



Magdalen College, Oxford

Stipendiary Lecturer in English Language and Literature (1760-present)

Applications are invited for a full-time fixed-term position as Stipendiary Lecturer in English Language and Literature (1760-present), tenable for one year from 1 October 2026 to cover a period of leave for Professor Robert Douglas-Fairhurst. Applicants should hold a doctorate or be close to completion. See section 3 below for details of the selection criteria for the post; details of the application procedure are given in section 6.

1. Magdalen College

Magdalen College was founded in 1458 by William Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor, on the site of the Hospital of St John, just outside Oxford's East Gate, near the centre of the modern city. Its top priorities are academic excellence and the fostering of a supportive and inclusive community, and it is committed to the tutorial system as a personalised and intellectually challenging method for undergraduate teaching. It also seeks to provide an outstanding environment in which graduate students may flourish. In any one year there are approximately 400 Magdalen undergraduates and 270 graduates. The College prides itself on the welfare provision it offers its students, Magdalen's staff now including a Dean for Welfare, a College Counsellor, and a College Mentor for Students, among many others with welfare responsibilities. The Governing Body of Magdalen consists of the President and 72 Fellows, including Professorial Fellows, Tutorial Fellows, and Fellows by Examination (Junior Research Fellows). The President of the College is Dinah Rose, KC. Further information is available on the College website at: <https://www.magd.ox.ac.uk>.

Magdalen has a strong tradition in the Humanities, with sixteen Tutorial Fellows across the fields of Classics & Ancient History, English, History, Modern Languages, Music, and Philosophy, including three in English (Professor Robert Douglas-Fairhurst, whose teaching covers the period from 1760 to the present day, Professor Gillian Woods, covering the period from 1550 to 1760, and Professor Simon Horobin, who teaches the papers in Medieval English and the English Language).

The College currently admits about 10 undergraduates each year to read for degrees in English, either as a single Honours subject or in conjunction with a related subject (Classics or Modern Languages).

For more information, please visit: www.magd.ox.ac.uk.

2. Duties of the Post

During Full Term (each of Oxford's three Full Terms of the year is eight weeks long) the Lecturer will be required to provide an average of six weighted hours of tutorial and class teaching per week for undergraduates reading the above Honour Schools, within the following range (for details, see the course handbooks available at: <https://oess.web.ox.ac.uk/>):

For the Preliminary Examination in English Language and Literature (taught in the first year of the course):

Paper 1B: Introduction to English Literature; Paper 3: Literature in English 1830-1910 ('Victorian'); and Paper 4: Literature in English 1910-present day ('Modern').

For the Final Honour School (FHS) in English Language and Literature, Course I: Paper 5 (1760-1830).

The Lecturer will also be responsible for supervising undergraduate dissertations on topics appropriate to their specialism.

The successful candidate will be expected to play a part in the normal pastoral and administrative duties associated with English in the College, including the annual undergraduate admissions process and internal College examinations.

3. Selection Criteria

The selection criteria for this post are:

- i. Education at postgraduate level in the appropriate areas of English: applicants should hold a doctorate or be close to completion.
- ii. Relevant teaching experience at undergraduate level.
- iii. Evidence of an ability to provide a high standard of tutorial teaching in the appropriate areas of English, and of an ability to share effectively in the supervision of the undergraduates' academic studies.
- iv. Evidence that the candidate would be able to contribute well to the administrative work associated with the subject in the College.
- v. A willingness to participate in outreach and access initiatives.

Candidates should address these criteria in their applications, and ask their referees to do so in their references. Candidates should list in their application which options on the undergraduate syllabus they consider themselves qualified to teach.

4. Terms of Employment

The Lecturer will be employed from 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027, and will receive a salary on the scale £33,810 – £37,338 p.a.

The Lecturer will have the use of a teaching room in College between 1 October 2026 and 30 June 2027, will be a member of the Senior Common Room, and will be entitled to the Common College dinner and luncheon free of cost throughout the period of appointment, and to a small entertainment allowance.

The post carries an entitlement to join, or to remain a member of, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

The College provides for maternity leave on a basis that exceeds the statutory provisions. Employees are eligible for 26 weeks' maternity leave on full pay, followed by 13 weeks of leave on Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP) and 13 weeks of unpaid maternity leave: this is a day one entitlement. Magdalen has a priority claim on a number of places in the University nurseries. Arrangements are available for paternity leave, shared parental leave, and adoption leave.

All reasonable interview expenses will be reimbursed. Following the offer of the position, appointment will be subject to provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

If the chosen candidate requires any workplace adjustments, this would be brought to the attention of Human Resources through completion of a new starter Occupational Health Services Declaration.

5. Equal Opportunities

The College is committed to equal opportunity and to fostering an inclusive academic community. We welcome applications from individuals from all backgrounds. Appointment will be made on merit, with the ability to perform the duties of the post as the primary consideration. Further information can be obtained from the College website, at www.magd.ox.ac.uk/equality/.

6. Applications

Applicants are asked to email a completed application, containing the cover sheet (including the names and addresses of two referees), a detailed letter, which sets out the papers the candidate could offer to teach for the College, and a full *curriculum vitae* to Miss Liz Howdill, Academic Administrator (liz.howdill@magd.ox.ac.uk), **by noon on Monday 22 June 2026**. **Applicants should ask referees to email their references directly to the Academic Administrator by the same deadline without further prompting.** Candidates who wish to approach a referee or referees only if they are being called for interview or are in receipt of a conditional offer are asked to state that explicitly alongside the details of the relevant referee(s) on the application cover sheet. Interviews are scheduled to be held in person in the afternoon of Monday 29 June 2026.

The first part of the interview is designed to test skills at teaching undergraduates. Short-listed candidates will be required to give a presentation for a **maximum** of 10 minutes as if to an audience of first- or second-year undergraduates on a topic from an outline paper within their teaching range. No visual aids, such as PowerPoint slides, will be permitted in the presentation, which will be followed by questions from the panel. The remainder of the interview will include questions about teaching and other aspects of the position.

7. Recruitment Monitoring

A Magdalen College Recruitment Monitoring Form will be found alongside a Word version of the application cover sheet for this post on the following page of the Magdalen College website:

www.magd.ox.ac.uk/job-vacancies/.

Please note that the form is anonymous and is used only to monitor and ensure equality of

opportunity for all candidates: it is not part of the selection process and will not be seen by any member of the selection committee.

8. Data Protection

All data supplied by applicants will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post, and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the College's Data Protection Policy, which can be found at www.magd.ox.ac.uk/other-policies/data-protection/.

