



## **Fixed term Fellowship in Economics Further Particulars**

Somerville College and the Department of Economics at the University of Oxford invite applications for a Fellowship in Economics. This, full-time post is tenable for a fixed-term of five years

### **I. GENERAL**

As part of our goal to develop and strengthen both the teaching and research capabilities of Somerville College and the Department of Economics at the University of Oxford, and contributing to maintaining Oxford as a leading centre for teaching and research in the subject, we are inviting applications for a Fellowship in Economics.

The successful candidate must be willing and able to teach one, and preferably two, of the following subjects:

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics
- Quantitative Economics
- Development of the World Economy since 1800

In return, we are offering the opportunity for continuing research to an outstanding academic, at an early stage of their career. The successful candidate will be elected to a Fellowship from 1 September 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter, with the appointment held on a probationary basis in the first year.

### **The Course**

Somerville has a strong tradition in Economics.

We offer two undergraduate degrees with Economics as part of those courses: Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), and History and Economics. We currently accept 10 students a year to read for the undergraduate BA in PPE and one or two students per year to read for the undergraduate BA in History and Economics. In addition, there are 10-15 students reading for taught and postgraduate degrees in Economics.

More details can be found at:

<https://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/b-a-hons-in-philosophy-politics-economics>

<https://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/b-a-hons-in-history-economics>

## **Somerville College**

There are 38 self-governing and independent colleges at Oxford, giving both academic staff and students the benefits of belonging to a small, interdisciplinary community as well as to a large, internationally-renowned institution. The collegiate system fosters a strong sense of community, bringing together leading academics and students across subjects, and from different cultures and countries.

Somerville takes great pride in its pioneering history, its academic excellence, and its intellectual and social openness. It was founded in 1879 as a non-sectarian College, and one of the first Oxford Colleges to admit women tutors and students. It has been a mixed College since 1994. There are approximately 200 graduate students currently reading for masters and doctoral degrees and approximately 400 undergraduates following three and four-year courses across a wide variety of disciplines.

The College is governed by its Principal and a Governing Body consisting of professorial, tutorial and administrative fellows. Tutors are assisted by College lecturers, and the research community includes a number of postdoctoral research fellows. There are approximately 100 members involved in the College's academic community. We employ approximately 125 support staff whose role is to work together to support the provision of an inclusive, stimulating and safe environment in which the academic and research activities of the academic members and students may thrive.

More information about the College may be found at [www.some.ox.ac.uk](http://www.some.ox.ac.uk).

## **II COLLEGE DUTIES**

The successful candidate will work closely with Fellows in linked disciplines to share responsibility for teaching, pastoral care and administration for the two degrees which include Economics components.

### **Academic**

#### **i) Teaching and associated duties**

You'll be expected to organise teaching, teach undergraduates in tutorials and small classes in the papers for which they are responsible, and share responsibility for the academic welfare of undergraduates in the subject.

Your College teaching stint will be 12 'weighted' hours per week, averaged over three eight-week terms. You should be able to teach the full range of first year courses in Economics (currently Introductory Economics, covering introductory microeconomics and macroeconomics), and at least one of the compulsory finals papers in Economics. You'll arrange teaching with tutors in other colleges to ensure that all the students on a course receive tuition in all the necessary subjects and specialisms. The Department of Economics provides a centralized system to facilitate such arrangements.

In addition to these teaching responsibilities, you will take part in the administration of the undergraduate Economics courses, carrying out the normal duties of a College Tutor. These include organising tuition and the teaching of papers by external specialist tutors, setting and marking Collections (internal termly examinations), attending tutorial board meetings, monitoring progress and writing termly reports on students. You will also take part in the annual admissions procedures for the selection of new undergraduates to read PPE and History and Economics.

### **Pastoral**

The successful candidate will share responsibility for the care and welfare of the College's Economics undergraduates. In addition, you may act as College Adviser to graduate students of the College reading for higher degrees in Economics (this is in addition to the graduate student's supervisor, appointed by the University, who is responsible for directing the academic work of the student). The College Adviser is available as a source of help and advice, which may concern academic matters in a broad sense, but may also be required in connection with pastoral issues, usually by signposting to appropriate dedicated support, such as the College Welfare Officer.

### **Administrative**

All Fellows are members of Governing Body and thereby trustees of the College as an educational charity. The successful candidate will be required to take part in the governance of the College through regular attendance at Governing Body meetings; you may also be asked to participate in academic and other committees supporting the Governing Body. You'll be expected to support the College's access and schools' liaison strategy, and play a part in the College's Open Days. As part of your role, you'll be a member of the Senior Common Room (SCR).

### **ii) Research and Department involvement**

You'll need to demonstrate a strong academic record have research expertise as demonstrated by publications or other written work, and have a coherent plan of research for the duration of this Fellowship. The successful candidate must then engage in advanced study and research in Economics for the period of the post.

The University's Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) supports all those who teach at the University of Oxford, and promote a range of teaching practices that are relevant to Oxford's unique learning environment. As this is a career development post, the successful candidate will be supported to develop their skills by making use of these resources, and more information can be found at <https://wwwctl.ox.ac.uk/>.

Both a mentor and the Senior Tutor will also be available to discuss career development, to support the intention that this position will provide a springboard for career progression.

## The Department of Economics

You will be a member of the Sub-Faculty of Economics, which oversees undergraduate teaching, and an Associate Member of the Department of Economics. The Department is one of the largest and most diverse groups of academic economists in Europe with a permanent faculty of nearly 50 including 11 statutory (established) professors, and around 25 early career researchers on fixed-term appointments of 3 or 4 years. Some of the world's most distinguished academic economists are members. It aims to produce first-class research across the range of the discipline, organised within nine Research Groups, covering all the major sub-fields as well as more specialist areas such as Economic History and Behavioural Economics. The Research Groups promote and support high-quality research and interaction, and provide an active and supportive research environment for faculty and research students in their field, including regular seminars/workshops. The Department is also home to several specialised economics research centres, including the world-renowned *Centre for the Study of African Economies*. In the most recent assessment of the research output of UK universities, REF 2014, Oxford had more research in economics and econometrics graded world-leading in terms of its originality, rigour and significance than any other UK institution.

Members of the Department provide economics teaching for three undergraduate programmes (including Oxford's flagship *Philosophy, Politics and Economics* degree) and five graduate programmes including the *MPhil* and *DPhil in Economics*, with a total of around 1000 undergraduate and 330 graduate students.

For more information please visit: [www.economics.ox.ac.uk](http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk).

### III. SELECTION CRITERIA

The formal selection criteria for the post are as follows:

- i. Ability to provide excellent tutorial and small group teaching for at least one, and preferably two, of the following subjects: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Quantitative Economics, Development of the World Economy since 1800
- ii. A research record of a standing appropriate to the stage of the candidate's career, with evidence of potential for producing distinguished research within the broad field of Economics, and the intention to continue researching and publishing
- iii. Ability and willingness to undertake College administration and to co-operate in College and Economics Sub-Faculty affairs
- iv. Ability and willingness to undertake pastoral responsibilities
- v. Hold, or be close to completion of, a PhD/DPhil in Economics

**The qualities that we are seeking include:**

- i. Scholarship of the highest quality with evidence as appropriate to the stage of the candidate's career; an ability to bring advanced research projects to fruition; excellent presentation skills; and the ability to contribute to a research community
- ii. A sound knowledge of Economics in the relevant subjects
- iii. An understanding of the learning needs of undergraduate students and how to address them
- iv. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- v. Excellent organisational skills, including personal initiative
- vi. A willingness to work in close cooperation with the other PPE and History Fellows in running joint degrees with Economics within the College
- vii. Sympathy for the nature and aims of the College and willingness to participate in and assist its collegiate life and government
- viii. We recognise that candidates can contribute to these goals in many different ways and we use our professional judgement, based on the evidence available, to decide how successfully candidates could make such contributions, bearing in mind the needs of the College. It's particularly important to us to consider the likelihood that candidates will produce research and teaching of a high standard

**IV. SALARY AND BENEFITS**

The salary is on the first point of the recommended scale for Fixed-Term fellowships in the Senior Tutors' Committee register of payments, at £39,096 per annum (which is inclusive of £9,050 housing). Salaries are taxable, and are reviewed annually for cost of living. The salary will be subject to annual increments up to the top of the scale, in addition to any cost of living increases. The position is superannuable under the University's Superannuation scheme (USS). In addition, the package also includes an entertainment allowance of £435 p.a. These sums are taxable and pensionable and paid with the salary.

The following benefits also apply:

- Full USS (pension) benefits
- Free lunches and dinners with the Senior Common Room throughout the year except during brief periods when the kitchens are closed.
- The ability to apply for reimbursement of up to £2,000 per year for research and teaching-related expenditure.
- An annual tax free book allowance (currently £381 p.a.)
- We will also look to provide you with a room in College, which is suitable for teaching and study; this may be shared with another member of our academic staff.

## V. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

**Informal contact.** If you would like to speak to someone informally about the post, please contact Dr Stephen Rayner directly, on [senior.tutor@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:senior.tutor@some.ox.ac.uk)

**Selection Committee.** Applications for this post will be considered by a selection committee made up from both Somerville College and the Department of Economics staff.

### **Applications.**

If you'd like to apply for the role, your application must comprise:

- an application cover sheet
- a covering letter setting out which subjects you could offer to teach for the College
- a brief description of teaching experience, at no more than one side of A4
- a statement of current and proposed research, including a list of publications and/or research projects, at no more than 4 sides of A4
- your CV, preferably at no more than 2 sides of A4
- the names of three referees, who should be asked to contact us directly.

The application materials should be e-mailed to [academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk) quoting vacancy reference number 900407. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that emails from references are received by the application submission deadline. Applicants should ask their referees to email the Academic Office directly. The Selection Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank referees for their help, and hopes that they will understand if no further acknowledgement of their communication is made.

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

The policy and practice of Somerville College and the University of Oxford requires that all staff are offered equal opportunities within employment. Entry into employment and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary criterion. Subject to statutory provisions, the aim of our policy is to ensure that no applicant, student, or member of staff will be discriminated against on the basis of any protected characteristic as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or be disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be permitted by Economics.

**The closing date for completed applications is noon on Monday, 23 March 2020**

**We expect to hold interviews, in Oxford, on Monday, 20 April 2020.**

If you are invited to interview, we will reimburse all reasonable expenses, provided these have been agreed with us in advance. You will be offered overnight accommodation during the interview period if this is needed.

### **Interview preparation for shortlisted candidates**

If you are shortlisted for interview, you will be contact by email with as much notice as possible.

Before the interview, you will be asked to email two pieces of research to date: for example, published or draft articles and/or chapters of a thesis. Please submit these to [academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.office@some.ox.ac.uk)

At interview, we will ask you to give a teaching presentation, at which College Fellows, senior department post-holders who are not involved in the selection panel and College Economics students may be present. After that you'll be interviewed by members of the Selection Committee, and this will cover both research and teaching.

The Selection Committee's recommendation will be subject to the approval of the Governing Body of Somerville College. The appointment is also subject to the satisfactory completion of a medical questionnaire, disclosure of any criminal convictions (and agreement following appropriate discussion of any such convictions), and proof of right to work in the UK.

Please bring original documentary evidence of your right to work in the UK with you to interview.

### **Special arrangements**

We welcome applications from candidates who have a disability. These documents will be made available in large print, audio or other formats on request. Applicants invited for interview will be asked whether they require any particular arrangements to make the interview more convenient and effective for them.

7 February 2020