

Stipendiary Lectureship in French at Somerville College

Somerville College proposes to appoint a 12-hour Stipendiary Lecturer in French for the 2026-27 academic year to support the College's needs whilst Simon Kemp, the College's Tutorial Fellow in French, is on leave. This is a full-time, fixed-term contract based at Somerville College. The lecturer will be required to give on average twelve (weighted) hours per week of tutorials for Somerville College during the eight-week term and be available during both term and for some periods of the students' vacations to offer organisational, pastoral and admissions support.

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. It was also one of the first to teach Modern Languages, long before the university introduced it as a subject in 1903. There are approximately 280 graduate students currently reading for masters and doctoral degrees and approximately 450 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.

Further information about the College is available at www.some.ox.ac.uk

Duties of the Post

- The post holder will be required to teach papers for the Preliminary (first year) course, Paper III 'Short Texts' and Paper IV 'French Narrative Fiction' and for the Final Honour School course, Paper VIII 'Modern Literature (1750 to the present)' and Paper XI 'Modern Prescribed Authors II'. The lecturer will also be required to provide language teaching to students at different stages in the degree programme, including translation into English. Current course descriptions available from the French Sub-Faculty's web site <https://www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/french>
- The post holder will be required to undertake 12 weighted hours* of teaching per week, in tutorials or small classes, averaged over three eight-week terms.
- The lecturer will be required to act as personal tutor and organising tutor for some undergraduate Language students, and may be asked to act as college adviser to some postgraduate French students.
- The Lecturer will be expected to arrange teaching and to set and mark collections (termly exams held in college).

- The lecturer, together with the ML fellows, will be required to play a significant role in the undergraduate admissions process, and will be required to participate in appropriate admissions training by the beginning of November 2026 if they have not already done so.
- The Lecturer will be a member of the Somerville College Education Committee and will be expected to attend its meetings.
- The lecturer will be expected to help with open days, and support access initiatives of the college.

**weighted hours reflect the group size being taught so that 1 hour of tuition time is equivalent to the following:*

1 student = 1 hour;

2 students = 1.25 hours;

3-4 students = 1.5 hours;

5 students = 1.75 hours;

6 or more students = 2

hours. E.g. A 1 hour tutorial with 8 students would contribute 2 teaching hours to the 12-hour stint.

Selection criteria

1. The ability to provide excellent tutorial and small group teaching in French language and literary studies. Applicant should demonstrate an understanding of the needs of high achieving undergraduates and a commitment to fostering high academic achievement.
2. The ability and willingness to undertake College administration and the willingness to participate in College business more generally. Applicants should demonstrate sympathy for the nature and aims of the College and willingness to engage in collegiate life, and in particular the College's access programme.
3. Very good communication skills and sensitivity to deal effectively with any pastoral matters that may arise.
4. Excellent organisational skills, including personal initiative.
5. A high level of academic achievement, commensurate with the candidate's career stage. The successful candidate should have Doctorate or will have submitted a doctoral thesis by 1st October 2026, and must have proven teaching experience in the subject range to be covered.
6. Enthusiasm for involvement with the wider life of the college and the potential to contribute to the intellectual communities.

Pay and benefits

- The salary will be £34,732 which is aligned to Point 2 of the pay scale for Stipendiary Lecturers, (currently ranging from £33,810 to £37,338), subject to revision in line with national adjustments to University teachers' salaries.
- Stipendiary Lecturers are eligible for membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) pension scheme and are eligible for a subsidised place in an on-site Nursery run by the College, subject to availability.
- The post holder will have use of a shared teaching room and full membership of the Senior Common Room

- As Personal Tutor the post holder will be entitled to take lunch in College free of charge on any weekday during term time and an additional two meals per week during term (i.e. breakfast or dinner). They can also claim an entertainment allowance of up to £75 per term (£225 per year when teaching across a full academic year).
- The post holder will be able to apply for research expenses up to £500 per annum.

Application Procedure

Informal enquiries about this post may be directed in the first instance to senior.tutor@some.ox.ac.uk.

Applications

1. Applications should be made via the online at www.some.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs
2. You must submit all elements of your application by **12:00 noon 19 January 2026**
3. Your application must include:
4. Your application must include:
 - a) A covering letter, highlighting your suitability and motivation for the post and stating clearly which subjects you propose to teach for the College.
 - b) A *curriculum vitae* with details of qualifications, experience, current research interests and publications
 - c) the names of two referees
4. You should ask your referees to write directly to tutorials@some.ox.ac.uk by **12:00 noon 19 January 2026** and you should supply each referee with a copy of these further particulars. Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that references are submitted promptly, as we will not approach your referees directly. References must be submitted by the application deadline.

You can find a copy of these further particulars at www.some.ox.ac.uk/jobs

Interview date: Interviews will be held on **10 February 2026**

Acknowledgement of applications

All applicants will be sent confirmation by email that their application has been received. This will be sent to the email address provided in the application unless specified otherwise by the applicant. We will communicate with applicants by email regarding the status and outcome of their application. Please state clearly in your application if email communication is not a convenient method of communicating with you.

Data Protection

All data supplied by candidates 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 1998 and the College's Data Protection Policy.

Equal Opportunities statement

The policy and practice of the University of Oxford and of Somerville College require that all staff are afforded 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 consideration. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. Where suitably qualified individuals are available, selection panels will contain at least one member of each sex.

Pre-employment screening

If you are selected for the post, employment with the College will be conditional upon satisfying the following requirements.

1. Eligibility to work in the UK

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 makes it a criminal offence for employers to employ someone who is not entitled to work in the UK. We therefore ask applicants to provide proof of their right to work in the UK before employment can commence.

Please note that you will need to provide original documents and where any documents are not in English a certified translation will be required. Do not include these documents with your application. You will be sent a request for the relevant information at the appropriate point in the selection process.

2. Medical fitness

Please note that any offer of employment will be conditional upon receipt of a completed pre-employment medical health assessment questionnaire and confirmation from the University of Oxford Occupational Health Service that the candidate is medically fit for the post (allowing for any reasonable adjustments that may be required, in line with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010).

The purpose of the pre-employment medical health questionnaire is to:

- (i) assess the candidate's medical capability to do the job for which they have applied:
- (ii) determine whether any reasonable adjustments or auxiliary aids may be required to accommodate any disability or impairment which they may have
- (iii) ensure that none of the requirements of the job for which they have applied would adversely affect any pre-existing health conditions the candidate may have.

The appointment will not commence until medical fitness for work, and any reasonable adjustments that may be required, is confirmed by the University Occupational Health Service.