University Lectureship in the History of Early America and the Atlantic World
Grade 9, currently £36,862 - £46,696

Further particulars

Applications are invited for a University Lectureship in the Faculty of History in the field of Early America and the Atlantic World. The position arises from the retirement of Dr Betty Wood. Candidates working in any area of North American or Atlantic history between 1600 and 1800 are eligible.

The appointee will be expected to teach in these fields at all levels. The appointee’s prime teaching responsibility will be to contribute lectures, classes, and supervisions in, and to examine and administer, Paper 22 in Part I, North American History from 1607 to 1865. In due course, the appointee will wish to create Special and Specified Papers in Part II of the course, building upon their own areas of expertise. The Faculty has a large commitment to postgraduate teaching and the appointee will be expected to supervise Master’s and doctoral dissertations in North American and Atlantic history and to assist in developing a new M Phil course in American History.

Candidates will have an exceptionally strong research profile, and a chief obligation of the post is to maintain international excellence in research and to contribute to collaborative projects.

The teaching duties of a University Lecturer are to give a minimum of 30 (initially 24) hours of lectures and classes in a year, and to undertake a portfolio of supervision teaching, examining and administrative responsibilities in accordance with the Faculty’s stint system, which seeks a fair distribution of teaching, examining, and administrative burdens. He or she will be required to share in administrative and examining duties, at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Informal enquiries may be made either to the Chair of the Faculty, Dr Mark Goldie (mag1010@cam.ac.uk), or to the Faculty’s HR Clerk, Mrs Joanne Pearson (e-mail: jobs@hist.cam.ac.uk, telephone: 01223 335350).

American History at Cambridge

The History Faculty’s 100 academic staff (teaching officers employed by either the University or the Colleges) constitute one of the largest and best history departments in the world. In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, the Faculty submitted the work of 102 historians; 40% of the work submitted was graded 4* (“world leading”). The expertise of the Faculty spans more than two millennia, straddles the globe and exemplifies the rich variety of sub-disciplines that constitutes history today.
With some 400 graduate students studying for Master’s degrees and the PhD, Cambridge History is one of the largest graduate schools in the world. Each year around 200 undergraduates are admitted to take the History Tripos. The Faculty benefits immensely from having a splendid departmental library with over 70,000 volumes, located in the famous modernist building, designed by James Stirling, and, a few hundred yards away, there is the University Library, a copyright borrowing library which houses most of its books in open stacks.

Cambridge has established itself as the leading centre for the study of North America outside the United States in the past twenty years. Cambridge PhDs have filled the majority of American history university posts in the UK during that period. American history is a popular and central part of the Faculty’s undergraduate teaching. The two Part I survey papers attract over half the students taking the History Tripos. The Americanists have produced a succession of popular Special Subjects, such as ‘The Adams Family and American Culture’ and ‘Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement’. In one year one fifth of Part II students did American dissertations.

The appointee will join the American History Subject Group, which comprises the teaching and postdoctoral research staff, and currently includes Professors Tony Badger, Michael O’Brien, and David Reynolds, and Drs Lucy Delap, Bill Foster, Joel Isaac, Andrew Preston, and Betty Wood. Further information on the membership and activities of the Subject Group, and research seminars in American history can be found on the following web pages: http://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/directory/subject-groups/american-history http://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/seminars/seminars-list/american-history-seminar

This post is supported by the Trinity Joint Lectureship Scheme and carries a Teaching Fellowship at Robinson College. Practically all University Teaching Officers in History hold College Teaching Fellowships and the requirements of the Robinson College Fellowship will follow the standard pattern. The College will expect up to six hours of supervisions per week during term. ‘Supervisions’ (tutorials) involve guiding an undergraduate's programme of reading and marking and discussing a weekly essay. History supervisions may comprise a single student, or a pair, or small group. A Teaching Fellow teaches in their own areas of expertise, supplying, in the first instance, their own College's students' needs, and then exchanging students with other colleges. A Teaching Fellow is also expected to contribute to Direction of Studies (organising the teaching programme of the College's history undergraduates), and admission interviews. College duties are remunerated additionally to the salary of the University Lectureship. The College provides use of a teaching room, a computer, a research allowance, a meals allowance, and may be able to assist with residential accommodation. The Memorandum of Agreement between the History Faculty and Robinson College is available on request and will be supplied to the appointed candidate.

Method of application
Applications, in MS Word or pdf form, should comprise:

- A covering letter.
- An application for employment cover sheet, CHRIS/6 form (parts 1 and 3), which can be downloaded from the HR Division’s web page: http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/forms/chris6/
• A curriculum vitae including details of teaching experience, educational qualifications, publications, work in progress, salary details and the names of three academic referees.
• Applicants should also supply a short sample of their published work up to about 10,000 words (e.g. an article) for consideration by the Appointments Committee.

It is the responsibility of each applicant to contact his/her referees and ensure that references are sent directly to the Secretary of the Appointments Committee before the closing date.

Applications and references should be e-mailed to the Secretary of the Appointments Committee: jobs@hist.cam.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 16 March 2012.

Shortlisting procedures
The selection process will be timetabled over two days. During the first afternoon, shortlisted candidates will be asked to make a presentation about their research to members of the Faculty. A graduate workshop and interview will follow on the second day.

Applicants will be advised of the interview date when their applications are acknowledged.

The University is committed to equality of opportunity.