



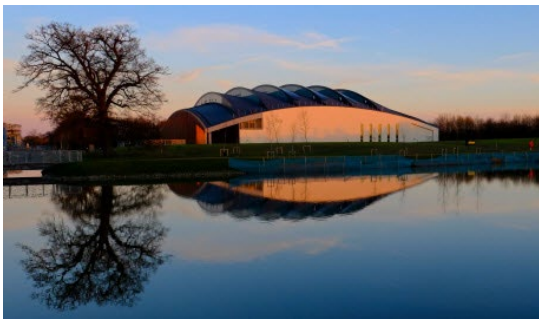
UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

## Assistant Professor in Twentieth-Century U.S. History (Temporary Cover)

Faculty of History

Closing date: 4 June 2025

Job Reference: JJ45995



## Assistant Professor – Twentieth-Century U.S. History (Temporary Cover)

**Salary:**

£46,735-£59,139

**Contract:**

Fixed Term

**Location:**

Cambridge

**Faculty / Department:**

History

**Responsible to:**

Chair of the Faculty

**Working Pattern:**

Full Time

The University of Cambridge has a Hybrid Working Policy that aims to enable as many staff as possible to work in a hybrid way if they so wish, whilst recognising that some roles will include tasks that can only be performed on University premises.

The Faculty of History wishes to recruit a Temporary Assistant Professor in Twentieth-Century U.S. History, specializing in Social or Cultural History. This is a fixed term 12 month Temporary Assistant Professorship to cover the academic leave of the postholder.

The successful candidate must normally hold, by the start of the appointment, a doctorate in a relevant field and outstanding abilities in teaching and research. They will have an exceptional record of research and publications for their career stage and demonstrate a firm commitment to teaching.

### Key responsibilities

#### Undergraduate Teaching

The appointee will make a significant contribution to our first-year IA Outline paper 9, 'North America, Central America, and the Caribbean, 1775-present,' by delivering lectures and undertaking small-group supervisions. They will also be encouraged to develop a IA Sources paper

Depending on their expertise, they may be expected to contribute to lecturing and supervision of one of the IB Topics papers or Research Projects.

The postholder may support the delivery of a more specialised Part II Advanced Topic paper in American History through the provision of supervisions, and undertake supervision of Part II dissertations.

The postholder will take on examining duties across a range of courses and assessments.

#### Postgraduate teaching

The postholder will be required to contribute to the MPhil in American History. They will be expected to supervise MPhil dissertations (1-3) and to examine at MPhil level.

The postholder will assess and register PhD students. They may also be called upon to serve as internal examiner of PhDs.

The appointee will be expected to participate in the Faculty's renowned American History Seminar.

#### Faculty Administration

The postholder will contribute to the administration of the undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

They may also be expected to take on one of the smaller administrative roles in the Faculty.

Prospective candidates should consult the Faculty's website, in particular exploring:

The [undergraduate history course](#) (the Tripos);

Our [postgraduate programmes](#).



# Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<b>Education</b>		
Educated to degree level, normally with a PhD in the relevant specialist subject area	✓	
<b>Academic</b>		
A developing bibliography of research publications relating to the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century U.S. History	✓	
Demonstrate a firm commitment to teaching at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels	✓	
A track record of securing research funding		✓
Willing to take a leading role in the supervision of Research Students	✓	
An interdisciplinary and collaborative research approach		✓
Provision of lectures and seminars for undergraduate and postgraduate students and development of teaching materials.	✓	
<b>Leadership experience and achievements</b>		
Willingness to undertake management and administrative duties	✓	
Proven ability to lead and inspire a team and work with vision and foresight		✓
Assessment and examination at postgraduate level	✓	
Experience of, and/or aptitude for organising and participating in collaborative teaching and research	✓	
Evidence of experience of administrative activity in an academic environment		✓





## The Faculty of History

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 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF) the faculty submitted the work of 135 historians. In terms of 'research power' (GPA x FTE), it ranked second in the sector. 46% of the faculty's research was judged 4\* ('world leading') and 34% as 3\* ('internationally excellent'). Some 600 undergraduates study a single Honours degree in History or joint Honours degrees in either History & Politics or History & Modern Languages.

In October 2022, the Faculty launched a new first and second year undergraduate The Faculty of History programme (Parts Ia and Ib of the History Tripos), which represents a significant modernisation of our curriculum and an opportunity to innovate and diversify in terms of content.

Over 100 MPhil students each year take one of the Faculty's eight MPhil programmes, and there are around 300 PhD students.

James Stirling's History Faculty Building (1968) is 'listed' as architecturally significant. The Stirling building will soon be vacated to allow for a full refurbishment. The Seeley Library (which houses 100,000 volumes) has temporarily moved into a dedicated and newly designed space in the West Room within the University Library until building work is completed.

The Faculty has more than thirty specialist research seminars and is divided into eight Subject Groups: American; Ancient and Medieval; Economic and Social; Early Modern; Modern British and Irish; Modern European; Political Thought and Intellectual History; and World. All staff members belong to one or more Subject Groups.

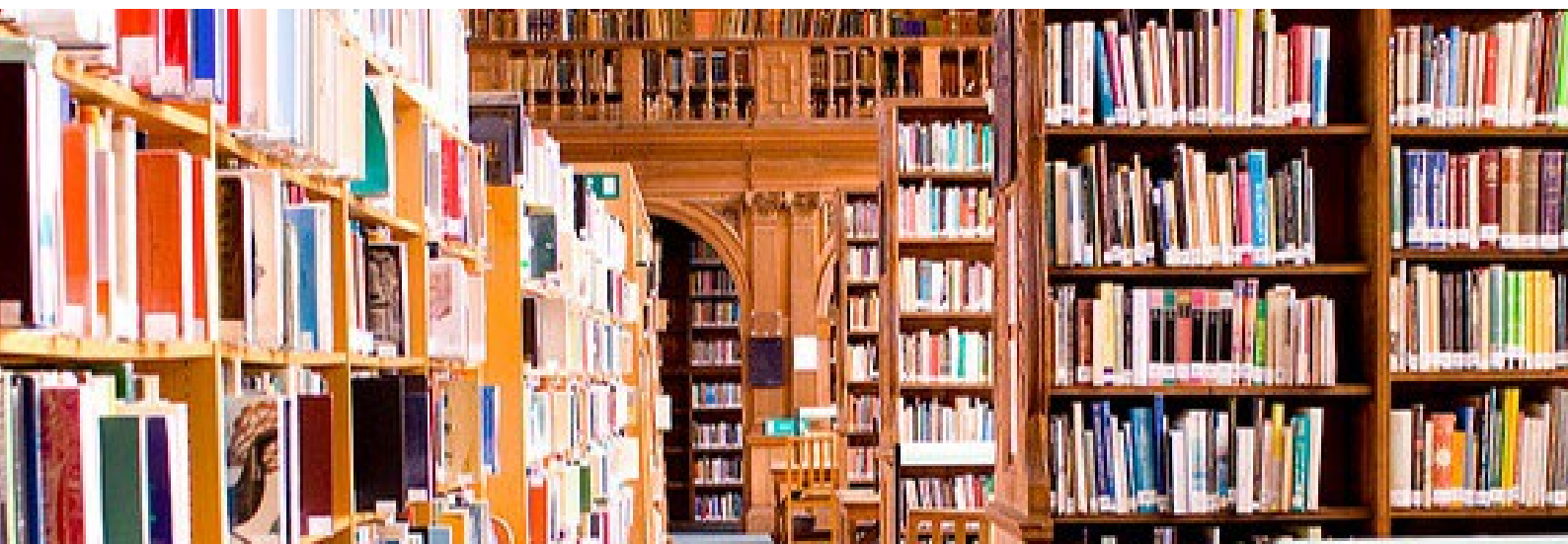
## The School of Humanities and Social Sciences

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences is, in terms of student numbers, the largest of the six Schools in the University and is currently comprised of:

- ✚ Faculty of History
- ✚ Faculty of Economics
- ✚ Faculty of Education
- ✚ Faculty of Law
- ✚ Faculty of Human, Social and Political Science, which is made up of:
  - Department of Archaeology including the McDonald Institute or Archaeological Research
  - Department of Social Anthropology including the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and the Mongolian and Inner Asia Studies Unit –
  - Department of Sociology
  - Department of Politics and International Studies, incorporating:
    - Centre of African Studies
    - Centre of Development Studies
    - Centre of Latin American Studies
    - Centre of South Asian Studies
    - Centre for Gender Studies
- ✚ Faculty of Law, including the Institute of Criminology and the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

- ✚ Department of History and Philosophy of Science, including the Whipple Museum of the History of Science
- ✚ Department of Land Economy

The School covers a wide range of disciplines with differing methodologies, from highly quantitative analysis of 'big data' to ethnography and the analysis of the material culture and thought of past societies. The geographical range is equally broad, with Centres of African, Latin American and South Asian Studies, and specialists within each Department or Faculty. Each institution has its own well developed research profile. The School is participating in university-wide Strategic Research Initiatives such as public health, global food security, energy and conservation which bring the insights of social sciences to bear on some of the major issues facing the world today; Cambridge is one of the world's leading centres for science, technology and medicine, and the social sciences are now playing an increasingly important role in understanding the social, political and economic contexts.



# Terms of Appointment

## Tenure and probation

Appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 12 months (temporary cover).

Appointments will be subject to satisfactory completion of a probationary period which will be set dependent on the length of tenure.

## Hours of Work and Working Pattern

The appointment is full-time working Monday—Friday.

## Pension

You will automatically be enrolled to become a member of USS (Universities Superannuation Scheme) – a hybrid pension scheme. If you are already a member of the NHS Pension scheme, you may be eligible to continue in the scheme and should contact the Pensions section of the University. For further information please visit: [www.pensions.admin.cam.ac.uk/](http://www.pensions.admin.cam.ac.uk/).

## Annual leave

Full time employees are entitled to annual paid leave of 41 days inclusive of public holidays. For new part-time employees, annual leave will be pro rata'd based on days worked.

## General information

### Pre-employment checks

#### Right to work in the UK

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it.

**Health declaration** Once an offer of employment has been made the successful candidate will be required to complete a work health declaration form.

#### Qualifications

The person specification for this position lists qualifications that are essential and/or desirable. Please note that if you are offered the post you will be asked to provide your relevant original certificates of these qualifications.

**References** - offers of appointment will be subject to the receipt of satisfactory references.

#### Information if you have a disability

The University welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring fair treatment throughout the recruitment process. We will

make adjustments to enable applicants to compete to the best of their ability wherever it is reasonable to do so and, if successful, to assist them during their employment.

Information for disabled applicants is available at <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/staff/disabled/>

We encourage you to declare any disability that you may have, and any reasonable adjustments that you may require, in the section provided for this purpose in the application form. This will enable us to accommodate your needs throughout the process as required. However, applicants and employees may declare a disability at any time.

If you prefer to discuss any special arrangements connected with a disability, please contact, the Department Administrator, who is responsible for recruitment to this position [hr@hist.cam.ac.uk](mailto:hr@hist.cam.ac.uk)



# The University

The University of Cambridge is consistently ranked one of the best universities in the world, achieving academic excellence through its Faculties, Departments and other Institutions, together with the 31 Colleges.

The University is renowned for its record of discovery and innovation. It is one of the great institutions, with a regional, national and global reach, attracting the very best and brightest minds. Our staff and students shape the world around us for the better: we attract and partner with like-minded people.

Whether contributing to the development of new anti-cancer drugs, adding to the understanding of how black holes are formed, revolutionising the study of ancient settlements, convening academic expertise to offer solutions to the climate crisis, or analysing public attitudes towards democracy around the world, the University's research is remarkable in its breadth, quality and impact. The University also sits at the heart of Europe's largest technology cluster and has catalysed more than 1,500 high-tech companies. And yet what inspires our 24,000 students and 13,000 staff is not what has already been achieved, but what is possible in the future.

The education and experience of our students, based on a partnership between the University's academic Departments and Faculties and the 31 Colleges, is second to none. Every student is a member of one of the Colleges, each a community of students, academics and staff drawn from across the University's comprehensive range of subject areas.



The University is a self-governing community, with a system for decision-making that provides a high degree of accountability and transparency to its members. Each Department and Faculty is part of one of six academic Schools, but each of them, and each individual academic, has a great deal of autonomy. The Colleges are independent and self-governing, working in a symbiotic relationship with the University.

The University has a number of Institutions that are independent of any Faculty or Department and are not part of the academic Schools. These include the Institute of Continuing Education (which provides high-quality education to adults throughout their lives), the Fitzwilliam Museum, Kettle's Yard (an historic house and gallery that holds important collections of modern art) and the University Library. In addition to their diverse contributions to University and public life, these non-School Institutions are also important centres of teaching and research.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment provides academic publishing, examinations and learning materials worldwide, supporting the dissemination of research, academic development at school and in higher education, and international student mobility. Legally, the Press & Assessment is a department of the University. It provides very important funds to invest in the academic purposes of the University.

The University has made truly remarkable contributions to the sum of human understanding, with breakthrough ideas and discoveries that have changed the way we understand ourselves, our planet, and the universe around us. Yet the global and national contexts in which it operates are fast-changing and increasingly filled with uncertainty. In a world that is becoming - politically, economically, socially, and technologically – ever more interconnected but even less equal, the University's mission – “to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence” – has never been more relevant.





# About Us

**The University is one of the world's leading academic centres. It comprises 150 faculties and departments, together with a central administration and other institutions. Our institutions, museums and collections are a world-class resource for researchers, students and members of the public representing one of the country's highest concentrations of internationally important collections.**

The University has an annual income of £2 billion. Research income, won competitively from the UK Research Councils, the European Union (EU), major charities and industry, exceeds £500 million per annum and continues to grow.

The Colleges and the University remain committed to admitting the best students regardless of their background and to investing considerable resources both in widening access and financial support. The 31 Colleges are self-governing, separate legal entities which appoint their own staff. Many academic staff are invited to join a College as a Teaching Fellow, which provides a further social and intellectual dimension. The Colleges admit undergraduate students, provide student accommodation and pastoral support and deliver small group teaching for undergraduates.

The University awards degrees and its faculties and departments provide lectures and seminars for students and determine the syllabi for teaching.

Our instinct for seeking out excellence and setting up enduring and mutually beneficial collaborations has led us to establish strategic partnerships across the globe. Whether it is the successful Cambridge-Africa Programme involving universities in Ghana, Uganda and elsewhere on the African continent; or the close association with the government of India to pursue new research in crop science; or the creation, with Germany's Max Planck Institutes, of a Cambridge-based centre for the study of ethics, human economy and social change – international partnerships are now an inextricable part of the University's make-up.

“Through its outstanding education, research and innovation, the University of Cambridge has made – and continues to make – a lasting contribution to human knowledge and is flourishing. By working at the University of Cambridge, you will be joining a vibrant community of students, scholars and professional services staff committed to supporting and enhancing the University's mission to contribute to society.”

*Professor Deborah Prentice,  
Vice Chancellor 2023*



# Working at the University

**Working at Cambridge you will join a diverse, talented and innovative community, with more than 24,000 students and over 13,000 staff from all walks of life and corners of the world.**

The University continually explores strategies to attract and retain the best people. It is committed to supporting its staff to achieve their best. We are a fair, diverse and inclusive society and we believe our staff are our greatest asset. There is strong commitment to developing institutional leadership and supporting and encouraging staff development at all levels.

The University offers a variety of roles including academic, research, professional, managerial and support roles. We also offer extensive benefits and excellent learning opportunities within a stimulating working environment.

The University's estate is undergoing the most significant transformation in its history. Cambridge has been able to create a science and technology campus to the west of the city centre, and is expanding further to the north west of Cambridge including investing in affordable homes for University key workers and community facilities. Even with their continued development, the University remains within walking or cycling distance across the campus. The University is a major partner on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and continues to redevelop its historic city centre sites demonstrating a clear determination to ensure that we can offer the best facilities and opportunities for our staff and students.



## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The University has built its excellence on the diversity of its staff and student community. We aim to be a leader in fostering equality and inclusion, and in promoting respect and a sense of belonging for all. We encourage applications from all sections of society. All appointments are made on the basis of merit. We have an Equal Opportunities Policy, along with a range of diversity groups, including the Women's Staff Network, Race Equality Network and LGBT+ Staff Network. More details are available here:

<http://www.equality.admin.cam.ac.uk/>

The University has a bronze Race Equality Charter award, with a framework for improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education. Furthermore, the University's silver Athena swan award recognises and celebrates good practice in recruiting, retaining and promoting gender equality.



# Living in Cambridge

Cambridge is rich in cultural diversity. From beautiful University and College buildings, museums and art galleries, quaint gardens and punts on the River Cam, to a vibrant restaurant and café scene, our employees are surrounded by the wonderful features of this unique city.

You can find a wide-range of high street shops and 3 shopping centres, with independent alternatives at the historic market and nestled within the passageways in the city centre. You will find a cinema, bowling alley, a nightclub and various live performances at the Cambridge Leisure Park, with further entertainment options at the Corn Exchange, Arts Theatre and the ADC Theatre. Further information can be found on the Visit Cambridge website.

If you prefer the faster pace of life, London is a 45-minute train journey away. For those travelling from overseas, Stansted Airport is just 45 minutes away and Heathrow Airport under 2 hours away. The University is a short distance from a host of other attractions such as Ely Cathedral, Newmarket Races and various wildlife parks and stately homes. Cambridge is also within easy reach of the beautiful Broads and coastlines of Norfolk and Suffolk.

## Relocation Support

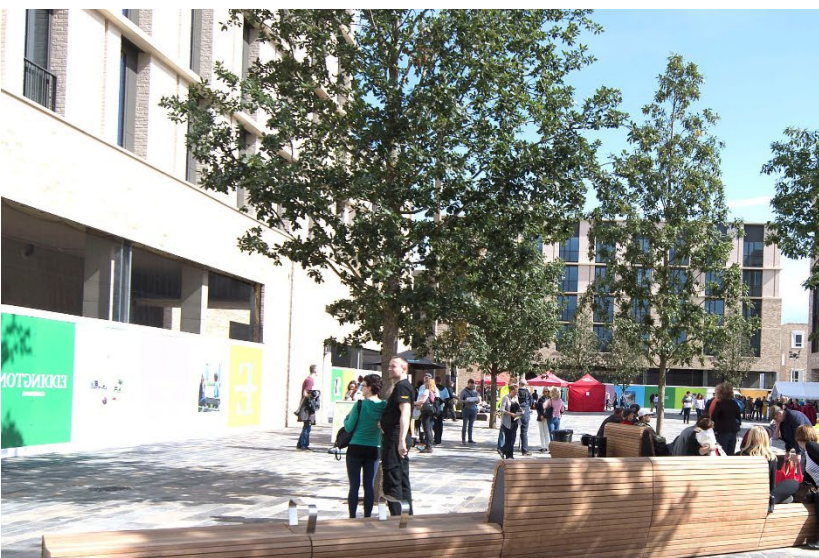
The University recognises the importance of helping individuals to move and settle into a new area. We provide support and guidance to those relocating internationally or domestically to take up a post at the University of Cambridge, liaising with other University offices and selected partners to ensure comprehensive relocation support is available. This includes: accommodation, childcare, schools, banking, immigration and transport. If you would like further information, please visit

<https://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/RelocationService/>. The Shared Equity Scheme and the Reimbursement of Relocation Expenses Scheme provide financial assistance to qualifying new members of

## Accommodation Service

The University Accommodation Service helps staff, students and visiting scholars who are affiliated to the University in their search for suitable accommodation in Cambridge. The dedicated accommodation team can provide access to a wide range of University-owned furnished and unfurnished properties, and has a database of private sector accommodation available for short and long-term lets. For further information and to register with this free service please visit:

<https://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/>





# What Cambridge can offer

**We offer a comprehensive reward package to attract, motivate and retain high performing staff at all levels and in all areas of work.**

The University offers a wide range of competitive benefits, from family leave entitlement, to shopping and travel discount schemes. Our generous annual leave package contributes to the positive wellbeing of our University employees. Sabbatical leave enables academics to focus on research and scholarship, whilst still maintaining their full salary. The University also has a [career break scheme](#) for academic and academic-related staff, with additional flexible working policies for all other staff.



## Pay and benefits

The University salary structure includes automatic service-related pay progression in many of its grades and an annual cost of living increase. In addition to this, employees are rewarded for outstanding contribution through a number of regular pay progression schemes. The University offers attractive pensions schemes for employees, with an additional benefit of a salary exchange arrangement providing tax and national insurance savings.

## CAMbens employee benefits

The University offers employees a wide range of competitive benefits, known as CAMbens. CAMbens offers something for everyone across a range of categories, including:

- Financial Benefits, including shopping discounts (both local and national) and a Payroll Giving scheme;
- Relocation and Accommodation Benefits, including relocation assistance and interest-free Rental Deposit Loans;
- Travel Benefits, including Cycle to Work, discounts on train season tickets and interest-free Travel to Work loans;
- Family Friendly and Lifestyle Benefits, including support with childcare and family friendly policies;
- Health and Wellbeing Benefits, including a University Staff Counselling Service, discounts at the University Sports Centre, and other local gyms, and healthcare schemes.



# What Cambridge can offer

## Family-friendly policies

The University recognises the importance of supporting its staff. We have a range of family-friendly policies to aid employees' work-life balance including a generous maternity, adoption and shared parental leave entitlement of 26 weeks' full pay, and paid emergency leave for parents and carers.

Other family-friendly support includes:

Our highly regarded workplace nurseries, a childcare salary exchange scheme and a high-quality holiday Playscheme are available to help support University employees with caring responsibilities (subject to demand and qualifying criteria). Further childcare information can be found here:

<https://www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk/>

The Newcomers and Visiting Scholars Group (<https://www.nvs.admin.cam.ac.uk/>) is an organisation within the University that welcomes the partners and families of visiting scholars and new members of the University. Run by volunteers, the group offers opportunities to visit interesting Cambridge venues, learn about the community, take part in social events and gain local knowledge while developing a strong support network of both residents and other newcomers.

## Your wellbeing

The University's Sport Centre, Counselling Services and Occupational Health are just some of the support services available to University employees to promote their physical and mental wellbeing. The University delivers The Festival of Wellbeing annually, which is a programme of stimulating talks and activities, which aim to promote wellbeing and good mental and physical health. The University also hosts the [Cambridge Festival](#), which is a great opportunity to get your first taste of public engagement, through volunteering, supporting hands-on activities or proposing a talk.

## Development opportunities

We support new employees to settle in through various activities as well as supporting their professional and career development on an ongoing basis. Our Personal and Professional Development (PPD) team provide development opportunities for all University employees, including face-to-face sessions, online learning modules and webinars. All employees also have unlimited access to LinkedIn Learning to support their development. Both new and existing employees can undertake funded Apprenticeships, which lead to a range of vocational and professional qualifications. We offer reduced staff fees for University of Cambridge graduate courses and the opportunity to attend lectures and seminars held by University departments and institutions. A range of University training providers also offer specialist learning and development in their own areas e.g. teaching and learning, digital literacy, finance, health and wellbeing, safety.





# How to apply

Applications should be submitted online via the University of Cambridge jobs page [www.jobs.cam.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.cam.ac.uk) by clicking “Apply online” in the job advert. You will need an email address to register for our online system.

Conversations about flexible working are encouraged at the University of Cambridge. Please feel free to discuss flexibility prior to applying (using the contact information below) or at interview if your application is successful.

Please ensure that you upload the following documents to your online application:

- a covering letter (maximum of one page);
- your Curriculum Vitae, including a full list of publications (maximum of four pages);
- a document describing your main teaching and research interests, and an indication of the teaching you would hope to offer if appointed to the post (maximum of two pages);
- a sample of your writing. Please supply max 8,000 words (or an extract from an longer piece with 8,000 word section clearly marked).

**Please note that anything over the word count will be discounted.**

Informal enquiries are welcomed and should be directed to:

Professor Mary Laven, Chair of the Faculty of History email: [chair@hist.cam.ac.uk](mailto:chair@hist.cam.ac.uk)

If you have any queries regarding the application process please contact

[hr@hist.cam.ac.uk](mailto:hr@hist.cam.ac.uk)

The closing date for applications is: Wednesday 4 June 2025

