Research Fellowship

The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, a Recognised Independent Centre of the University of Oxford, is engaged in the multi-disciplinary study of the Muslim world.

The Centre invites applications for a research fellowship in the study of the Islamic world. The successful candidate will be engaged in research and publication in any area of the arts, humanities or social sciences which contributes to a more informed understanding of the Islamic world – its history, economics, politics, culture, civilisation and contemporary life.

This fellowship offers excellent opportunities for sustained research, to work with world-class colleagues, and an intellectually stimulating research environment, drawing on the Centre’s extensive academic links both within Oxford and internationally. The fellowship is tenable from October 2020.

The successful candidate will be expected to play a full part in the academic and social life of the Centre and will undertake research and develop academic projects as part of a multi-disciplinary team. They will be a full member of the Centre’s Common Room.

The Fellowship is tenable for a three year period, offering a competitive salary determined by qualifications and experience in the range of £32,000 - £35,000.

Further particulars are available at www.oxcis.ac.uk/vacancies, or from the Assistant Registrar (assistant.registrar@oxcis.ac.uk), Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Marston Road Oxford OX3 0EE, to whom applications, including CV and a list of publications, should be sent to arrive no later than 24 March 2020. Applicants should arrange for three referees to write directly to the Assistant Registrar by the same date.
Research Fellowship

1. Overview

The Centre is seeking to appoint a Research Fellow. The Fellowship is tenable for up to three years. The Fellow will be engaged in research and publication in any area of the arts, humanities or social sciences which contributes to a more informed understanding of the Islamic world – its history, culture, civilisation and contemporary life. The Fellowship offers an excellent opportunity for sustained research, to work with world-class colleagues, and in an intellectually stimulating research environment, drawing on the Centre’s extensive academic links both within Oxford and internationally. The Fellowship will be tenable from October 2020 or as soon as is practicable thereafter for a period of three years.

The Research Fellow will be a full member of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, responsible to its Director. The Fellow will be actively involved in the Centre’s academic and social activities, and will be provided with office accommodation and membership of the Common Room.

2. Main Duties

The Fellow will undertake the following duties:

- To undertake and promote high standards of scholarship in research, publication and other academic activities.
- Participate in and promote activities which contribute to the academic and social life of the Centre.

Further information is available at www.oxcis.ac.uk, or from the Assistant Registrar, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Marston Road, Oxford OX3 0EE, to whom applications, including CV and a list of publications, should be sent no later than 24 March 2020. Applicants should arrange for three referees to write directly to the Assistant Registrar by the same date.
3. Criteria for Selection

The Centre is looking for candidate(s) who most fully meet the following criteria:

- the skills to promote high standards of scholarship in research, publication and other academic activities which contribute to a more informed understanding of the culture and civilization of Islam and of contemporary Muslim societies
- commitment to be a fully participating member of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.
- proficiency and familiarity with relevant research languages is desirable

4. The Selection Process and How to Apply

Your application should contain:

- A letter of application which provides evidence as to how your skills and past experience meet the selection criteria outlined above;
- A detailed curriculum vitae;
- Names of three referees, who you should also ask to write directly to the Assistant Registrar at the Centre.

All of the above should be sent for the attention of the Assistant Registrar, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Marston Road, Oxford OX3 0EE. Applications must be received by 12:00 noon (UK time) on 24 March 2020 (Assistant.registrar@oxcis.ac.uk)

Please do not send samples of written work or transcripts at this stage. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to interview. Those interviewed may be required to give a twenty-minute presentation on some aspect of their research, aimed at a specialist audience. All reasonable interview expenses will be reimbursed.

5. Terms and Conditions

Appointment:

Appointments to Research Fellowships at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies are made by the Director acting on behalf of the Trustees. All those appointed are ultimately accountable, through the Director, to the Trustees for the proper conduct and implementation of their duties and responsibilities. These duties and responsibilities are defined by reference to the following objectives of the Centre: to promote high standards of scholarship in teaching, research, publication and other academic activities.
Other terms and conditions of appointment:

A competitive salary will be determined by qualifications and experience. As a guide, the range is between £32,000 and £35,000 for the Research Fellowships. Fellows will also be entitled to office accommodation, IT facilities and certain dining rights.

The Fellowship is tenable for up to three years subject to a six month probationary period.

The Fellow will be eligible to join the University Superannuation Scheme.

All appointments are subject to the relevant and current provisions of the policies of the Centre. The Fellow will be eligible to join the Centre’s pension scheme, annual leave of 35 days per annum, including public holidays, full membership of the common room and lunches during term time.

For a non-British/EU candidate the appointment would be subject to meeting UK entry clearance requirements.

6. Background to the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies

The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies is incorporated by Royal Charter. It is a Recognised Independent Centre of the University of Oxford and is registered as a charity (number 293072). The Patron of the Centre is HRH the Prince of Wales. The Centre was founded in 1985 and is committed to the advancement of academic excellence in teaching, research and publication. The Fellowship is drawn from a variety of academic backgrounds. Currently Centre Fellows teach in a range of University departments and faculties, including: Anthropology, Development Studies, Oriental Studies, Theology and History. The research profile is similarly diverse, ranging from geographical study of the intellectual roots of Muslim civilization and contemporary social movements in the Islamic world to investigations into the theory and practice of Islamic financial management.

The Centre has a thriving publications programme, which includes the Journal of Islamic Studies. Published three times a year the Journal aims to encourage interaction among academics from diverse traditions of learning to enable the dissemination of their research and reflections. It is peer-reviewed. The Centre facilitates, and actively encourages, the publication of monographs and other works by Centre Fellows.

The Centre’s library has expanded considerably in recent years, providing a valuable and unique resource. It now houses approximately 17,000 volumes. The library is part of OLIS, Oxford University’s online union library catalogue.

Potential applicants can find out more about the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies at www.occis.ac.uk.
The Centre Building

The Centre occupies new, purpose-built premises in Marston Road, Oxford. This building combines on a single site the academic, social, and residential functions of the Centre, and is a physical symbol of partnership, toleration, and friendship between the Islamic and Western worlds of learning. The Centre’s premises, which combine traditional Oxford and Islamic architectural styles, occupy a 3.25 acre site in the Marston Road. They provide the Centre with accommodation for up to 54 students and Visiting Fellows, a dining hall, a mosque, an auditorium, beautifully landscaped gardens and quadrangles, and teaching and seminar rooms.

Equality and Diversity

The Centre is committed to the principle and practice of equality of opportunity. The Centre seeks to ensure that all candidates are treated fairly and that selection is based on individual merit and selection criteria relevant to the post.