The College

Queens’ College is a lively community of students, fellows and staff. The College dates back to late 1430s and is located at the heart of the city of Cambridge, with good access to University departments and to the town. Queens’ is famous for its ancient buildings and riverside site but has continued to evolve throughout its six centuries, as a place and as a community, and is very much engaged with the present and looking to the future.

Queens’ is one of the thirty-one constituent colleges of the University of Cambridge. It has about 500 undergraduates and 450 postgraduate students, making it a larger than average College. The College has over 60 teaching staff and members of the Governing Body (Fellows) and about 140 other staff. A wide range of further information about the College is provided on our website: www.queens.cam.ac.uk.

Queens’ is committed to fostering equality, inclusiveness and diversity. We strongly encourage applications from women, disabled people and people from BME backgrounds, as these groups are currently under-represented on the College’s academic staff.

Tenure

This position is tenable from 1 October 2024 for a period of three years and is not renewable.

Eligibility

Junior Research Fellowships are early-career appointments intended to offer early-career academics of exceptional intellectual calibre the opportunity to pursue research for up to three years at Queens’. This competition is open to graduates of any university who are well advanced in their doctoral research or have recently embarked on postdoctoral research.

The Junior Research Fellowship would be a successful candidate’s first substantial salaried academic or research appointment; or, in the case of a non-stipendiary appointment, it would be held alongside the successful candidate’s first substantial salaried research appointment, which must be within the University of Cambridge. Postdoctoral Research Associates (PDRAs) of Queens’ College are eligible to apply provided that they have completed no more than 12 months of postdoctoral work by the date of the interviews (counting from the date of submission of the PhD thesis). Scholarships or studentships awarded to support study for a research degree are not regarded as academic appointments for these purposes; nor are arrangements to provide occasional lectures, classes, supervisions, or tutorials on an hourly or casual basis.

This competition is open to graduates who are engaged in research in Linguistics with expertise in any one or more of the following areas: Romance languages (with some preference for Ibero-Romance), Latin and Greek languages; morphosyntax; variation, documentation, and language endangerment; language contact, phylogenies, and historical linguistics.

We welcome applicants who research data-driven theory, diverse speech communities in local or global contexts, from a syntactic, acquisitional, computational or socio-historical perspective. Applicants may draw upon methodological approaches from across the humanities, life, and social sciences, including those who employ imaginative practice-based, technology- or anthropology-based modes of inquiry. The successful applicant will address linguistic variation and change in a formal framework whilst striving for holistic explanations whenever possible.
Applicants should propose a feasible plan of post-doctoral research, which may extend their doctoral research while clearly demarcating the extension and/or launch a new project.

English is the working language of the University of Cambridge and it is essential that candidates be able to work successfully in an English-speaking environment. Competence in English will be a criterion at every stage of the recruitment process, and particular attention will be paid to this in the assessment of written work and at interview.

Application

Applications, which should include a covering letter explaining how the appointee will contribute to the wider educational mission of the college, full curriculum vitae, and a 1000-word statement of research, should be uploaded no later than 12 noon on 28th September 2023 to https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/qu_jrf.aspx

Applicants are asked to ensure that two referees upload references on their behalf to the CASC system by the same date.

Long-listed candidates will be contacted in mid-October 2023 and asked to submit written work for assessment; short-listing will take place in mid-November 2023 and interviews will be held in late November 2023.

Stipend and Benefits

The salary of a stipendiary postdoctoral Junior Research Fellow is fixed in terms of the University of Cambridge’s single pay scale, starting at point 37 (£32,332) and rising over three years to point 39 (£33,966) with additional benefits. The salary for a stipendiary predoctoral Junior Research Fellow starts at £27,682, rising over three years to £29,326. A candidate appointed to a non-stipendiary Fellowship would receive no salary, but would otherwise enjoy the same rights and benefits as a stipendiary Junior Research Fellow.

Junior Research Fellows will receive either rent-free accommodation in College (if single) or a non-resident accommodation allowance (£7,875 p.a.), dining rights (free meals), and grants towards research expenses. Junior Research Fellows are expected to engage in full-time research activity supplemented by some college teaching as may be necessary and convenient from time to time; and are encouraged to take an active part in the academic life of the relevant faculty or department of the University of Cambridge.

The College reserves the right not to make an election. Queens’ College pursues an equal opportunities policy. We are committed to the principles of equal opportunities and respect for individuals. We strive to create and maintain an inclusive environment that represents a variety of backgrounds, skills and perspectives. We work to recruit students and staff from a wide range of backgrounds because we believe the diversity of the College is critical in achieving our strategic aims and in ensuring the long-term health and success of Queens’. The College has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.