



Summary

Job title	Departmental Lecturer in the History of Medicine
Division	Humanities
Department	Faculty of History and Wolfson College
Location	The Stephen A Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Oxford OX2 6AH and Linton Rd, Oxford OX2 6UD
Grade and salary	Grade 7 spine point 1-3: £39,424 - £41,636 per annum inclusive of an Oxford University Weighting of £1,750 per annum.
Start date	01/10/2026
Hours	Full time (37.5 hours 1FTE)
Contract type	Fixed-term (12 months)
Reporting to	Mark Harrison
Vacancy reference	186319

The role

Applications are invited for a one-year, fixed-term Departmental Lectureship (DL) in History of Medicine, tenable from 1 October 2026. The appointment will fulfil teaching needs arising from the vacancy of, and recruitment to, a substantive Associate Professor post and is not renewable. Applications are invited from scholars with active research and teaching interests in the History of Medicine, in areas commensurate with the duties specified below.

The person appointed to the position will be expected to engage in advanced study or research in the History of Medicine, and to give high-quality tutorials, classes, lectures, and supervision in History of Medicine at both undergraduate and graduate level.

The appointee will be assigned a mentor, who will be a senior member of the History Faculty. In addition, the History Faculty provides support for early career researchers, including assistance in the preparation and submission of grant and fellowship applications through the Faculty Research Co-ordinator and Research Development Officer.



Responsibilities

Teaching

1. Teaching on the Methods and Themes introductory paper for the MSc/MPhil in the History of Science, Medicine and Technology (HSMT) in Michaelmas Term (MT);
2. Convening and teaching on 2 MSc/MPhil option papers in Hilary Term (HT): an existing paper (<https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/other-natures-environmental-medical-and-scientific-encounters-in-the-atlantic-and-pacific>) plus a new option paper within the history of medicine in accordance with the appointee's research interests;
3. Assessment of MSc/MPhil essays and dissertations (MT, HT, Trinity Term (TT) and summer vacation);
4. Co-convening and teaching on Further Subject 15 - Imperial Pathologies: Race, Medicine and Identity in the British Empire, 1720-1850 to History undergraduates;
5. Supervising undergraduate dissertations if required to do so;
6. Co-convening research seminars and workshops;
7. Supervising PGT students;
8. Producing course materials, reading lists, and reference guides as required, and show a willingness to learn how to teach on a variety of platforms, including those online;
9. Taking part in University examining of undergraduates and graduates as and when requested to do so;
10. Being the first point of contact for students as required in matters relating to attendance, conduct, coursework, performance, and welfare (referring matters to appropriate others as needed);
11. Organising (in conjunction with relevant Faculty postholders) specific areas of the syllabus at undergraduate and/or graduate (Master's) levels;
12. Gathering and analysing feedback from students, colleagues, and examiners, and modifying course design, content, or delivery as appropriate
13. Participating in the undergraduate and graduate admissions exercise;
14. Ensuring that students have a high-quality academic experience and appropriate levels of support;

Research

15. In support of the development of courses and, alongside teaching, manage own academic research activities, conduct independent research, and generate original ideas to build on existing concepts;
16. Writing research articles for peer-reviewed journals;
17. Contributing to collaborative projects with colleagues in the Faculty, partner institutions and research groups including co-convening events organised by the Faculty;

General duties

18. Engaging positively and proactively with the academic community in the Faculty and College.

For an informal discussion about this opportunity, please contact Mark Harrison, Professor of the History of Medicine mark.harrison@history.ox.ac.uk . Please send all practical and procedural queries to our recruitments team: recruitments@history.ox.ac.uk. All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence; they will not form part of the selection decision.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

Qualifications and experience	
Essential	A completed doctorate in a relevant field, or evidence that a doctorate is close to completion, e.g., candidates who have submitted their dissertation will be considered, subject to successful examination.
Teaching and research	
Essential	An aptitude for, and appropriate experience of teaching the history of medicine at undergraduate and postgraduate level.
Essential	Sufficient depth and breadth of knowledge in the subject to develop course materials and research proposals.
Essential	An aptitude for teaching and some experience of contributing to courses on the methodology and historiography of the history of medicine.
Essential	The ability to take on administrative responsibilities such as coordinating an undergraduate cohort or core undergraduate course.
Essential	A publication record commensurate with career stage, and familiarity with the existing literature and research in the field of the history of medicine.
Essential	Demonstrable ability to supervise Post Graduate Taught students
Personal effectiveness	
Essential	Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills.
Essential	Professionalism as a colleague and a proven track record of working with others.
Desirable	Awareness of the University's obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty
Technical skills	
Essential	Computer literacy and ICT competence, including the ability to engage with bespoke University and College software.
Desirable	Ability to use technological innovations to improve teaching and research.

Pre-employment screening

Standard checks

If you are offered the post, the offer will be subject to standard pre-employment checks. You will be asked to provide: proof of your right-to-work in the UK; proof of your identity; and (if we haven't done so already) we will contact the referees you have nominated. If you have previously worked for the University we will also verify key information such as your dates of employment and reason for leaving your previous role with the department/unit where you worked. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities for which you may need us to make appropriate adjustments.

Please read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures at: <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks>

About the University of Oxford

Oxford's departments and colleges 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.

Oxford's self-governing community of international scholars includes Professors, Associate Professors, other college tutors, senior and junior research fellows and a large number University research staff. Research at Oxford combines disciplinary depth with an increasing focus on inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary activities addressing a rich and diverse range of issues.

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

While Oxford has long traditions of scholarship, it is also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. It consistently has the highest external research income of any university in the UK (the most recent figures are available at www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/finance-and-funding), and regularly creates spinout companies based on academic research generated within and owned by the University. Oxford is also recognised as a leading supporter of social enterprise.

Oxford admits undergraduate students with the intellectual potential to benefit fully from the small group learning to which Oxford is deeply committed. Meeting in small groups with their tutor, undergraduates are exposed to rigorous scholarly challenge and learn to develop their critical thinking, their ability to articulate their views with clarity, and their personal and intellectual confidence. They receive a high level of personal attention from leading academics.

Oxford has a strong postgraduate student body, who are attracted to Oxford by the international standing of the faculty, by the rigorous intellectual training on offer, by the excellent research and laboratory facilities available, and by the resources of the museums and libraries, including one of the world's greatest libraries, the Bodleian.

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

Humanities Division

The Humanities Division is one of four academic divisions in the University of Oxford, bringing together the faculties of Classics; English; History; Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics; Medieval and Modern Languages; Music; Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; Philosophy; and Theology and Religion, as well as the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art. The division has responsibility for over 500 members of academic staff, for over 4,000 undergraduates (more than a third of the total undergraduate population of the University), and for about 1,600 postgraduate students.

The Division offers world-class teaching and research, backed by the superb resources of the University's libraries and museums, including the famous Bodleian Library, with its 11 million volumes and priceless early book and manuscript collections, and the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology. These historic resources are linked to cutting-edge agenda in research and teaching, with an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinarity.

The Division's faculties are among the largest in the world, enabling Oxford to offer an education in Arts and Humanities unparalleled in its range of subjects, from music and fine art to ancient and modern languages. For more information please visit: www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/

Faculty of History

The Faculty of History in Oxford is the largest in the UK, 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 that reach from late Roman times to the contemporary world, in the history of the British Isles, the history of continental Europe, imperial and global history, the history of 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. With the size of its History Faculty, its lively and varied research seminars and the major resources for research, which include, among others, the outstanding collections of the Bodleian Library and the University museums, Oxford offers a uniquely attractive research environment.

Since September 2025, the Faculty has been based at the Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities, a state-of-the-art cultural centre, which is the location of seven of the constituent units of the Humanities Division.

The Faculty of History provides a robust and supportive framework for research, including:

- Financial support for research travel, research assistance, and editorial help;
- A standard sabbatical leave system, with the possibility of additional special leave;
- Peer mentoring and career development review of research plans and progress;
- Research collaborations with other institutions;
- Energetic encouragement and support of externally-funded research projects, and for internal and interdisciplinary collaborations, through research centres;
- Support of, and engagement with, interdisciplinary teaching;
- Assistance in the formulation of research plans and funding bids.

The Faculty enables all its postholders to request up to £800 per year for research expenses, and makes additional funds available for organising conferences in Oxford. Annual career conversations identify those staff who may need extra support in achieving their research objectives, e.g. through relief from teaching or administrative burdens. Postholders can apply for seed-corn funding for specific research projects from the University's John Fell Fund, which can then help applicants to secure major external funding. In addition, to assist newly-appointed postholders in the development and publication of their research, Faculty funds are available for each new postholder to hold a workshop at which colleagues can discuss drafts of their monograph in gestation.

The Faculty has recently successfully received renewal of its Athena SWAN bronze award (first awarded in 2019), and we seek to provide a fully equal, inclusive and diverse environment for staff and students alike. There are working groups on gender equality, race equality and equality for people with disabilities, and an Equality and Diversity Committee which considers and implements policy. The Faculty has measured its performance against the recommendations of recent Royal Historical Society reports on gender and race equality and we regularly and actively implement policy to address inequalities.

For more information about the Faculty please see www.history.ox.ac.uk.

Oxford Centre for History of Science, Medicine and Technology

The Oxford Centre for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology (HSMT) brings together research on the history of science, medicine, and technology across the University of Oxford. Housed in the History Faculty, we are uniquely broad in our chronological and geographical expertise. We cover HSMT from the ancient world to the modern era, and do so on a global scale. We have particular expertise in the history of global and colonial medicine and in the history of science and technology from 1500 to 1900; we also include the world-renowned History of Science Museum. Oxford HSMT draws upon expertise in ancient science, medicine and technology; medieval natural philosophy and astronomy; early modern and Enlightenment science; the history of scientific instruments; historical interactions between religion and science; evolutionary and Malthusian theory; scientific racism and eugenics; accounts of mental illness in a comparative perspective; the history of epidemics; Islamic science; environmental history; the global history of science, medicine and technology; science, medicine, and war; and the nature of innovation in the modern medical sciences. Our research probes the notion of knowledge itself, analysing how we have defined types and categories of knowledge and the historical processes that underlie knowledge formation.

Wolfson College

Oxford has 39 self-governing and independent Colleges, enabling academic staff and students to enjoy the benefits of belonging to a small, interdisciplinary community as well as a large, internationally renowned University. The collegiate system encourages a strong sense of community, bringing together leading academics and students across subjects, and from different cultures and countries.

Founded in 1966, Wolfson is one of the University's largest graduate colleges and distinctive in its academic scope and international reach. Wolfson has grown and evolved over the past 60 years, retaining its founding President Sir Isaiah Berlin's egalitarian ethos of being 'new, untrammelled and unpyramided'. The College provides academic, living, social and pastoral support for about 850 students, studying for both master's degrees and doctorates, and around 100 research fellows; and is renowned internationally for its high standards of support. The College motto is '*Humani nil alienum*' – nothing human is foreign to me'; it is international, interdisciplinary, and secular.

Wolfson is housed in architecturally outstanding buildings, which are set in beautiful gardens beside the River Cherwell in North Oxford. A new and impressive academic wing and auditorium were added in recent years. It has a strong egalitarian and democratic ethos and is increasingly known as one of the most energetic, innovative, and welcoming scholarly communities in Oxford. There is a single Common Room for all members of College, with shared dining facilities and an extremely family-friendly environment and an on-site nursery. Total membership of the College is around 1800. The Governing Body (GB) consists of around 60 Fellows. The College is the most biodiverse in Oxford and the leader in decarbonisation, having become completely zero carbon across the whole estate in 2023.

For more information please visit: www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk

Equal Opportunity Statement

The University of Oxford is committed to equal opportunity, and to being a place where everyone belongs and is supported to succeed. We recognise how the diversity of our community enriches our ability to deliver on our academic mission.

We welcome applications from individuals from all backgrounds, including those under-represented within higher education. No applicant or members of staff shall be unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined according to personal merit and the application of criteria related to the duties and conditions of the post. In all cases, the primary consideration will be the ability to perform the job.

As stated in the University's Equality Policy and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan, our commitment to equality and diversity goes hand in hand with our commitment to academic freedom and free speech.

How to apply

Applications are made through our online recruitment portal. Information about how to apply is available on our Jobs website <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/how-to-apply>.

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

As part of your application you will be asked to provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement must explain how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants)

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** UK time on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for internal candidates

If you currently work at the University please note that:

- as part of the referencing process, we will contact your current department to confirm basic employment details including reason for leaving and information about your performance.
 - although employees may hold multiple part-time posts, they may not hold more than the equivalent of a full time post. If you are offered this post, and accepting it would take you over the equivalent of full-time hours, you will be expected to resign from, or reduce hours in, your other posts(s) before starting work in the new post.
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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 department(s).

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).

If you need help

Application FAQs, including technical troubleshooting advice is available at: <https://staff.web.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support-faqs>

Non-technical questions about this job should be addressed to the recruiting department directly at recruitments@history.ox.ac.uk.

To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our online recruitment portal to confirm receipt of your application. **Please check your spam/junk mail** if you do not receive this email.

Important information for candidates

Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy>. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy>.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for very senior research posts at **grade RSIV/D35 and clinical equivalents E62 and E82** of 30 September before the 70th birthday. The justification for this is explained at: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

For **existing** employees on these grades, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at other grades have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

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Benefits of working at the University

Employee benefits

University employees enjoy 38 days' paid holiday, generous pension schemes, flexible working options, support for [sustainable travel](#) and other discounts. Staff can also access a huge range of personal and professional development opportunities. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/staff-benefits>.

Employee Assistance Programme

As part of our wellbeing offering staff get free access to a confidential employee assistance programme, available 24/7 for 365 days a year. Find out more at <https://staff.admin.ox.ac.uk/thriving-at-oxford>

University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for University staff. It offers social, sporting, and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See www.club.ox.ac.uk and <https://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/>.

Information for staff new to Oxford

Please see our Life in Oxford webpage for information on relocating to and settling into the Oxford area. The website offers valuable guidance, including information on where to find more details about housing, transportation, finances, healthcare, and other key aspects of living in Oxford and the surrounding region. See [Life in Oxford | Oxford University Jobs](#)

There is also a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependants. See <https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/visa-loan-scheme>

Family-friendly benefits

We are a family-friendly employer with one of the most generous family leave schemes in the Higher Education sector (see <https://hr.web.ox.ac.uk/family-leave>). Our Childcare Services team provides guidance and support on childcare provision, and offers a range of high-quality childcare options at affordable prices for staff. In addition to 5 University nurseries, we partner with a number of local providers to offer in excess of 450 full time nursery places to our staff. Eligible parents are able to pay for childcare through salary sacrifice, further reducing costs. See <https://childcare.admin.ox.ac.uk/>.

Supporting disability and health-related issues (inc menopause)

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions, including those experiencing negative effects of menopause. Information about the University's Staff Disability Advisor, is at <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/disability-support>. For information about how we support those going through menopause see <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/menopause-guidance>

Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including for research staff, BME staff, LGBT+ staff, disabled staff network and those going through menopause. Find out more at <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/networks>

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff settle into Oxford, and provides them with an opportunity to meet people and make connections in the local area. See www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk

Research staff

The Researcher Hub supports all researchers on fixed-term contracts. They aim to help you settle in comfortably, make connections, grow as a person, extend your research expertise and approach your next career step with confidence. Find out more <https://www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers/researcher-hub>

Oxford's Research Staff Society is a collective voice for our researchers. They also organise social and professional networking activities for researchers. Find out more <https://www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers/connecting-other-researchers/oxford-research-staff-society>