

NEWNHAM COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 2027

APPLICATION INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Applications are invited from outstanding women with doctorates from any university for a stipendiary Research Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Applications will be accepted from candidates who have not yet been awarded their doctoral degree, providing they have submitted their PhD thesis by 31 August 2026. Those submitting their thesis later than this date will not be considered. The successful candidate will be put forward for election to a Fellowship (Category B) of Newnham College and will be a member of Newnham's Governing Body for the duration of their Fellowship.

This year, applications are sought from graduates working in a field covered by one of the following Faculties of the University of Cambridge; Classics, Geography, History and Philosophy of Science, Modern and Medieval Languages (including Theoretical and Applied Linguistics), Music, Philosophy. Current or former Newnham students in the whole field of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences may apply for this Research Fellowship, regardless of the rotational listing.

Newnham College aims to attract, recruit, retain and develop talent from the widest possible pool. We positively encourage applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates, regardless of race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity status.

The College welcomes applications from women of diverse nationalities and socio-economic backgrounds. Applications are particularly welcomed from those who identify as being from Black, Asian or other minority ethnic groups.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. There is no age limit, but the Research Fellowship is intended to support a woman with high potential at an early stage of their academic career. The Research Fellowship will be given to a candidate who has recently been awarded their PhD, or who has recently submitted their PhD thesis, or who has no more than a few years of full-time postdoctoral research experience, and who will expect to go on to hold posts in institutions of international standing. Candidates who have taken time out of research for professional or family reasons will not be at a disadvantage.
2. This appointment complies with legislation on sex discrimination, relying on the Equality Act 2010, Schedule 22, and Article 3 of the College Charter. Following the Supreme Court's decision in *For Women Scotland Ltd v The Scottish Ministers [2025]*, when we refer to "women" we mean those assigned female at birth.
3. The Fellowship is open to women of any nationality, but where a candidate is appointed who requires a visa in order to work in the UK, the appointment will be conditional upon the candidate successfully obtaining the necessary visa, covering the entire duration of the appointment.
4. The successful candidate will be asked to produce identification documentation (e.g. passport or full birth certificate). It is expected that this documentation will be in the female gender.
5. By submitting an application, a candidate is confirming that they meet all the eligibility criteria listed above. If you have a query about your eligibility, please contact the Competition Administrator using the following email address: jrf-admin@newn.cam.ac.uk.

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6. The Fellowship is tenable for three years with effect from 1 October 2027 and is not renewable or extendable. The successful candidate will be expected to commit to starting their Fellowship on 1 October 2027. Any requests to defer the start date will only be granted for a maximum of three months. The appointment is subject to a probationary period of six months.
7. The main duty of the Fellowship is to carry out research in the Fellow's area of specialism to the highest level (e.g. to a level which would be publishable in a peer reviewed publication). Research Fellows have freedom to develop their own research but often choose to work within a department or faculty of the University of Cambridge (or in an associated local research institute), where they would usually be welcomed by a named individual; candidates should make such arrangements themselves. We will ask the department or faculty to confirm the arrangements in a letter of support at the shortlisting stage, including any necessary risk assessment or ethics approval.
8. The stipend for those without financial support from other sources is Point 42 on the University Scale - £38,784 for 2025-26 (pay award pending). The stipend is on a three-point scale and rises each year to the next point on that scale. Stipends may be adjusted for Research Fellows who have financial support from other sources. However, these fellowships are not available to be held on a fully non-stipendiary basis.
9. Stipendiary Research Fellows are eligible to join the Universities Superannuation Scheme.
10. Research Fellows are expected to be resident in Cambridge during Full Term, unless (with leave from the Council) they are undertaking fieldwork or other work away from Cambridge.
 - Research Fellows can apply to rent College accommodation, if available.
 - Research Fellows who live in College accommodation, and those who live out, are entitled to seven free meals per week. Such meals are available only when the College kitchens are open, and this does not include the Iris Café.
 - Research Fellows may apply to the Senior Members' Research Support Committee for additional support towards certain research, training, or conference expenses.
 - Research Fellows are eligible for the provision of IT equipment. This would typically be a laptop (with a choice of Mac or Windows), which will remain the property of the College.
 - Research Fellows are entitled to the free use of, or share in the use of, a study in College.
11. An award of £10,000 will be made available to each Research Fellow during the tenure of their Fellowship to host an approved "event" or series of "events" in College (e.g. conference, seminar) to promote their research.
12. Research Fellows are encouraged to consider undertaking a small amount of College teaching (in the form of individual or group supervisions arranged by the Cambridge Colleges) or other activities such as mentoring Newnham postgraduates, assisting with Newnham admissions interviewing, or pastoral tutoring of Newnham students, all of which are remunerated in addition to the stipend. This should not exceed 6 hours a week during Full Term. They are expected to offer Newnham College first refusal of any College teaching they choose to do.
13. If the Research Fellow is offered the opportunity to undertake University teaching, they should negotiate remuneration for that work separately with the University.
14. Research Fellows must comply with College policies on risk assessment. No travel for work purposes can be authorised to areas where there is an FCDO (UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) advisory against travel. Research Fellows must also comply with College policies on research ethics, and the application form asks whether research proposals involve any research ethics considerations.

15. Applications should be made on-line at: https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/humjrfnewn/ no later than 23:59 UK local time on Thursday 10 September 2026.

The application will comprise:

1. A system-generated application form to be completed on-line
2. A CV
3. A research statement of no more than 1,000 words in all, outlining the work the candidate would wish to submit in support of their application (see 17 below) and the research they propose to do if elected. It should also include an assurance that, where necessary, appropriate research arrangements with a department/faculty at the University of Cambridge or local research institute have been made. This statement should be intelligible to those working in other but related fields in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. This Fellowship does not normally support the conversion of a PhD dissertation into a book.
4. The names and addresses (postal and email) of two referees familiar with the candidate's work. The first referee will be contacted at the time of application and the second referee may be contacted later in the process.

(NB - Items 2 & 3 must be uploaded to the online application system as pdf documents)

16. Once the candidate has completed their online application an email will be sent to the first referee specified requesting a reference. Candidates should inform their referee that they will be unable to submit their reference until this email has been received, and that the reference **MUST** be submitted by 23:59 UK local time on Thursday 17 September 2026 or they will be too late for consideration. The referee will be expected to address the candidate's suitability for this appointment. Generic dossier references are not acceptable. Candidates should make sure that their referee is aware that this post is the equivalent of a junior faculty position; they will be disadvantaged in this competition if their referee does not address their suitability for a post at this level. Applications without a reference will not be considered.
17. Selected candidates will be invited to submit written work to support their application. This written work should be at most two items, and no single item should normally be over 12,000 words (including citations). This work should be in English and may consist, for example, of published articles or articles accepted for publication, and/or selected chapters from a PhD dissertation. Any work not evidently self-contained (e.g., a dissertation chapter) should include a brief note setting it in context. Candidates will receive a request for this work by Friday 6 November 2026 and the closing date for submissions will be Friday 13 November 2026. This work should be submitted online as a single pdf document. Second referees will also be contacted at this stage in the process.
18. It is expected that short-listed candidates will be interviewed during the week commencing 11 January 2027. Interviews may be via Zoom.
19. The data supplied by you and your referees is used by us in the first instance solely for the purposes of considering your suitability for appointment and for us to manage our recruitment processes, including our monitoring of equality and diversity within the College. The legal basis for processing your personal data is that it is necessary in order for you to enter into an employment contract with us, where you will be subject to the College's governing documents. If you are successful in your application, your data will be held as part of your employment record with us. If you are unsuccessful in your application, we retain all data and information for no more than twelve months after the closing date of the application process, though the names of those who apply for College Fellowships may be retained permanently.

The College's full Privacy Notice for job applicants and candidates for election to College memberships may be accessed [here](#). The person who is responsible for monitoring compliance with relevant legislation in relation to the protection of personal information is the Bursar, data-protection@newn.cam.ac.uk, and any queries relating to the management of your personal data should be directed to the Bursar in the first instance.