

Job Description

Job title	Casual Research Assistant: Student Mental Health
Division	Humanities
Department	History Faculty
Location	Multiple locations across Oxfordshire
Casual Spine Point	Spine Point 24 £17.03 per hour plus 12.07% in lieu of holiday
Hours	73 hours
Contract type	Casual engagement (12-week duration)
Reporting to	Dr Sally Frampton, Research Associate in Health Humanities and Medical Education
Start date	February 2024

The Role

We are seeking a temporary research assistant to contribute towards a new study on the history of student mental health in Oxford. This study is jointly run as a part of the new [Community History Hub](#) at Oxford's Faculty of History.

In November 2020, the History Faculty began the work of growing a new 'community history' initiative: to strengthen the Faculty's relationships with local historians and community groups throughout Oxford and Oxfordshire, and to enhance its work in the field of local and community history. The new initiative is grounded in an ethos of putting ethical, equitable working relationships at the heart of these endeavours to engage more deeply with community history research and public engagement, and particularly to create more space for local historians and community groups to set these ongoing agendas.

The 'Oxford Health Histories' project led by Dr Sally Frampton is integrating into the Community History Hub. The project, originally conceived in 2021 and funded by the John Fell Fund, seeks to explore less well-known histories of medicine and health in Oxfordshire. Working in partnership with Uncomfortable Oxford, phase one of the initiative has included the collection of oral histories, the creation of a website in which we feature stories from Oxfordshire's history, as well creative responses to these histories from the poet and medical humanities scholar, Dr Yewande Okuleye. We are currently working on a suite of teaching resources adapted from three key themes of our research: anatomy, penicillin, and mental health.

Histories of mental health have been a critical component of the project. We are seeking to develop a particular strand of research around student mental health in the city with a focus on the twentieth century. Oxford has a unique history in regard to student mental health, that relates to the large



populace of students in the city, the distinctiveness of the Collegiate system at one of the institutions and the significance of institutions such as the Warneford Hospital as a centre for research in student mental health in the twentieth century. The purpose of this role would be to provide research support with the ultimate objective of written output on student mental health in Oxford.

Responsibilities

- To produce a literature review of secondary resources (books, articles etc) relating to student mental health in the twentieth century.
- To locate and investigate archival and bibliographic resources relating to student mental health at the University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes University, and potentially other educational institutions in the area. Resources could include hospital records (Oxfordshire Health Archives), student magazines (Bodleian Library) and University committees (Bodleian Library)
- To produce a written output relating to the research performed, either a short report, blog post or contribution to co-authored academic article.
- To upload materials where necessary to the Oxford Health Histories website.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

- A completed honours degree in History or Humanities or equivalent experience.
- Demonstrable experience of working with archival and bibliographic material relating either to the history of medicine/health or twentieth-century history.
- Attention to detail and ability to read and comprehend a variety of historical source material.
- Ability to work independently and flexibly in managing own research and administrative activities.
- Strong organisational ability, able to work to set deadlines.
- Be flexible and able to work in new environments and with new people.

Desirable selection criteria

- Experience of working in a research team and contributing ideas for new research projects
- Experience of research and presenting research for different audiences
- An interest in the history of Oxford and Oxfordshire, or of mental health.

How to apply

Please send the following documents to sally.frampton@humanities.ox.ac.uk by noon on Friday 5 January 2024:

- A brief statement of interest (no longer than 400 words) explaining why and what relevant skills, interests, and knowledge you may be able to bring to the project.
- Please also include a CV indicating any academic and other appropriate qualifications and relevant experience (of no more than 2 pages in length).

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 a number of dedicated research centres.

The Faculty is located in the Old Boys' High School, George Street. This is a very central location, less than 10 minutes' walk from the rail station, and very close to bus station, shops and other University locations. The premises house a community of around 20 administrative staff and up to 30 other users, comprising doctoral students, researchers, and academics and professors. The building is also used for teaching and seminars. More information about the Faculty can be found at: www.history.ox.ac.uk

The Faculty holds a bronze Athena Swan award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

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; Oriental Studies; Philosophy; and Theology and Religion, as well as the Ruskin School of Art. The Division has more than 500 members of academic staff, approximately 4,100 undergraduates (more than a third of the total undergraduate population of the University), 1,000 postgraduate research students and 720 students on postgraduate taught courses.

The Division offers world-class teaching and research, backed by the superb resources of the University's libraries and museums, including the famous Bodleian Libraries, with their 11 million volumes and priceless early book and manuscript collections, and the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology. Such historic resources are linked to innovative agendas in research and teaching, with an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary study. Our 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

