

Job Description and Selection Criteria

Post	Associate Professorship (or Professorship) in Modern South Asian History with a non-tutorial Fellowship at St Antony's College
Department/Faculty	Faculty of History
Division	Humanities
College	St Antony's College
Contract type	Permanent upon completion of a successful review. The review is conducted during the first 5 years.
Salary	Associate Professor Grade 36S: at grade 10a, currently in the range of £58,265 to £77,645 per annum, St Antony's College offers a housing allowance of £2,912 per annum; increasing in line with University cost of living awards. An additional allowance of £3,199 p.a. would be payable upon award of Full Professor title.
Vacancy Number	184917
Application deadline	12 noon (UK time) on Monday 16 th March 2026

Overview of the post

We are looking to appoint an Associate Professor in History with research and teaching expertise in Modern South Asian History. The appointee will be able to contribute to the faculty and university's research and teaching strengths in any area of South Asian history from circa 1760 onwards.

Oxford is one of the most important sites for the study of South Asia, and its resources, including the Indian Institute Library and the Pitt Rivers and Ashmolean Museums, attract scholars from around the world. Founded as the Readership in Indian (later Modern South Asian) History in the 1960s, this post was one of the first dedicated to the region's modern history. It has been held by some of the most influential scholars working on South Asia, many of whose students have themselves gone on to become prominent historians at universities in Europe and the Americas as well as South Asia itself. The position has therefore played a significant role in the emergence and development of the field internationally. The postholder will play a substantial role in undergraduate teaching in History, as the options in Modern South Asian history are among the most popular in the school. With the abolition of Readerships, the post is now an Associate Professor with Non-Tutorial Fellowship post, while retaining the same area and period specification.

Occupying the only post dedicated to South Asia in the History Faculty, the postholder will be expected to exercise leadership in the study of the region at Oxford, including efforts to bring together and work with what is, by virtue of Oxford's historically strong commitment to South Asian studies in several disciplines, a large and diverse set of colleagues and students from across the University and beyond.



Within the Faculty, the postholder will work with the South Asia specialists Anna-Maria Misra, Faisal Devji, and Faridah Zaman, as well as with historians of the region such as Yasmin Khan, Nandini Chatterjee, and Nandini Gooptu in other faculties (Lifelong Learning, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (AMES) and Department of International Development). There is also considerable interdisciplinary expertise on the region in other fields at Oxford, from AMES (which houses three chairs dedicated to the study of South Asia: the Boden Professorship in Sanskrit, the Spalding Professorship of Eastern Regions and Ethics, and the Professorship in Indian History and Culture) and OSGA to DPIP, Anthropology and Theology. The Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development has pioneered the study of technology and the environment in the region, while the Blavatnik School of Government has added public policy to the offerings on South Asia in Oxford. As a Fellow of St. Antony's, the postholder will also be part of and at some point likely lead its Asian Studies Centre, which plays a crucial role in funding and convening the majority of seminars, conferences, workshops, and other South Asia events at the University. At the moment there exist four regular seminars on the region, with several workshops and conferences being held at the University every year. The current postholder has also attracted substantial external funding for work in the field of South Asian history.

Modern South Asia from the eighteenth to the twenty-first centuries is an area of exceptionally high undergraduate and postgraduate demand. It accounts for one of the two largest contingents of postgraduate applications in Global and Imperial History. The postholder will be expected to contribute to undergraduate as well as postgraduate teaching. Depending on the successful candidate's area of research expertise, the responsibilities of the postholder may include teaching and examining the Special Subject (From Gandhi to the Green Revolution, 1947-75), one of the two most popular such papers in the Faculty, and also the Further Subject (Post-Colonial Historiography: Writing the Indian Nation) which is always oversubscribed. The postholder would also supervise and examine third-year dissertations, while contributing to the two outline papers for the second year, EWF 11: Global and Imperial History 1750-1930, and EWF 14: The Global 20th Century, 1930-2003. On the postgraduate side, the postholder will supervise and examine MSt and DPhil theses, teach on and examine Masters courses within the Faculty of History including the MSt in Global and Imperial History (lecturing on the Concepts and Themes module and offering an optional course), as well as teaching for the DPhil training seminar.

The appointee will also contribute to teaching History core courses at both undergraduate and graduate levels, including those focusing on the theories and methods of the discipline in general. In addition, the appointee will be encouraged to develop new undergraduate and graduate courses that will reflect the appointee's research and teaching strengths in South Asian history.

The appointee will also support the History Faculty's and Humanities Division's commitment to expanding the profile of extra-European history at Oxford. They will be an active team-player with a demonstrable commitment to sustaining and developing the faculty and university's work in Global History, as well as taking on core leadership roles within the Faculty relating to research, teaching, student admissions, and student progression.

We would especially like to encourage applications from women and people of colour, who have been historically under-represented in Oxford.

The appointee will be a member of the Faculty of History, and a non-tutorial fellow of St Antony's College. The post is tenable from 1 October 2026 or as soon as possible thereafter. The deadline for applications is **12 noon (UK time) on Monday 16th March 2026**. Interviews are expected to take place in Oxford, in person.

This post is an exciting and demanding one in which you will engage actively in all of the following: conduct world-class research; give lectures, classes and tutorials; supervise, support and examine students at undergraduate and graduate levels; and contribute to the administrative work of the History

Faculty. The University of Oxford uses the grade of Associate Professor for most of its permanent academic appointments. Associate Professors are eligible, through regular 'recognition of distinction' exercises, for consideration for award of the title of full Professor.

If you would like to discuss this post and find out more about joining the academic community at Oxford, for the Faculty please contact Professor Martin Conway, Chair of the History Faculty Board, (email: martin.conway@history.ox.ac.uk). If you would like to learn more about St Antony's College, please contact the College Secretary, Lisa Driver Davidson (email: college.secretary@sant.ox.ac.uk). All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence and will not form part of the selection decision.

The role of Associate Professor at Oxford

Associate Professor is the main academic career grade at Oxford with a focus on research and teaching, spanning the full range of professor grades in the USA. Associate Professors are appointed jointly by a University department/faculty and an Oxford college, and you will have a contract with both.

Associate Professors are full members of University departments/faculties and college governing bodies playing a role in the democratic governance of the University and their college. You will join a lively, intellectually stimulating and multi-disciplinary community which performs to the highest international levels in research and teaching, with extraordinary levels of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

There is considerable flexibility in the organisation of duties, with three 8-week undergraduate teaching terms and generous sabbatical leave to balance teaching and research (please see the Benefits, Terms and Conditions section for further details of sabbatical leave). There is the potential for temporary changes to the balance of duties between College and University to enable a focus on different aspects of work at different stages in your career.

Oxford offers many opportunities for professional development in research and teaching. Associate Professors may apply for the title of full Professor in annual exercises. If the title is conferred, you will also have access to professorial merit pay opportunities. In exceptional cases, the title of full Professor may be awarded on appointment.

Appointments are confirmed as permanent on successful completion of a review during the first five years. The vast majority of Associate Professors successfully complete this initial review.

Duties of the post

You will be expected to engage in advanced research and teaching in the field of Modern South Asian History. You will also be expected to give high-quality lectures, classes and tutorials in courses on South Asia, global and imperial history, and in core history courses at undergraduate and graduate level. You will also supervise Master's and doctoral students.

The main duties of the post **in the Faculty** are as follows:

Research and public engagement:

1. to engage in intellectually-exciting historical research and publication, working with students and colleagues to develop Modern South Asian history in new directions, encourage research achievement, and nurture a lively research culture among junior colleagues and research students;

2. to maintain a successful publication record (appropriate to the stage of career and accounting for career breaks) and contribute to the Faculty's Research Excellence Framework (REF) submission.
3. to work with colleagues and students to develop the field in new directions methodologically, encourage research achievement, and help nurture a positive research culture.
4. to develop and submit grant proposals to support your own research portfolio and that of the History Faculty and the Global and Imperial History group.
5. to disseminate research through participation in national and international conferences and seminars, and through other media.
6. to contribute to and strengthen the Faculty's impact and public engagement profile in the field, demonstrating the public value of research into South Asian history and promoting awareness of the subject within and beyond academia (e.g. in schools, media, or museums).

Teaching and supervision

7. to engage in teaching undergraduates and graduates through tutorials (6 hours per week) and no fewer than 36 lectures or classes as organised by the Department. This will include teaching on outline and more specialist papers on South Asian History.
8. to participate in undergraduate dissertation supervision and marking as appropriate;
9. to participate in the teaching, development, and delivery of taught Master's and doctoral degree programmes, including supervising and examining students;
10. to contribute to the development and delivery of the Faculty's curriculum, including teaching, assessment, and quality enhancement in interdisciplinary and/or specialist modules;
11. to supervise doctoral students and build a community of DPhil students in South Asian History;
12. to take part in University examining of undergraduates and graduates as and when requested to do so;
13. to take part in the departmental aspects of the annual undergraduate and graduate admissions exercises and in departmental outreach and recruitment activities including Open Days for prospective applicants.

Administrative and General duties

14. to engage positively and proactively with academic and administrative colleagues in the Department and Faculty, and to play an active role in the leadership and administrative work of the Department and Faculty, as required.
15. to engage with colleagues in developing a strategic vision for the future of the History Faculty at Oxford, including engaging in development and fundraising initiatives, as required.

College duties and responsibilities

In addition to the duties relating to the University side of the post, the appointee will be a Fellow of St Antony's College, and will be expected to:

- Take on a small number of College Advisees;
- Play an active role in the academic and research life of the College, for example by organising and/or attending seminars, workshops and other academic activities and events.

From time to time, Fellows may be asked to undertake specific administrative duties for which they would be separately remunerated.

All Fellows are appointed as Trustees of the College and a full induction into your charity trustee role will be provided. As a Trustee, you will be a member of the College's Governing Body which normally meets twice each term.

Selection criteria

Your application will be judged only against the criteria which are set out below. You should ensure that your application shows clearly how your skills and experience meet these criteria.

The University is committed to fairness, consistency and transparency in selection decisions. Members of selection committees will be aware of the principles of equality of opportunity, fair selection and the risks of bias. There will be both female and male committee members wherever possible.

If, for any reason, you have taken a career break or have had an atypical career and wish to disclose this in your application, the selection committee will take this into account, recognising that the quantity of your research may be reduced as a result.

Selection criteria

Qualifications and experience	
Essential	A doctorate and an internationally-recognised track record of research and academic activity within the field of Modern South Asian History, at a level appropriate to the career stage and individual circumstances
Teaching	
Essential	Ability to educate and inspire graduate and undergraduate students in Modern South Asian History, and a proven ability to foster a high level of achievement in students
Essential	Alertness and sensitivity to the welfare needs of students
Desirable	A successful track record of Master's and doctoral supervision
Desirable	Experience of curriculum and pedagogical development, including new course design

Research and public engagement	
Essential	Ambitious plans for future research and the ability to attract external funding to support research projects
Essential	Ability to contribute high-quality publications to the Faculty's future REF submissions (REF is the UK-based Research Excellence Framework)
Essential	Broad vision and sufficiently wide historical interests to contribute effectively to the long-term development of the subject at Oxford
Desirable	Evidence of active contribution to academic communities, for instance by delivering invited keynote lectures and / or chairing sessions and symposiums at national and international academic conferences
Desirable	Evidence of effective public engagement with research, and of promoting the subject beyond academia
Personal effectiveness	
Essential	Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills
Essential	Ability to engage with the strategic development of South Asian History in Oxford
Essential	Ability to build and develop internal and external networks and act as an ambassador to and for the University
Essential	Professionalism as a colleague and proven track record of good collegial working relationships with others
Desirable	Experience of promoting collaborative research/academic/working and learning environments for people from different backgrounds
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, and the ability to engage with bespoke University and College software (for which training will be provided)
Desirable	Ability to utilise technological innovations to improve teaching and research

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

To apply, visit https://my.corehr.com/pls/uoxrecruit/erq_jobspec_details_form.jobspec?p_id=184917, then click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please refer to the "Terms of Use" in the left hand menu bar for information about privacy and data protection. Please provide details of three referees and indicate whether the University may contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV, which should include a publication list, and a supporting statement. The supporting statement should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in education or employment.

The University and colleges welcome applications from candidates who have a disability or long-term health condition and is committed to providing long term support. The University's disability advisor can provide support to applicants with a disability, please see <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/disability-support> for details. Please let us know if you need any adjustments to the recruitment process, including the provision of these documents in large print, audio or other formats. If we invite you for interviews, we will ask whether you require any particular arrangements at the interview. The University Access Guide gives details of physical access to University buildings <https://www.accessguide.ox.ac.uk/>.

Teaching commitments are mainly concentrated into Oxford's three 8-week undergraduate teaching terms, making it easier to balance teaching and research. There is considerable flexibility in the organisation of duties, and generous sabbatical leave.

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

All applications must be received by **12.00 noon** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

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 <https://hrsystems.admin.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support>. To return to the online application at any stage, please log back in and click the "My applications" button on the left-hand side of the page

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.

The 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/

The 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.

St Antony's College

St Antony's College is one of the seven colleges of the University of Oxford which admit graduate students only. St Antony's chosen field is the interdisciplinary study of the modern history, politics, international relations, economics, sociology and culture of the regions of the world. It provides an informal and multicultural environment for advanced research and postgraduate education and has become the leading European centre for international studies, competing with the best graduate schools in the United States.

Like other Oxford colleges, the College is an independent self-governing institution and a registered charity in England. Its Governing Body consists of around 40 Fellows and is chaired by the Head of the College (known as the Warden). The Fellows are distinguished scholars in their chosen fields and most of them hold senior academic posts in the University. Each conducts their own research programme and almost all of them supervise postgraduate students from St Antony's and other colleges. Some Fellows teach undergraduates as well and also take part in University and College administration.

The current Warden, Professor Roger Goodman, was a student at the College. Immediately before becoming Warden, he was Head of the Social Sciences Division at Oxford between 2008-17. He was Chair and President of the Academy of Social Sciences between 2016-21.

The College has seven regional research centres, which cover Africa, Asia (except Japan), Europe, Japan, Latin America, the Middle East, Russia and the rest of the former Soviet Union. Most of the Centres are based on the College's campus in converted Victorian houses. Each Centre is run by a Centre Director who is normally a Governing Body Fellow of the College.

For more information please visit: <https://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/ox.ac.uk/>

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

University Benefits, Terms and Conditions

Details of University policy in the following areas can be found at the links provided.

Salary

[Academic staff pay | HR Support \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Pension

<https://finance.web.ox.ac.uk/uss>

Sabbatical leave

[Council Regulations 4 of 2004 | Governance and Planning \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Outside commitments

<https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/holding-outside-appointments>.

Intellectual Property

<https://governance.admin.ox.ac.uk/legislation/council-regulations-7-of-2002>

Managing conflicts of interest

<https://researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/governance/integrity>

Membership of Congregation

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/governance>

<https://governance.admin.ox.ac.uk/legislation/statute-iv-congregation>

Family support

<https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/family-leave-for-academic-staff>.

<https://childcare.admin.ox.ac.uk/home>.

<https://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/>.

Welcome for International Staff

<welcome.ox.ac.uk>.

[Home | Staff Immigration \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Relocation

<https://finance.admin.ox.ac.uk/relocation-scheme-arrangements#collapse1094916>

Promoting diversity

<https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/home>

Other benefits and discounts for University employees

[Staff benefits | HR Support \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Pre-employment screening

<https://jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks>.

Length of appointment

Appointments to Associate Professorships at Oxford are confirmed as permanent on successful completion of a review during the first five years. See [Academic posts at Oxford | HR Support](#)

Retirement

The University operates an employer justified retirement age for academic posts of 30 September immediately preceding the 70th birthday. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/the-ejra>

Data Privacy

<https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy>.

<https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy>.

College Benefits, Terms and Conditions

The appointed Associate Professor will receive the following benefits:

- A taxable and pensionable Housing Allowance. This is £2,912 per annum in 2025/26 and increases annually in line with cost of living awards;
- College IT support in ensuring that their devices link with the College's networks, and in troubleshooting simple difficulties. Their computer will be provided by the department;
- Use of the College Library with the right to borrow books when resident in Oxford;
- The opportunity to join the Oxford Colleges' Healthcare scheme as long as it is the College's policy to provide this benefit;¹
- Free meals at common table (lunches and evening meals in the College Hall when it is open);
- 12 free High or Guest Night Tables each term. This dining allowance may also be used to host academic and business guests;
- Membership of the College's Senior Common Room;
- Car parking in the College's car parks, which is normally available if you live more than three miles from the College.

Offer of employment

Applications for this post will be considered by a selection committee containing representatives from both the Department/Faculty of History and St Antony's College. The selection committee is responsible for conducting all aspects of the recruitment and selection process; it does not, however, have the authority to make the final decision as to who should be appointed. The final decision will be made by the Humanities divisional board and the Governing Body of St Antony's College on the basis of a recommendation made by the selection committee. No offer of appointment will be valid, therefore, until and unless the recommendation has been approved by both the divisional board and the governing body, and a formal contractual offer has been made.

¹ As there is no charge to the Associate Professor for their participation, this benefit may give rise to a small tax liability. Their dependants may also join the scheme at the post-holder's expense if eligible.