

<b>Job title</b>	Broadbent Career Development Fellow in American History since 1600
<b>Division</b>	Humanities
<b>Department</b>	Rothermere American Institute
<b>Location</b>	1a South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3UB
<b>Grade and salary</b>	Grade 7: £38,674 - £46,913 per annum
<b>Hours</b>	Full time
<b>Contract type</b>	Fixed term for three years (1 September 2025 to 31 August 2028)
<b>Reporting to</b>	Director of the Rothermere American Institute
<b>Vacancy reference</b>	178535
<b>Additional information</b>	

## The role

This is an opportunity for an outstanding early career historian to develop their research and publications in any aspect of the history of the United States or pre-Revolutionary America within a supportive and vibrant intellectual environment. We are looking for candidates who, by the time of appointment, will have completed a PhD within the last three years, who have produced research with the potential to influence their field, and who are committed to the highest quality teaching and public engagement.

Alongside producing research, the Fellow will make a full contribution to the academic life of the Institute and to St Edmund Hall. They will be expected to share, with other US historians, the convening of our programme of research seminars and doctoral workshops, and will have the opportunity to teach for up to three hours per week.

The Fellow will be employed by the Rothermere American Institute, and they will be provided with office space at the Institute.

The Fellow will be elected to a Junior Research Fellowship at St Edmund Hall, entitled to membership of the Senior Common Room and Common Table lunches and dinners free of charge, when the kitchen is open. They will also be eligible for a Academic Allowance (up to a current maximum of £3000).



## Responsibilities

1. Produce exceptional research at postdoctoral level for publication in books and articles in some aspect of the history of the United States.
2. Play a full part in the intellectual and social life of the RAI through regular attendance and participation in seminars and events, including by:
  - Co-convening the American History Research Seminar series for up to three terms during their three-year appointment.
  - Attending the US history doctoral writing group and skills workshop for at least one term in each academic year
3. Teach undergraduate and/or postgraduate students in American history for up to three hours per week (averaged over the three terms of the academic year). Teaching might consist of delivering undergraduate lectures and providing undergraduate tutorials for EWF9, From Independence to Empire: America 1763-1898 and/or EWF12 The Making of Modern America since 1863; providing undergraduate dissertation supervision; teaching relevant Approaches or Disciplines classes and tutorials for undergraduates; teaching historiography classes at MPhil and MSt level.
4. Undertake effective and innovative public engagement activity for and on behalf of the RAI, in collaboration with other RAI staff members.
5. Contribute to the organisation and running of History in St Edmund Hall, including: tutorial teaching in relevant areas to undergraduates and Visiting Students; the annual undergraduate admissions cycle; advising up to two graduate students in cognate areas; participating in the College's Open Days for prospective students and wider outreach activities. The post-holder may also become involved in the wider administration of the College, for instance by serving on one of its committees.

## Selection criteria

Your application will be judged only against the criteria which are set out below. You should ensure your application shows clearly how your skills and experience meet these criteria, and should ask your referees to address these criteria in their letters of recommendation.

The University and St Edmund Hall are 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 members wherever possible. Applications are particularly welcome from women, and black minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

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.

This post is intended to provide a promising early career scholar with a congenial environment for the development of his/her research and academic administration beyond the doctoral level.

Within that broad aim, the committee will make its decision by seeking evidence of the following attributes of candidates.

## Eligibility

- Applicants must be of Early Career Status, which we define as being within three years from the date of their successful viva voce examination. Therefore, candidates will have successfully completed their doctorate between 1 September 2022 and 1 September 2025.
- Applicants must be able to provide proof of the right to work in the UK.

## ***Essential selection criteria***

- Evidence of a clear plan for research and publication during the period of the Fellowship
- Professionalism as a colleague and a proven track record of working with others
- Experience of teaching at undergraduate level
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings
- Experience of organising successful academic events
- Experience of public engagement
- Commitment to promoting awareness and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

## 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 and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, and in recent years we have spun out 15-20 new companies every year. 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).

## Humanities Division

The Humanities Division is one of four academic divisions in the University of Oxford, each with a full-time Head and elected Board. The Humanities Division is distinctive for its depth and breadth. Its activity spans nine faculties, one School and two independent research institutes: the faculties of Classics; English; History; Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics; Medieval and Modern Languages; Music; Asian & Middle Eastern Studies; Philosophy; and Theology and Religion; the Ruskin School of Art; the Rothermere American Institute and the Voltaire Foundation.

Interdisciplinary links within and beyond the University are strong, extending to the social sciences, medical sciences and the natural and physical sciences.

One of the largest centres for Humanities internationally, with over 800 members of academic and research staff, the Division offers world-class research and teaching, 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, the Pitt Rivers Museum, the History of Science Museum and the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology. Such historic resources are linked to cutting-edge agendas in research and teaching, with an increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary study and digital Humanities.

The outstanding quality of Humanities research at Oxford is recognised globally. This reputation for research excellence contributes to the University coming top of several international rankings for Arts and Humanities, including the US News and World Report rankings and the QS World University Rankings by Subject. 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.

The Division has responsibility for over 4,000 undergraduates (a third of the University's total undergraduate population), and for over 2,000 postgraduate students (over 1,100 doctoral students and some 900 Master's students). Twenty-nine undergraduate courses are offered in Humanities subjects, seven of which are offered jointly with the other academic divisions. The Doctoral and Master's programmes offered are distributed across all of the Division's faculties, along with a suite of Master's courses offered with the Social Sciences Division and a growing portfolio of Master's courses that draw from across the Humanities. The Division is part of the Open-Oxford Cambridge AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership. The Humanities Division has embarked on a major building project on the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, supported by a £185 million gift to create the Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities.

For more information please visit: <http://www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/>

## **Rothermere American Institute**

The RAI is Oxford's centre for the study of the United States and its place in the world. At our official opening on Friday 25 May 2001, President Bill Clinton posed these questions: "Where has America come from and where does it find itself? What *is* it doing and what *ought* it to do in the world?" Today, these questions remain at the heart of the RAI's mission.

Our mission is twofold:

- We support the world-leading scholarship in this field being undertaken at Oxford;
- and we communicate that research to a wider public.

Every year, we host more than 100 seminars, workshops, conferences and lectures which attract leading scholars, students, policymakers and public figures from across the world. Recent public events with large audiences have included discussions with Maggie Nelson, Michael Chabon, Joy Harjo, Richard Blackett, Elizabeth Cobbs, Tamson Pietsch, and Iwan Morgan, along with a joint conference with the NYU Brademas Center to discuss an inside look at American politics. In addition, we host regular events for our community members, like a weekly coffee morning and a twice-termly women's lunch to foster support networks and a sense of belonging at the RAI. We also have a podcast series, *The Last Best Hope?*, which regularly sits in the UK top 50 podcasts and has recently featured discussions with historians including Elizabeth Varon, Nick Witham, Dan Jackson and Sam Haselby.

The current RAI Director is the Edward Orsborn Professor of US Politics and Political History, Adam Smith. The RAI has a small but dedicated team including a full-time Director of Academic Programmes; a full-time Manager; a full-time Academic Programme and Events Officer; and a part-time Operations Assistant.

We support a number of researchers at all stages of their academic careers, including two Career Development Fellows, plus four Research Fellows working on research projects funded by the Leverhulme Trust, the British Academy and the US Office for Naval Research. Each year we welcome two distinguished visiting professors from the US, the John G. Winant Professor of American Government and the Harmsworth Professor of American History. We also host around a dozen visiting academics as Fellows-in-Residence each academic year.

The RAI community includes a large number of graduate students working in the fields of History, Politics, Literature, Art History and related disciplines. It also includes early career researchers, retired colleagues and around twenty of Oxford's Faculty members who work on problems related to America and its place in the world. We collaborate wherever possible with other research institutes in the University.

We are housed in a beautiful award-winning building in the centre of Oxford. At the heart of our building is the magnificent Vere Harmsworth Library, which offers the strongest collection in US history in Europe, including a wide range of digital resources. We work closely with the VHL Librarian, currently Bethan Davies, to ensure that the aims and activities of our two institutions reinforce each other.

The RAI is largely dependent upon the generosity of individual benefactors, trusts and foundations - all of whom share the RAI's commitment to world-class research on the US.

For more information visit: [www.rai.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rai.ox.ac.uk).

## **North American History at Oxford**

Oxford is a leading centre for the teaching of North American history, at both undergraduate and graduate levels. For more details, see <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/academic>. Oxford also benefits from the Harmsworth Professorship in American History, an annual visiting position which over the years has been held by very distinguished scholars. Next year's Harmsworth Professor will be Professor Eliga Gould. For more details, see <https://www.rai.ox.ac.uk/harmsworth>.

At the undergraduate level, there is a popular outline paper, 'United States History since 1863', an outline covering the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries ('From Colonies to Empire: US History, 1763-1898'), as well as a range of specialised courses, including two first-year options, 'Haiti and Louisiana: the Problem of Revolution in an Age of Slavery' and 'Imperial Republic: The United States and Global Imperialism, c1867-1914'; second-year Further Subjects on 'The Lives of Enslaved People in the Southern United States', and 'America's Hidden Empire: Soft Power and US Influence During the Cold War'; and third-year Special Subjects on 'Race, Sex and Medicine in the Early Atlantic World', 'Slavery, Emancipation and the Crisis of the Union, 1848-1865', 'Race Religion and Resistance in the United States, from Jim Crow to Civil Rights', and 'Neoliberalism and Postmodernism'. Undergraduates also have to write a dissertation for finals, and American history is a very popular subject area. More details on the undergraduate programme can be found at <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/ba-history>.

At master's level, there is a dedicated, team-taught, US History 'strand' in our one-year Master of Studies and two-year Master of Philosophy programmes in History. 8-14 students, from the UK, US and elsewhere, are typically enrolled on the US History strand in a given academic

year. Students in US History take a core course, 'Sources and Historiography in the History of the United States' as well as an optional course. Recent US optional courses include 'Slavery and Gender in the Antebellum US South', 'Religion and American Empire', and 'Capitalism and the US State, 1865-2008'. Master's students also write a dissertation.

## St Edmund Hall

St Edmund Hall's roots are in the 13th Century, making it one of the oldest educational institutions within the University of Oxford. It is the only medieval academic Hall to have preserved its identity; the ancient name of 'Hall' has been retained to reflect its long history and pre-collegiate university roots. At Oxford, the collegiate university comprises the colleges collectively associated with the academic departments and central offices. However, in legal, financial, and organisational terms each college is an independent corporation, self-governing and self-contained. St Edmund Hall, in common with all Oxford colleges, has been granted status as a registered charity. Our current Principal, Professor Katherine Willis, joined the Hall in October 2018.

St Edmund Hall is one of the constituent colleges of the University of Oxford and occupies a historic site in the middle of Oxford, just off the High Street. The Hall currently has approximately 70 academic staff (Fellows and Lecturers), 376 undergraduate students, 315 graduate students and 38 visiting students. Students are admitted in a range of subjects. General information about the College is available at [www.seh.ox.ac.uk](http://www.seh.ox.ac.uk). 315 graduate students and 38 visiting students. Students are admitted in a range of subjects. General information about the College is available at [www.seh.ox.ac.uk](http://www.seh.ox.ac.uk).

The Queen's Lane main site accommodates many of our facilities, including the administration, Fellows' rooms, the Senior, Middle and Junior Common Rooms, Dining Halls, and student accommodation. Our Library is on this site, occupying the beautiful former church of St Peter-in-the-East. We have further extensive student accommodation properties in north and east Oxford: in Norham Gardens, and on Iffley Road and Dawson Street.

The College has a friendly and welcoming community of historians, undergraduates, postgraduates and tutors. We encourage our undergraduates to cultivate their individual interests and preferences and offer them the widest practicable choice of subjects. Some undergraduates like to spread their options widely and others prefer to concentrate as far as possible on a particular period, area, or type of history. The College's history fellows are [David Priestland](#), Professor of Modern History and Vice-Principal, who works on late-twentieth-century eastern European and global history and the history of ideas, and [Filippo de Vivo](#), Professor of Early Modern History, who works on early modern Italy and the Mediterranean, especially information, communication and cultural history. In addition [Dr Zoe Farrell](#), is currently Leverhulme Early Career and Junior Research Fellow, and works on early modern social history and material culture, and [Dr Chloë Pieters](#), is the Early Career Teaching and Research Fellow in History and works on the European family in wartime.



## 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.

You will be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. Please ensure that your CV includes a publications list. 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 (CV, supporting statement) in the filename.

As part of your application you will be asked to provide details of two referees. Referees should be people who have direct experience of your work, and at least one of them should be your current/immediately previous formal line manager. For shortlisted candidates, we will seek references before the interviews.

**All applications must be received by 12pm GMT on Wednesday 22 April 2025.**

Interviews are expected to take place on **Friday 23 May 2025**.

We are hoping to conduct the interviews in person although depending on the location of applicants we may interview remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Queries about the academic dimensions of the post should be directed to Dr Daniel Rowe at [daniel.rowe@rai.ox.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.rowe@rai.ox.ac.uk). All practical and procedural queries should be sent to the recruitment team at [hr@rai.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hr@rai.ox.ac.uk).

## Offer of employment

Applications for this post will be considered by a selection committee containing representatives from both the RAI and St Edmund Hall. The selection committee is responsible for conducting all aspects of the recruitment and selection process. No offer of appointment will be valid, therefore, until and unless the recommendation has been approved by both the RAI and St Edmund Hall's Governing Body, and a formal contractual offer has been made.

## 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>.

## 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).

## 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 [hr@rai.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hr@rai.ox.ac.uk).

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 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 70<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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

### Employee benefits

University employees enjoy 38 days' paid holiday, generous pension schemes, flexible working options, travel discounts including salary sacrifice schemes for bicycles and electric cars and other discounts. Staff can 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 Health Assured, a confidential employee assistance programme, available 24/7 for 365 days a year. Find out more <https://staff.admin.ox.ac.uk/health-assured-eap>.

### 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](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and <https://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/>.

### Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation, and local schools. See <https://welcome.ox.ac.uk/>.

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](http://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>.