

Early Career Fellowships: Inclusion, Participation and Engagement

Call for applications

The School of Advanced Study is offering up to 5 five-month funded fellowships in languages, literatures, and cultures, in association with the Institutes of Classical Studies, English Studies and Languages, Cultures and Societies, and/or in human rights and policy, in association with the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. These are intended to support projects that address or wish to address inclusive and participatory methods of engagement as part of their research.

1 About the Early Career Fellowship Scheme

The School of Advanced Study has been awarded funding to scope a programme of activities embedding inclusion, participation and engagement in research in the Humanities and in Human Rights. As a result, we are able to offer up to five early career fellowships in the following areas: languages, literatures, and cultures, in association with the Institutes of Classical Studies, English Studies, and Languages, Cultures and Societies; and human rights and policy, in association with the Institute of Commonwealth Studies.

Fellows are expected to pursue their own research during the five months of the Fellowship and to contribute to the School's scoping mission.

The Fellows will be based in the Institutes of Classical Studies, English Studies, Languages, Cultures and Societies, and Commonwealth Studies as appropriate. We invite applications from individuals, pairs or groups of early career scholars who have active research interests in these areas.

Applicants are invited to submit a research proposal on a topic of their choice, either individually or as part of a group. This should specify as an objective a defined outcome for the research carried out during the period of the fellowship, such as a grant proposal, an article, chapter in a book and/or detailed proposal for a book.

In addition to pursuing their research programme, Fellows will be expected to contribute to the scoping of a programme of activities, hosted by the School of Advanced Study, to promote inclusion, participation and engagement in research. This might include making recommendations for training the School should develop for postgraduate research students and early career researchers and other activities that will help advance, promote and support research in the humanities nationally. These recommendations will be presented in a showcase at the end of the fellowship period.

The Fellowships will last five months. Because of the nature of the funding, successful applicants must be available to take up the fellowship at the beginning of October 2024. Fellows will receive a stipend of £2,000 per month; this may be used as a contribution towards travel and/or accommodation costs during the Fellowship, though residence in London is not a requirement of these posts. Payment will be made in two instalments during the course of the Fellowship, at commencement and in month 3. The overall payment is £10,000 or pro rata if the fellowship is terminated early. Some additional funding will be available to support events and activities.

The Fellowships are intended to support early career researchers without a permanent academic post. In order to be eligible for the scheme, early career scholars (i.e. scholars within eight years of PhD award, not including any period of career break) must have been awarded their PhD by the start of the fellowship. Independent researchers without a PhD would not normally be eligible.

2 About the School of Advanced Study

[The School of Advanced Study](#) (SAS), University of London, is a unique institution in UK higher education, being the only institution that is nationally funded to promote and facilitate research in the humanities. It performs a vital role as a driving force for knowledge sharing across the humanities in the UK and beyond, and receives special funding for this purpose from Research England.

The eight institutes of the School are dedicated to serving the research communities of their disciplines, both nationally and internationally. Together they complement the work of others by offering a broad research base and providing a range of services that far exceed the capacity of any one individual university to support, inspire and advance research activity. The School also enhances the dissemination of that research beyond what an individual or their institution could achieve alone.

Underpinning the School's national role is the research and scholarship undertaken by its academic staff. The process of undertaking challenging research in order to extend the boundaries of knowledge across disciplines and in collaboration with researchers from around the world is critical to the School's function as an innovative space for advanced study and its commitment to the highest standards of scholarship.

3 The Institute of Classical Studies

Since 1953 [the Institute of Classical Studies](#) (ICS) has promoted research into the cultures of the ancient Mediterranean and neighbouring lands, ranging from prehistory to Late Antiquity, and encompassing languages and literature, art and archaeology, history and philosophy. The ICS is home to one of the world's leading classical research libraries, developed in close collaboration with the Societies for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies and Roman Studies. It runs an extensive academic programme of seminars, lectures and conferences throughout the year, hosts visiting scholars and fellows from around the world. It is committed to providing research training for postgraduate students and ECRs and collaborates with partner associations such as the Council of University Classical Departments, the Classical Association and the Women's Classical Committee UK on initiatives to support Classics and classical researchers locally, nationally and internationally.

4 The Institute of English Studies

[The Institute of English Studies](#) (IES) is an internationally renowned research centre specialising in the history of the book, manuscript and print studies, textual scholarship, digital editing and new critical approaches to literary studies. The IES's three core areas of research are: texts and technologies; archives, authors, collections; and reading and interpretation. As well as offering postgraduate programmes, summer schools, and short courses, the IES hosts major collaborative research projects, provides research training in book history, manuscript studies and palaeography; and facilitates new and emerging research in all areas of English Studies. In addition, the Institute runs major externally funded [research programmes](#) and [postgraduate degrees](#). The Institute works closely with its major national partners, the English Association and University English; it also contributes to the [Decolonising the Discipline](#) network.

5 The Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies

[The Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies](#) (ILCS) supports research in the integrated study of languages, cultures, and societies. Though its strengths reside primarily within the fields of French and Francophone, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin American/Caribbean studies, it supports the transnational study of languages and cultures while seeking to advance connections with organisations that focus on cultural and linguistic experience in other global contexts. Its staff's expertise bridges literary,

historical, ethnographic, and digital research, with a particular emphasis on postcolonial and migration studies, and the environmental humanities.

6 The Institute of Commonwealth Studies

Part of the [School of Advanced Study](#) at the University of London, the [Institute of Commonwealth Studies](#) sits at the crossroads of research, policy, human rights practice and international relations. Its vision is that people around the world, including throughout the modern Commonwealth, live in societies grounded in democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The Institute contributes towards this vision by bringing people together to develop effective, evidence-based policy solutions to the challenges facing the modern Commonwealth; supporting the Commonwealth's global network of civil society; engaging with Commonwealth stakeholders, including its member countries; and offering a ground-breaking MA course in understanding and securing human rights. The key focus areas of the Institute are strengthening the rule of law, combatting climate change and promoting freedom of expression and digital rights. The Institute strives to achieve its mission through a culture of integrity, professionalism, inclusion, diversity, innovation and collaboration.

7 Facilities available to the Fellows

The Fellows will have access to shared office/research space within Senate House in the Bloomsbury area of central London, located adjacent to the British Museum and within walking distance of the British Library. Fellows will receive a SAS email account and a library card giving borrowing rights in Senate House Library and SAS institute libraries.

8 Financial arrangements

Fellows will receive a stipend of £2000 per month; this may be used as a contribution towards travel and/or accommodation costs during the Fellowship, though residence in London is not a requirement of these posts. Payment will be made in two instalments during the course of the Fellowship, at commencement and in month 3. The overall payment is £10,000 or pro rata if the fellowship is terminated early. Payments will be made direct to the Fellow.

The Fellowship agreement does not constitute a contract of employment and accordingly the Fellow shall be fully responsible for and shall indemnify the University of London for and in respect of any and all taxes including income tax, national insurance, social security contributions, corporation tax, value added tax and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made in connection with any payment or benefit received by the Fellow in respect of the Award, where such recovery is not prohibited by law. The Fellow may wish to take independent personal tax advice on how to treat this income in their own tax returns. The University of London is unable to provide personal advice but payment gross should not be taken to indicate that this income is not taxable in the Fellow's own tax return.

Living accommodation is not provided, and it is the responsibility of the Fellow to arrange it. The successful applicant will be able to take advantage, subject to availability, of accommodation reserved for visiting academics by the University of London Housing Services. Some additional accommodation suggestions can be found on the [ILCS](#) and [IES](#) websites.

9 The Research Excellence Framework

As the School of Advanced Study receives special funding from government, the School makes no submission to the Research Excellence Framework (REF). If a Fellow retains an affiliation elsewhere, their 'home' institution is therefore free to use the publications and other research outputs of the Funded Fellowship for reporting as part of the REF.

10 Entry to the UK

Selected Fellows who do not have the right to reside and/or work in the UK will require a visa and must ascertain which category of visa is most suitable. The successful applicant must already be in receipt of a visa permitting entry for research purposes for the period of the fellowship. The School of Advanced Study

is unable to assist applicants with visa sponsorship. Details of visa categories can be found on the UKVI website [here](#).

11 Method of application

Applicants must submit the [online application form](#) by the deadline of **Wednesday 19 June 2024** together with:

- a Research Proposal detailing the research project to be carried out during the Fellowship (maximum: 500 words);
- A statement outlining how the applicant would promote inclusion, participation and engagement within their research (maximum: 250 words);
- a short CV (not usually longer than four pages including Publications)

12 References

Applicants to the scheme are expected to provide two references from appropriate academic referees specific to the application. These references must be uploaded directly by the referee to the online application form and provided on headed paper, from an institutional, not personal, email address. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that referees have provided references by the deadline of **Wednesday 19 June 2024**. Please note that references cannot be given by members of the School (which includes Fellows from within the School).

Please note that your application will not be considered complete until both reference letters are received.

13 Selection Criteria

A SAS Selection Panel will assess the applications, which will be considered against each of the following criteria. Applicants are advised to make clear in their application:

- The quality and feasibility of their research proposal;
- How their proposal might support the School's aim of establishing a programme of activities to embed inclusion in research in the Humanities;
- If applying individually or as part of a group, how the Fellows will work together achieve these aims
- How their research can benefit from the resources and collaborations available in the Institutes and the School;

14 Closing Date

The deadline for applications is midnight (UK time) on **19 June 2024**. With regret, any application received after the deadline may not be considered. Applications should be submitted online at:

https://universityoflondon.smapply.io/prog/early_career_fellowships_inclusion_participation_and_engagement_2024-25

Informal queries regarding the scheme may be directed by email to the Academic Projects and Partnerships Officer: annie.sherratt@sas.ac.uk. Please ensure you have read the Call for Applications thoroughly before being in touch as many aspects of the scheme are outlined here.

We regret that it will not be possible to give feedback to unsuccessful applicants.