

<b>Job title</b>	Postdoctoral Research Assistant in Nineteenth-Century History of Medicine/Science/Culture
<b>Division</b>	Humanities
<b>Department</b>	Faculty of English Language and Literature
<b>Location</b>	Gibson Building, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6GG
<b>Grade and salary</b>	Grade 7: £31,076- £32,958 per annum
<b>Hours</b>	Part Time (0.5)
<b>Contract type</b>	Fixed-term from 1 April 2018 (or as soon as possible thereafter) until 31 January 2019, externally funded by an ERC Research Grant
<b>Reporting to</b>	Professor Sally Shuttleworth, Project Director
<b>Vacancy reference</b>	133425

<b>Research topic</b>	Nineteenth Century History of Medicine/Science/Culture
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Professor Sally Shuttleworth
<b>Project team</b>	Diseases of Modern Life: Nineteenth Century Perspectives
<b>Project web site</b>	<a href="http://www.diseasesofmodernlife.org">www.diseasesofmodernlife.org</a>
<b>Funding partner</b>	The funds supporting this research project are provided by the European Research Council
<b>Recent publications</b>	<a href="https://diseasesofmodernlife.org/category/news-blog/">https://diseasesofmodernlife.org/category/news-blog/</a>

## The role

The Postdoctoral Research Assistant will join the team working on the ERC funded project, 'Diseases of Modern Life: Nineteenth-Century Perspectives', under the direction of Professor Sally Shuttleworth. The project is an interdisciplinary one which brings together scholars from the fields of literature and science, and the history of medicine, science and technology. The overall project runs for five years, but following the departure of one of the Postdoctoral Research Assistants for a new post, we are now recruiting for a part time replacement for the remainder of the grant. During the first half of the grant we have completed the initial phase of the research, mapping out the materials for study in the designated areas, and the joint book from the project: the focus will now be on individualised specialist research. We welcome



proposals in the field of medical responses to new technologies and working conditions in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The research assistants work in a close team with Professor Shuttleworth, with support given by Professor Mark Harrison in areas relating to the History of Medicine. The appointee will be made a member of the Senior Common Room of St Anne's College, Oxford.

For further information on the project see the website, [www.diseasesofmodernlife.org](http://www.diseasesofmodernlife.org).

## **Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of the post will include the following:

- Undertaking research resulting in published articles, relating to medical responses to new technologies and working conditions in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, as agreed with the Project Director
- Presenting the results of research at UK and international conferences and other symposia, as agreed with the Project Director
- Producing blogs, and other short articles, and helping with media activity
- Contributing to the running of the project, including helping to organise public engagement activities, and the organisation of seminars, workshops and conferences
- Assisting with the development of a project website and database
- Liaison with project partners
- Contribute actively to the intellectual life of St Anne's College
- Other project-related work as directed by the Project Director, commensurate with the level of the post.

## **Selection criteria**

### **Essential**

- PhD in history of medicine, literature, or medical humanities, with extensive experience of medical periodicals in the 19th century. The PhD must have been awarded by the time the individual takes up the post.
- Show outstanding academic promise.
- Ability to work flexibly, and in a team.
- Willingness to participate in the overall running of the project, and to organise seminars, workshops and conferences, and public engagement activities.
- High level of communication skills, including the ability to address a range of audiences.

### **Desirable**

- At least one publication in a related area.
- Reading fluency in French and /or German.
- Good computer skills, and database experience.
- Experience of conference organisation, or equivalent.

## 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 2015/16 exceeded £537.4m 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](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation)

## Faculty of English Language and Literature

The Faculty of English Language and Literature is by far the largest English Department in the UK, and has a very distinguished research record (awarded the top grade in the last two research assessment exercises). We were voted the top university for English in the *QS World University* rankings in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017, and our teaching has been graded 'Excellent' in every Quality Assurance review.

The Faculty currently has 80 permanent members of academic staff, including 9 statutory Professors. This is in addition to a further 100 or so members teaching in the colleges and temporary members of staff. A list of Faculty members and their research interests is available on the website. For more information, please visit: [www.english.ox.ac.uk](http://www.english.ox.ac.uk). There are currently approximately 900 undergraduate students (with roughly 260 admitted each year to the single honours school and a further 20 to joint honours school programmes). The Oxford English Faculty has the largest graduate school in the country, with approximately 100 Masters students, and a further 150 graduate research students.

## Humanities Division

Humanities is one of the four academic Divisions in the University, each with considerable devolved budgetary and financial authority and responsibility for providing a broad strategic focus across its constituent disciplines. The Humanities Division brings together the faculties of Classics; English; History; Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics; Medieval and Modern Languages; Music; Oriental Studies; Philosophy; and Theology, 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 1600 postgraduate students.

The Division offers world-class teaching and research, backed by the superb resources of the University's libraries and museums. Oxford's extraordinary resources facilitate research at the very highest level. The Bodleian Library, one of the great libraries of the world, has a continuous history reaching back to the late sixteenth century. Its historical collections are outstanding, and as a legal deposit library it can claim a copy of every new title published in the UK. The Bodleian is now second in size only to the British Library. The English Faculty also has its own library with over 100,000 volumes, including important pre-1800 holdings. Every college has its own library, many of which have important holdings of their own. Such historic resources are linked to cutting-edge agendas in research and teaching, with an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary study. The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), established in 2013, supports and encourages interdisciplinary research across the Division and more widely, through a range of networks and projects, involving researchers at every academic level.

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: <http://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/>

## **History of Science, Medicine and Literature Studies in the University of Oxford**

The researcher will join a strong team led by Professor Sally Shuttleworth, with other researchers on the ERC funded 'Diseases of Modern Life' project ([www.diseasesofmodernlife.org](http://www.diseasesofmodernlife.org)), and the AHRC funded 'Constructing Scientific Communities' project ([www.conscicom.org](http://www.conscicom.org)). Both projects run regular seminars, workshops and other events. The University of Oxford has a high concentration of academics working in this general area, with an abundance of lectures and seminar series available. In the English Faculty, Michael Whitworth, who was co-founder of the British Society for Literature and Science, runs a regular seminar series on Science and Literature with Kirsten Shepherd-Barr. Professor Laurie Maguire, who works on literature and medicine in the Renaissance, runs a seminar series on Literature and Medicine, together with Professor Peter Friend of the Medical Sciences Division, as well as other events in Medical Humanities. Within the History Faculty, the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine supports graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, specialist faculty and visiting researchers working on the global history of medicine and runs a weekly seminar of guest speakers in the History of Medicine. Robert Iliffe, Professor of the History of Science, directs research in the History of Science. There is a specialist Master's courses in the History of Science, Medicine and Technology, and in both English and Modern Languages there are optional MA papers in literature and science, as well as at undergraduate level. The Museum for the History of Science supports work across the history of science, medicine and technology.

## St Anne's College

St Anne's College was founded in 1878 to promote the education of women within the University of Oxford, and was fully incorporated as a College in 1952, as one of the four solely for women. It was one of the first to admit both men and women undergraduates, some thirty years ago. St Anne's is a modern College both physically and in outlook, and is noted for its lively and unstuffy approach to teaching and research, a legacy of the pioneering spirits of the College's founders. The Postdoctoral Fellow will be expected to contribute actively and fully to the intellectual life of the College, and to matters that support and enhance it.

St Anne's has long had a strong and growing commitment to Science, Medicine and Literature. It hosts all the researchers on the 'Diseases of Modern Life' and 'Constructing Scientific Communities' and has previously hosted a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow working on science and literature in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and a Leverhulme Postdoctoral Fellow working on biological science and literature in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. As one of the largest combined colleges in the University, it supports a large English School with two Professorial Fellows (including Professor Sally Shuttleworth), as well as three Tutorial Fellows. St Anne's has two Fellows in Modern Languages (Professor Patrick McGuinness in French and Dr Geraldine Hazbun in Spanish) as well as Lecturers in German and Italian. In the field of History, Professor Howard Hotson, who works on the history of science, is director of the large Mellon-funded project, 'Cultures of Knowledge: An Intellectual Geography of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century Republic of Letters', which offers interesting parallels with the current project. St Anne's supports all the science and medicine programmes offered by the University, with Fellows across the entire range of areas.

St Anne's is committed to developing subjects at the boundaries of traditional disciplines and to integrating undergraduates, graduates, Research and Tutorial Fellows, and Professorial Fellows. Subject family evenings are held regularly, with lectures by graduates and researchers, organised by Research Fellows in each of four subject areas (Humanities, Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences). St Anne's holds a termly Domus seminar, where a Fellow presents aspects of their own research to the Fellowship, and hence St Anne's aims to ensure a broad and stimulating intellectual environment for the entire academic community. All Visiting Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows are warmly encouraged to engage in similar ways.

### College Benefits

Up to five lunches are available free of charge on weekdays when Hall is available and the use of the Senior Common Room.

More detailed information about St Anne's can be found on the College website: <http://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/>

### How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at [www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/).

If you would like to apply, 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.

You will be asked to upload:

- A CV
- A supporting statement. This 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).
- An outline of the potential series of articles, related to the project themes. (maximum of 1500 words)

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

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

**Interviews:** Interviews will be held during the first 2 weeks of March 2018. Where candidates are unable to attend an interview in person, it may be possible to arrange an interview via Skype.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the 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](mailto:recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk). Further help and support is available from [www.ox.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_university/jobs/support/](http://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](http://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/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/).

## The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69<sup>th</sup> birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/).

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/).

From 1 October 2017, there is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** 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.

## 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

### University Club and sports facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a bar, café and sporting facilities, including a gym. 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](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and [www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities](http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities).

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

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas, or elsewhere in the UK, the University's International Staff website includes practical information related to moving to and settling in Oxford such as advice on immigration, relocation, accommodation, or registering with a doctor.

See: [www.internationalstaffwelcome.admin.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.internationalstaffwelcome.admin.ox.ac.uk/)

### The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk/)

### Childcare

The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details including how to apply and the costs, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare).

### Family-friendly benefits

The University subscribes to My Family Care

([www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/)) and staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a 'speak to an expert' phone line and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work + Family space.

### Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. Please visit [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff) for further details including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor.

### Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/)

### Other benefits

Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits such as free visitor access to the University's colleges and the Botanic Gardens as well as a range of discounts.

See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits)