STIPENDIARY LECTURERSHIP IN CLASSICS AT MERTON COLLEGE

FURTHER PARTICULARS

1. GENERAL

Merton College proposes to appoint a Stipendiary Lecturer in Classics to teach an average of eight hours per week in Full Term during the academic year 2020-21 (12 months from 1 October 2020) to undergraduates at the College or to those at other colleges on an exchange basis.

This strictly fixed-term appointment is designed to cover the College’s teaching-needs during Professor Rhiannon Ash’s sabbatical leave. It will not be renewed.

Merton College is an equal opportunities employer.

Criteria for appointment

To be successful, candidates will need show that they meet the following selection criteria:

1. To have completed or be about to complete a doctorate in Classical Languages and Literature in a topic relevant to the teaching range required of this postholder.

2. To have demonstrable linguistic competence in Latin.

3. To have teaching experience relevant to Latin Language and Literature options for Honour Moderations and Greats. Details of all courses can be found at www.classics.ox.ac.uk/classics

4. To demonstrate the ability to be an effective and inspiring teacher of Classics, particularly to undergraduates of high ability in a tutorial system.

5. To have the potential to discharge competently the full range of academic administrative duties, besides teaching, upon which the effective operation of Classics as a subject within the College depends.

6. To be able to contribute to the work of the team of academic staff in Classics and subjects taught with it at Merton.
Classics at Merton

The College normally admits four undergraduates each year to read for Literae Humaniores (a four-year degree which includes the study of Latin and/or Greek, Ancient History, and Philosophy). Undergraduate applicants need not have Latin and/or Greek before they apply.

Students are currently required to take Homer and/or Virgil in the first year, as well as the interdisciplinary paper in Greek and Latin Texts and Contexts. In addition, Classics students preparing for Honour Moderations in their 5th term currently take two special subjects, one in Philosophy and one in Ancient History, Comparative Philology or Classical Archaeology. There is a Faculty-based language team which prepares students for language papers in the relevant language to be taken in Honour Moderations. In addition to these centrally organised language classes, Merton offers its Classics undergraduates college-based language-teaching, as well as essay-based tutorials, to help them prepare for these exams.

After completing Honour Moderations, students can take a wide range of subjects for their eight papers in Finals (“Greats”), from various options in Greek and Latin Literature, Philosophy, Ancient History, Archaeology, and Comparative Philology. They may in addition offer an optional thesis in a subject of their choice.

Merton also considers applications for Classics and Modern Languages, Ancient and Modern History, and Classical Archaeology and Ancient History, and normally admits one or two students for these courses.

University and College information on the degree courses can be found at:

- www.classics.ox.ac.uk/courses
- www.merton.ox.ac.uk/course/classics

Merton has three Tutors involved in Classics: Professor Rhiannon Ash (Languages and Literature); Professor Jonathan Prag (Ancient History); and Professor Simon Saunders (Philosophy). The Classical Archaeologist Professor Irene Lemos is one of the College’s Professorial Fellows, without undergraduate teaching-responsibilities. The College is in the process of appointing a Career Development Fellow (Fitzjames Research Fellow) in Ancient Greek, who will undertake the teaching of Greek subjects. The College retains a Lecturer in Latin (who is also an Official Fellow of the College) who teaches prose composition, but the Stipendiary Lecturer will still need to engage in some
teaching of Latin prose composition to support individual students’ acquisition of language skills.

Merton is one of the oldest colleges in Oxford and has a strong commitment to excellence in research and teaching (see www.merton.ox.ac.uk). On average the College has around 20 research fellows at any one time. A number of Merton Fellows and graduates take part in the College’s interdisciplinary discussion groups, currently organised in three areas: the History of the Book, Global Directions, and Biomedical and Life Sciences. In addition the College convenes a number of research talks throughout the year and fosters international collaboration through an active scheme of visiting researchers, including provision of accommodation for scholars.

The College has a sizeable graduate community of circa 280 students which currently includes 14 graduates reading for higher degrees in Classics or related subjects. The College’s graduate accommodation is centred on Holywell Street and Manor Place.

2. TUTORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LECTURER

The main responsibilities of the Lecturer will be as follows:

1. To share in the organisational responsibility for the undergraduate schools involving Classics.

2. To provide tutorial teaching for up to an average of eight hours per week in each week of full term in Virgil’s Aeneid, Roman Texts and Contexts, and Latin language for Honour Moderations; Latin Core, Ovid, and other papers, depending on students’ choice of options and the successful candidate’s area of specialization, for Greats.

3. To ensure that tutorials are arranged with suitable tutors at other colleges, where possible on an exchange basis, in cases where the Lecturer is not able to provide tuition personally in a subject.

4. To ensure that the students taught receive timely feedback on their work during term, both week by week and in termly reports, and to be present to report on undergraduate performance to the Warden at special meetings (known as Warden’s Collections) which each undergraduate is obliged to attend once a year.
5. To set, invigilate, and mark internal examinations ('Collections'). Concerns regarding under-performance should be conveyed to the relevant Director of Studies and the Senior Tutor.

6. To participate fully in College Admissions procedures, including Open Days.

7. To undertake academic administration (e.g. the planning and organisation of students' subject options; the endorsement of applications made by students for travel grants and other College assistance; the writing of references; the selection of books for the College Library etc.).

8. To undertake pastoral responsibilities in liaison with the Director of Studies and the College Welfare Team. Attendance is strongly encouraged at College events to which Lecturers are invited.

A more detailed guide to tutorial responsibilities and other information, currently entitled *Handbook for Fellows and Lecturers*, will be communicated to the successful candidate by the Senior Tutor following appointment.

The Lecturer will be subject to the College’s Statutes and Bylaws in force from time to time.

### 3. REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF THE STIPENDIARY LECTURERSHIP

The stipend for the Lecturership will be £20,628 p.a. (current rate) and the Lecturer will be also be entitled during the appointment to:

- Enrolment in the Universities Superannuation Scheme.
- Free meals at the Common Table of the Warden and Fellows from 1 October 2020 until 30 September 2021 when the kitchen is open, with certain designated exceptions.
- Membership of the Senior Common Room.
- A research allowance of up to £500 per year.
- A teaching room, although not necessarily for the Lecturer’s exclusive use.
The appointment will be conditional on verification of the successful candidate's availability for employment in this country.

4. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND APPOINTMENT

Applications

Those wishing to apply for this post should complete the online application form at www.merton.ox.ac.uk/vacancies and send:

- a brief curriculum vitae;
- a statement of their teaching range and experience in relation to the needs of the College, specified above;
- a statement of current and proposed research, incorporating a publications list.

in electronic format to lesley.walsh@merton.ox.ac.uk, by 12:00 noon on the closing date of Monday 1 June 2020.

Applicants should arrange for two referees to write directly to the College by 12:00 noon on Monday 1 June 2020. References should be sent electronically to lesley.walsh@merton.ox.ac.uk. Hard-copy signed references will be required for the successful candidate.

Applicants are also requested to inform each referee that, under the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 and the Data Protection Act 2018, the reference provided may be regarded as disclosable to the subject of the reference unless it is clear that the reference has been given in confidence. The College asks that a reference given in confidence should be marked “strictly confidential” on the letter of reference itself and not just on the envelope in which the letter is contained.

Applicants are encouraged to return the Recruitment Monitoring form (available for download from the College website – www.merton.ox.ac.uk/vacancies).

Interviews will be held on Monday 15 June 2020. Candidates are advised to hold this date in their diaries. Arrangements for interviews will depend upon public health advice and regulations at the time. If it is decided that the interviews can be held at Merton, interview expenses will be reimbursed.
and overnight accommodation will be available for candidates who require it.

The interview will include a language-based exercise (details will be provided to short-listed candidates). Candidates will also be asked to explain the approach they would take to teaching Virgil’s *Aeneid* for Honour Moderations.

The policy and practice of Merton College require that all staff are afforded equal opportunities within employment. Entry into employment with the College 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.

Any enquiries related to these Further Particulars should be directed in the first instance to the Senior Tutor (Telephone: 01865 286505; email: senior.tutor@merton.ox.ac.uk).