

Further Particulars

1. The Institute

The Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies offers opportunities for visiting scholars, with or without funding, to conduct research into any field relevant to the work of the Institute. The Institute's main areas of activity are:

- Events (conferences, workshops, lectures, readings, and seminars)
- Publications (e.g. *imlr* books, the *Germanic Studies* series, *Bithell Series of Dissertations*, *Bithell Memorial Lectures*, *Miller Memorial Lectures*, *Journal of Romance Studies*)
- Research collaborations and networks
- Research training and the supervision of research students
- Post-doctoral research and Visiting Fellowships

2. The Bithell Visiting Fellowship

The Bithell Fellowship offers funding for a researcher in the field of German Studies wishing to spend three to six months in the Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies, its [Library](#) and [Archives](#) during the academic year 2026-27. The Visiting Fellowship is sponsored by the Bithell Trust, set up in memory of Jethro Bithell and Alice Emily Bithell, generous donors to the Institute of Germanic Studies (forerunner of the ILCS). German Studies includes the literature, language and culture of the German-speaking countries.

The Fellowship is open to any applicant from the UK and overseas. Applicants should have completed their doctorate and have defended the dissertation by the time they take up the Fellowship. Preference will be given to candidates who have published at least one journal article and can demonstrate plans for further academic publications.

An award of up GBP 7,500 is available which is designed to provide a contribution to temporary living expenses whilst in London and/or enable those in employment to take leave to further their studies.

3. Tenure

The Bithell Fellowship is available for a three- to six-month period between 1 October 2026 and 31 July 2027. Extensions to the original period of the Fellowship may be possible, but are subject to the same terms and will not attract any additional financial support beyond the amount originally offered.

4. What We Offer

The Institute can offer shared office accommodation with wifi, internet, email account, photocopying/printing facilities, and access to the Institute's [Germanic Studies Library](#), the Senate House Library, and the libraries of the other Institutes that make up the School of Advanced Study (Advanced Legal Studies, Classical Studies, Historical Research, and the Warburg). Fellows and Scholars are offered free access to all the Institute's events, and are expected to participate as much as possible in the intellectual life of the Institute.

5. Requirements

Fellows/Scholars contribute to and enhance the scholarly activity of the Institute and the School of Advanced Study. In addition to presenting current work as a seminar or as part of a larger conference or workshop, Fellows/Scholars are invited to organise an event either during or resulting from their stay, or otherwise contribute to the work of the Institute. Fellows/Scholars are also invited to place a recent, normally unpublished, piece of work in our open-access repository, [SAS-Space](#), and to contribute to the ILCS [blog](#). Publications resulting from research conducted during the tenure of the Fellowship must acknowledge the Institute and, where appropriate, a copy should be deposited in the Germanic Studies Library or with the Institute Director. At the conclusion of their period of tenure, Fellows/Scholars are required to write a short report on the activities undertaken at the Institute and progress made in their research.

6. Financial Arrangements

The award made is intended to contribute to the costs of accommodation during the Fellow's stay in London. Payment is made direct to the award holder's bank account in two instalments, the first at the beginning of the tenure of the Fellowship, the second halfway through. Should the Fellow for any reason not take up the Fellowship, the funding must be immediately returned.

7. Accommodation

Living accommodation is not provided and Fellows/Scholars should make their own arrangements. A list of hotels and guest houses is on our [website](#), and the University of London [Accommodation office](#) may also be able to assist.

8. Visas

Fellows that do not have the right to reside and/or study in the UK will require a visa and must ascertain what category of visa is most suitable for them. You may be eligible to apply for a [Standard Visitor Visa](#), which permits academics to visit for research purposes for periods of not more than six months.

9. Method of Application

Applicants should submit the application form by the closing date stated below together with:

- a statement detailing your research project and intended outputs (no longer than 1,500 words)
- a statement outlining the ways in which you would contribute to the work of the Institute (500 words)
- a *curriculum vitae* (no longer than 2 pp)
- a publications list (not more than 2 pp)

Applicants must also arrange for two academic references specific to the Fellowship/Scholarship application to be sent by the closing date, direct from the referee, to jane.lewin@sas.ac.uk. The preferred method of submission is by email; please ensure that the subject line of the email reads 'Bithell Visiting Fellowship/Scholarship Application 2026-27' and is followed by your family name. Applicants can expect to be informed of the outcome of the competition by mid-July. Applicants are not called for interview.

10. Closing Date

The closing date for receipt of applications and references is **5 May 2026**.