. The appointment will end on 30th September 2022 unless the College for operational reasons ends the post sooner or the fractional contract variation is extended. It should be noted that the expectation is that the entire period of each University Term of this Lectureship will be worked. Should exceptional circumstances arise, one month's notice may be given by either party, or such longer notice as is required by statute. A letter of resignation should be addressed to the Senior Tutor. The two colleges reserve the right to end employment without notice or payment in lieu of notice in cases of summary dismissal on grounds of gross misconduct.

Right to Work

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.

The appointment will be subject to satisfactory provision of proof of the right to work in the UK. Applicants who would need a work visa if appointed to the post are asked to note that under the UK's new points-based migration system they will need to demonstrate that they have sufficient points, and in particular that:

(i) they have sufficient English language skills (evidenced by having passed a test in basic English, or coming from a majority English-speaking country, or having taken a degree taught in English)

and

(ii) that they have sufficient funds to maintain themselves and any dependents until they receive their first salary payment.

Further information is available at: http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/

Remuneration

Stipend. The salary scale will be within the range of £6,878 - £7,736 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 two 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 £92 p.a.) and an Academic Budget (currently £198 p.a.)

Medical Questionnaire

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

Crêche Facilities

Brasenose may nominate staff for preferential places on the University nursery waiting list. 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 College HR Manager (hr@bnc.ox.ac.uk) or 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.



HOW TO APPLY

The closing date for applications is **noon on Thursday 20th May**. Candidates should submit the following documents via our online portal, https://submit.bnc.ox.ac.uk, using the Applications for Academic Appointments box:

- 1. A completed application form.
- 2. A letter of application, which should include statements of what they are able to teach, their research interests and activity, and other relevant experience.
- 3. A curriculum vitae (including the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two academic referees).

References: applicants should provide the names and contact details of two referees. The College will contact the referees of candidates shortlisted for interview to request a reference.

Queries about the application process can be sent to Mr Henry Jestico, College Academic Administrator, Brasenose College, Oxford OX1 4AJ (college.office@bnc.ox.ac.uk).

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 on**Thursday 20th May.
- (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 24th May.
- (c) Interviews will be held during the week commencing 31st May (exact date subject to confirmation).

Informal enquiries about this post should be made to Dr Sos Eltis (sos.eltis@bnc.ox.ac.uk).



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 General Data Protection Act 2018. In accordance with the GDPR 2018 please see the relevant privacy notice on the website.

https://www.bnc.ox.ac.uk/downloads/GDPR/PrivacyNotice AcademicandNonAcademicStaffApplicant.pdf

Disclaimer

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