

University of Oxford
Faculty of Oriental Studies

Call for Expressions of Interest:

Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship

supported by the John Fell Fund

Please note, the following information describes an internal pre-application selection process. It is not authorisation to make an application to the Leverhulme Trust through this institution.

Leverhulme Scheme

Applications in all areas of Oriental Studies are invited for these Fellowships, from suitably qualified researchers in the early stages of an academic career who wish to base their research in the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Oxford. A previous connection with the University is not required; applications are particularly welcome from those who obtained their doctorates from other institutions. The Fellowship requires the support of a member of the Faculty willing to act as Mentor.

Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships are aimed at supporting those at a relatively early stage of their academic careers but with a proven record of research. Applicants must have submitted their doctoral thesis no more than four years before the closing date, i.e. not before 28 February 2016, unless there has been a career break. Fellowships are tenable for three years on a full-time basis. Requests to hold the award part-time over a proportionately longer period may also be considered. Applicants must not hold or have held a permanent academic position in a UK university or comparable institution, and must have a doctorate or equivalent research experience. Those registered for a doctorate must have submitted their thesis by the closing date.

For more information on the scheme, including eligibility, please see <https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/grant-schemes/early-career-fellowships>.

How to apply

It is expected that, as in previous years, the Faculty will be able to support two applications to the Leverhulme Trust. Please note that being selected by the Faculty does not ensure the award of a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, but we will work with you to ensure as strong a submission as possible. The application stages to be followed are:

1. apply to the Faculty via Research Committee

2. if successful, enter into discussion with our Research Facilitator to strengthen your application
3. submit your application to Leverhulme for consideration.

Please note that you cannot apply to Leverhulme identifying Oxford as your place for holding the Fellowship without first applying through the Faculty.

The internal deadline for applications to the Faculty is **4pm, Monday 6 January 2020**.

Applications should be sent electronically to **thomas.hall@orinst.ox.ac.uk** by the above date marked 'Leverhulme ECF 2020' in the subject header. They should comprise:

- a **CV**, two pages at most, including education, publications, any awards, thesis title, and examiners;
- a draft **statement of post-doctoral research**, two pages at most;
- a 150-word **abstract** summarising the research for a general audience;
- an indication of what **additional research expenses** may be claimed.
- a named **mentor** from among the permanent members of the Faculty of Oriental Studies, who must provide a statement of support – see (a) below.

Candidates are in addition asked to ensure that the Faculty receives the following:

(a) a brief statement from the proposed mentor confirming their willingness to support your application (not a full academic reference), sent directly by the mentor to **thomas.hall@orinst.ox.ac.uk** by the above date.

(b) an academic reference that addresses the significance and originality of the research project and the candidate's fitness to undertake it, sent directly by the referee to **thomas.hall@orinst.ox.ac.uk** by the above date.

What happens next?

Once the Faculty has considered the applications received (which is expected to happen within two weeks of the deadline) and forwarded its recommendations to the Humanities Division, the successful applicants (or applicant) will be supported by our Research Facilitator in the completion of the full application to the Leverhulme Trust.