
POSTDOCTORAL AFFILIATES

The College

Newnham College was founded in 1871 to promote excellent academic education for women. There are circa 70 Fellows, 430 undergraduate and 250 postgraduate students, and over 100 non-academic staff. The College is located on a single 18-acre site, most of the buildings being listed. It is directly opposite the University's Sidgwick Site Faculties and Libraries, and close to many other Departments. Newnham remains a pioneer in higher education for women and admits only female undergraduates and postgraduates, including transwomen and assigned female at birth non-binary people. The College continues to be a thriving intellectual community, and to be an excellent springboard for all that the University of Cambridge has to offer.

The College is a registered charity: it aims to advance women's education, learning and research.

Postdoctoral Affiliates

Postdoctoral Affiliates are intended to strengthen the already significant community of postdocs among the Newnham community. Applicants must hold an established and salaried postdoctoral research position or personal fellowship or Senior Teaching Associate or Teaching Associate post in the University of Cambridge or one of its associated research institutes, with at least one full year of their contract still to run from October 2026. Applicants must be physically based in Cambridge for the duration of their affiliation and must have completed a PhD.

It is expected that Affiliates will contribute to the academic and social life of the College. Postdoctoral Affiliates are members of the College's Senior Combination Room (SCR) through which they will have access to a lively interdisciplinary fellowship and receive invitations to attend events and to give lectures and talks. Each Postdoctoral Affiliate will be allocated a College contact.

These positions involve no formal teaching requirement, although undergraduate teaching, undergraduate admissions interviewing, outreach activities and postgraduate student mentoring opportunities may be available in some subjects, for which payment will be made at normal intercollegiate rates.

Postdoctoral Affiliates will not be members of the College's Governing Body.

Term

Affiliation would be granted for one year in the first instance, renewable annually at the discretion of the College Council (but not renewed beyond three years).

Selection process and criteria

Applications are welcome from women in any subject; the College aspires to achieve a balance between arts and sciences and is particularly keen to encourage applications from those in the arts, humanities and social sciences as currently they are under-represented. Potential Affiliates interested in the Global South will wish to note that the Margaret Anstee Centre for

Global Studies is part of the College <https://newn.cam.ac.uk/research/margaret-anstee-centre-global-studies>.

Applications will close at 23:59 BST on Wednesday 13 May 2026. Applications should be made online at: https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/postdocaffnew/

The application will comprise:

- a CV.
- a summary (maximum 400 words) of: (a) the applicant's research achievements; and (b) the applicant's current research and/or teaching responsibilities in Cambridge. The statement should include confirmation that the applicant holds an established, full-time and salaried postdoctoral research position or personal fellowship in the University of Cambridge or one of its associated research institutes, or a full-time Teaching Associate position at Grade 6 or 7, or a Senior Teaching Associate position at Grade 8 in the University of Cambridge. Applicants must have one full year of their contract still to run from October 2026. Preference will be given to those with two years of their contract still to run from October 2026 or with a realistic prospect of their one-year contract being extended. They must be physically based in Cambridge for the duration of their affiliation and have completed a PhD.
- a brief statement of what the applicant will bring to Newnham's academic community, for example - willingness to mentor postgraduate students or to supervise or to take part in admissions interviews for undergraduate students.
- the names and addresses (postal and email) of two persons who will supply academic reference letters, at least one of which must be from a senior academic in the applicant's institution, and which must confirm that the applicant holds a current contract of employment within the University (or associated research institute). References must be received by 23:59 BST on Wednesday 20 May 2026.

Applicants seeking re-affiliation will be invited to submit an updated CV and summary (as above), and a brief statement demonstrating their involvement with the College since their affiliation. Applications for renewal will close at 23:59 BST on Wednesday 13 May 2026. Applications should be made online at: https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/postdocaffrenew/

There will be a maximum of 25 Postdoctoral Affiliates at any one time, of whom a maximum of 5 will be Teaching Associates. Affiliates will primarily be selected on the basis of academic distinction. Potential contribution to the intellectual, educational and social life of the community at Newnham may also be taken into account. Applications will be assessed against the above criteria by the Fellows who form the College's Research Group.

Affiliations and re-affiliations will be made by the College Council on the recommendation of the Research Group, and of any other Fellows involved in the assessment process.

Entitlements

Postdoctoral Affiliates are currently entitled to three meals per week at College expense, but this is under review. Additional meals and guest meals may be taken against payment. They may also use the College Library during the Librarian's office hours; borrowing rights may be made by separate arrangement with the Librarian.

The affiliation is non-stipendiary and will not carry entitlement to rooms in College or College accommodation, nor IT or research expenses.