

Job description

Job title	Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Contemporary History and Public Policy of Mexico
Departments	Faculty of History and the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (Latin American Centre)
College	This post is offered in association with St Antony's College
Grade and salary	Grade 7 points 1 to 3: £31,076 to 32,958 per year
Hours	Full time
Start date	1 October 2017
Contract type	Fixed-term (3 years)
Vacancy reference	126804

The role

Applications are invited for a Post-doctoral Fellowship in Contemporary History and Public Policy of Mexico, to be held jointly in the Faculty of History and the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (SIAS) (Latin America Centre, LAC) in association with St Antony's College. The successful applicant will have research interests in the contemporary history and public policy of Mexico.

The position is full-time and will be held for three years (subject to the completion of a probationary period of one year). The purpose of post is specifically to provide a time-limited period of career development for those embarking on an academic career, and to promote equality of opportunity by helping create a more diverse pool of potential candidates for future academic posts at Oxford and elsewhere. As a result there is no expectation that the post will be extended beyond the advertised period of three years.

The successful candidate will be expected to undertake research in the field of contemporary Mexican History, to teach and supervise at the graduate and undergraduate levels, and to foster closer links between the University of Oxford and universities and public institutions in Mexico. To do so, the post-holder will organize events in Oxford and Mexico (primarily under the supervision of the director of the Latin American Centre).

The Fellowship is tenable from 1 October 2017 for three years and is non-renewable.



The fellow will be a member of both the History Faculty of the University and of the Latin American Centre in SIAS. They will contribute to teaching and research in both institutions. In addition, the Fellow will have Senior Common Room rights at St Antony's College.

Queries about the post should be addressed to Martin Conway, Chair of the History Faculty Board: martin.conway@history.ox.ac.uk. All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence; they will not form part of the selection decision.

Responsibilities

The general duties of the Fellow are:

- To engage in innovative research and publication (of peer-reviewed journals, books and book chapters, and reviews), as well as collaborating in other research programmes of the Faculty and the School;
- Lecture and tutor undergraduate and graduate students up to five hours per week and supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students. Teaching will be shared roughly equally between the History Faculty and the SIAS, and will be primarily focused on providing teaching in the specific area of Mexican History. However, the applicant may be required to teach in other areas of Latin American and Global History and Latin American Studies as required by the History Faculty and the SIAS;
- Produce a three-year research plan which is to be completed by the end of the three-year fixed term of the post;
- To contribute, as appropriate, in the seminar programmes of the Faculty and the School;
- Develop new syllabus options at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
- To play a central role in the development of scholarly and academic links between Oxford and the academic community of Mexico, including organising at least one academic seminar or workshop per annum in Oxford or in Mexico;
- To engage in University examining and supervision.

Selection criteria

Applications will be judged only by the criteria which are set out below. Applicants should make sure that their application shows clearly how they believe that their skills and experience meet these criteria.

Oxford is committed to fairness, consistency and transparency in selection decisions. Chairs of selection committees will be aware of the principles of equality of opportunity and fair selection and there will be at least one member of each gender on the committee.

Essential criteria

- A doctorate in History, Politics, Sociology, or Political Economy with specialisation on Mexico and understanding of historical methods;
- Evidence of world-class current and future research plans; with a clear plan of research to be conducted during the three years of the post;
- Sufficient depth and breadth of knowledge in the subject to develop course materials and research proposals;
- Ability and experience or potential to teach undergraduate and graduate students of high calibre, to carry out student assessment, and to contribute to the design and delivery of degree programmes with particular attention to modern Mexican and Latin American History;
- A commitment to play a central role in the development of scholarly links between Oxford and the Mexican academic community as demonstrated by close prior links to Mexican institutions;
- Good oral communication skills; evidence of communication, interpersonal, time management and organisational skills necessary to participate in University and College affairs;
- An informed interest in the full range of academic duties of the post and in progressing to an academic post, whether at Oxford or elsewhere;
- Evidence of commitment to their own professional development.

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2014/15 exceeded £522.9m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Faculty of History

The Faculty of History in Oxford is the largest in the United Kingdom and one of the largest in the world. It has a very strong international reputation for its scholarship and its teaching of undergraduate and graduate students, with particular strengths in the history of the British Isles, continental Europe, imperial and global history, the United States, economic and social history, intellectual history and the history of science, medicine and technology. Within the Faculty there is also a department for the History of Art, and the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine. The Faculty also has a long-standing interest in Mexican history, notably through the work of Professor Alan Knight as the former Professor of Latin American History. The Faculty is committed to developing teaching and research in non-European history, and this post forms part of this strategy. We have recently revised our undergraduate curriculum to require students to study non-European history, and are expanding our provision of graduate courses in this field. This post forms part of this strategy, and we would expect the successful appointee to play an active role in our initiatives in Global History, including the Global History Research Centre (<http://global.history.ox.ac.uk>).

In addition to faculty postholders, there are large numbers of other scholars involved in historical research and teaching in Oxford's colleges, museums and libraries, as well a continuous stream of distinguished academic visitors to the University.

More information about the Faculty can be found at: www.history.ox.ac.uk

School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (SIAS)

The School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies (SIAS) is one of the fourteen constituent parts of the Social Sciences Division. It represents a commitment by the University to enhancing teaching and research in Area Studies. The School brings together seven units: the African Studies Centre, the Latin American Centre (including the Brazilian Studies Programme), the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, the Contemporary China Studies Programme, Russian and East European Studies, the Contemporary South Asia Studies Programme and the Middle East Programme. The administration of the School is based at 12 Bevington Road.

The School is devoted to research and graduate teaching in academic disciplines which attempt to understand the complexity and the interrelatedness of society through anthropology, economics, politics, history, sociology and culture. Its teaching and research seek to take into account both the insights provided by the separate disciplines and the contextualisation provided by in-depth knowledge of specific regions and countries. Interdisciplinary collaboration to study specific social processes is encouraged, and a number of the current research projects are in collaboration with other departments.

Currently, Masters courses are run by the African Studies Centre, Latin American Centre, the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, Russian and East European Studies, Contemporary India and Modern Chinese Studies, which admit in total about 120 graduate students a year. Additionally, the School's academic staff supervise doctoral students and teach on a range of undergraduate programmes in other parts of the University.

Potential applicants can find out more about the School at www.area-studies.ox.ac.uk.

The Latin American Centre

The post-holder will be a member of the Latin American Centre within the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies. The Latin American Centre (LAC) was originally established by [St Antony's College](#) in 1964. In 1965, Oxford became one of the five university centres in the United Kingdom created to further postgraduate work on Latin America and to encourage the development of Latin American studies generally at university level. The main aims of the Centre are to train graduate students in a range of disciplines applied to Latin America; to bring to Oxford academics and students from Latin America; to promote research on Latin America; to run a research library; and to organize seminars on Latin American topics.

The interests of the LAC are concentrated on the post-Independence period, and in the disciplines of history, politics, economics/political economy and sociology. There is a permanent staff attached to the LAC, which acts as a focal point in Oxford for bringing together students and academics interested in the area.

The post-holder will be expected to contribute to the teaching program and academic life of the LAC, supporting the seminar program, its engagement with Latin American and playing an active role in the weekly History seminar.

Potential applicants can find out more about the Latin American Centre at www.lac.ox.ac.uk.

St Antony's College

St Antony's is the most cosmopolitan of the Oxford colleges, with a special mission to research and teach international affairs. It is widely regarded as being one of the best places in the world to study global issues and has a long tradition on history also. A diverse extended family of Governing Body, Research, Visiting, Honorary, Emeritus and Junior Research Fellows is complemented each year by some 90 visiting Senior Members from diplomacy, business, politics and the military, as well as from other academic institutions and think tanks. More than 400 students from 75 different countries study for postgraduate degrees at the College. It houses on-site seven regional centres focused on Africa, Asia, Europe, Japan, Latin America, the Middle East, Russia and Eurasia as well as programmes on North America, Burma, Morocco and Taiwan.

How to apply

If you consider that you meet the selection criteria, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a user. You will then be required to complete a number of screens with your application details, relating to your skills and experience. You will also be required to upload:

- A full *curriculum vitae* and list of publications;
- A covering letter describing the research and teaching you have undertaken to date and explaining how you meet the selection criteria for the post. You should refer to your relevant experience which may have been gained in employment, education, or you may have taken time away from these activities in order to raise a family, care for a dependant, or travel for example. Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that that you meet the selection criteria outlined above and we are happy to consider evidence of transferable skills or experience which you may have gained outside the context of paid employment or education.

Please save all uploaded documents **as PDF files** to show your name and the document type.

When prompted, please provide details of two referees. Please provide both your referees with a copy of these further particulars, and ask them to email their references directly to recruitments@history.ox.ac.uk by the closing date stated in the online advertisement. References may be sent by email only and need not be signed, provided they are sent from the referee's official email address (and please ask the referee to quote the vacancy reference number 124022 in the subject line of their email). The Faculty wishes to take this opportunity to thank in advance those referees who write on behalf of applicants.

It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that both references are submitted by the deadline.

All applications must be received by **12 noon** (UK time) on closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:

www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an employer justified retirement age for all academic and academic-related posts (grade 6 and above), for which the retirement date is the 30 September immediately preceding the 68th birthday. The justification for this is explained at:

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revaim/.

For **existing** employees any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revproc/

There is no normal or fixed age at which **support staff** in posts at **grades 1–5** have to retire. Support staff may retire once they reach the minimum pension age stipulated in the Rules of the pension scheme to which they belong.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University 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. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Benefits of working at the University

Training and Development

A range of training and development opportunities are available at the University. Further details can be found at www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html.

For research staff only: Support for Research Staff

There is a particularly wide range of support for career development for research staff. Please visit: www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers to find out more.

Pensions

The University offers generous occupational pension schemes for eligible staff members. Further details can be found at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epp/pensions/pensionspolicy/.

Information for international staff *(or those relocating from another part of the UK)*

A wealth of information is available on the University's International Staff website for staff who are relocating to Oxford from abroad, at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/.

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The Newcomers' Club is aimed at helping partners of newly-arrived visiting scholars, graduate students and academic members of the University to settle in and to meet people in Oxford.

Transport schemes

The University offers a range of travel schemes and public transport travel discounts to staff. Full details are available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/.

University Club and University Sports Facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a Club bar, a cafe and sporting facilities, including a gym. See www.club.ox.ac.uk for all further details.

University staff can use the University Sports Centre at discounted rates, and have the chance to join sports clubs. Please visit www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Childcare and Childcare Vouchers

The University offers quality childcare provision services at affordable prices to its employees. For full details about the services offered, please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/. **NB: Due to the high demand for the University's nursery places there is a long waiting list.**

The University also offers nursery fee payment schemes to eligible staff as an opportunity to save tax and national insurance on childcare costs. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Disabled staff

The University is committed to supporting members of staff with a disability or long-term health condition and has a dedicated Staff Disability Advisor. Please visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff for further details.

BUPA - Eduhealth

Bupa Eduhealth Essentials private medical insurance offers special rates for University of Oxford staff and their families www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site/.

All other benefits

For other benefits, such as free entry to colleges, the Botanic Gardens and staff discounts offered by third party companies, please see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/.