

MERTON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
STIPENDIARY LECTURESHIP(S) IN LAW

1. OVERVIEW

Merton College proposes to appoint a Stipendiary Lecturer in Law to teach undergraduates for two, or ideally three, of the following papers: first-year Roman Law, first-year Criminal Law, Final Honour School Jurisprudence and Final Honour School Trusts. In addition, there is a requirement for a total of 6 hours of academic skills development for first-year students across the academic year. Candidates who are able to teach two of the papers listed above will be considered, but priority will be given to those able to teach three. Depending on the papers taught, and whether skills teaching is included, the Lectureship will be for an average of between 5 and 11 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term.

The appointment will be for the period 1 October 2025 until 30 September 2026. This is a fixed-term appointment to fulfil the College's temporary teaching and organisational needs in Law ahead of the arrival of a new permanent postholder.

Applicants should make clear in their applications which combination of papers they wish to be considered for.

2. MERTON COLLEGE

Merton College was founded in 1264 by Walter de Merton, and is one of the oldest colleges within the University of Oxford. It was the first fully self-governing college in the University and was originally founded for twenty fellows, with undergraduates being formally admitted in the early 1380s. Over the centuries, many eminent scholars and cultural leaders have called Merton home including four Nobel Prize winners and an Abel Prize winner. Merton College has a strong commitment to excellence in teaching and research across a range of subjects in the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Sciences. The College community currently comprises around 590 students (320 undergraduates and 270 postgraduates), some 70 Fellows, 50 other academic staff and over 100 members of support staff. The college strives to create a diverse, welcoming, inclusive and supportive community in which its students can thrive.

3. LAW AT MERTON COLLEGE

Merton College currently admits six undergraduate students each year to study the three-year degree in Law or the four-year Law with Law Studies in Europe degree. In addition, the College admits c. four student per year for the BCL/MJur as well as research postgraduates. Merton has a sizable and lively graduate community, which includes five graduates currently reading for higher degrees in Law. It has an active Law society, known as the Halsbury Society, which organises a number of events each term including lectures, dinners, and afternoon tea.

University and College information about the degree courses can be found at the following links:

<https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/content/study-landing-page/undergraduate-study>

<https://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/course/law>

Merton has one Law Tutor, Dr Rory Gregson.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LECTURER

Working with the College's Tutor in Law, the main responsibilities of the Lecturer will be as follows:

- (a) To share in the organisational responsibility for the undergraduate degrees of Law and Law with Law Studies in Europe. Where the postholder is not able to provide tuition personally in a subject, it will be their responsibility to ensure that tutorials are arranged with suitable tutors at other colleges, where possible on an exchange basis.
- (b) To plan and deliver an average of between 5 and 11 weighted hours¹ of teaching in each week of full term, depending on the papers taught. Candidates should be able to teach two, or preferably three of the following papers, ideally including Roman Law and Trusts:
 - First-year Roman Law
 - First-year Criminal Law
 - Final Honour School Jurisprudence
 - Final Honour School Trusts

Some of the teaching may be delivered for other colleges as part of swap arrangements. Teaching will involve a mix of classes and tutorials. A tutorial typically involves a pair of undergraduates who have been set an assignment to be completed within a week.

- (c) To ensure that the students taught receive timely feedback on their work during term, both week by week and in termly reports on the reporting database, and to attend Warden's progress meetings at the end of term for undergraduates studying Law. Concerns regarding under-performance should be conveyed to the relevant Director of Studies and the College's Senior Tutor.
- (d) To set internal examinations ('Collections'), mark responses and provide feedback to students.

¹ The weighting system means that hours spent teaching groups larger than one person count for more than one hour. For example, a paired tutorial = 1.25 hours and a tutorial of three = 1.5 hours

² Further information on tutorials can be found at:

<http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/why-oxford/studying-at-oxford/tutorials>

- (e) To provide induction, study skills and examination preparation support for students studying undergraduate Law in all years, as required.
- (f) To undertake academic administration (e.g. the planning and organisation of students' 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.).
- (g) To participate fully in College admissions procedures for undergraduates, including reading UCAS forms, marking Law National Admissions Test (LNAT) essays, interviewing, and recording evidence used to assess applications and inform selection decisions. The Lecturer will also be expected to contribute to outreach and access initiatives, including College Open Days.
- (h) To take on the role of Director of Studies for a number of undergraduates studying Law and to undertake pastoral responsibilities in liaison with other Directors of Studies and the College Welfare Team, as appropriate.
- (i) To act as College Advisor to a number of postgraduate students studying Law and related disciplines at the College, if requested.
- (j) To participate in wider subject activities and student events, including the Admissions Dinners (for all first-year undergraduates and graduates), the Shrove Tuesday Dinner (a dinner for undergraduate finalists), the Postmasters' Dinner (a dinner for undergraduate scholars and exhibitioners), the annual Halsbury Law Lecture (given by an external senior lawyer), annual mooted competitions for first and second year Law students, an annual Law alumni event in London, and the Law Schools dinner (for graduating undergraduate Law students).

A more detailed guide to tutorial responsibilities and other information, entitled a *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.

5. CRITERIA FOR THE APPOINTMENT

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

Essential

- (i) To have completed a relevant postgraduate qualification in Law, such as the BCL or an LLM, or to be engaged on a research degree in a topic relevant to the teaching range required of this postholder.

- (ii) Proven ability or potential to provide excellent small-group teaching for courses outlined in 4(b) above, particularly to undergraduates of high ability.
- (iii) Ability to be an effective and inspiring teacher of Law, including in understanding and responding to the learning needs of undergraduates, along with the personal qualities needed to foster a high level of achievement by students.
- (iv) Ability to carry out effectively the full range of academic administrative duties, besides teaching, upon which the effective operation of Law as a subject within the College depends.
- (v) Excellent communication skills and the ability to contribute to the work of the team of academic staff in Law at Merton College.
- (vi) Ability to take part effectively in the undergraduate admissions exercise and the College's outreach and access work, and to undertake appropriate training, including mandatory requirements for undergraduate admissions.

6. REMUNERATION AND CONDITIONS OF THE STIPENDIARY LECTURESHIP

The stipend for the lectureship will depend on the teaching undertaken, as follows:

- Trusts plus two of Roman Law, Criminal Law or Jurisprudence *and* skills development = an average of 11 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £33,565 p.a.
- Trusts plus two of Roman Law, Criminal Law or Jurisprudence = an average of 10 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £30,513 p.a.
- Trusts plus one of Roman Law, Criminal Law or Jurisprudence *and* skills development = an average of 8 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £24,411 p.a.
- Roman Law, Criminal Law *and* Jurisprudence *and* skills development = 8 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £24,411 p.a.
- Two of Roman Law, Criminal Law or Jurisprudence *and* skills development = an average of 6 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £18,308 p.a.
- Two of Roman Law, Criminal Law or Jurisprudence = an average of 5 weighted hours of teaching per week during full term: £15,257 p.a.

The Lecturer(s) will also be entitled during the appointment to:

- Enrolment in the Universities Superannuation Scheme.
- Membership of the Senior Common Room, for which a small monthly charge is payable.
- Access to a shared teaching room in College.
- For an appointment of 6 or more hours per week of teaching - free meals at the Common Table when the kitchens are open, with certain designated exceptions.
- For an appointment of less than 6 hours per week of teaching - 4 free meals per week at the Common Table when the kitchens are open, with certain designated exceptions.
- A research allowance of up to £500 per annum for qualifying expenses. To be eligible for this allowance, the lecturer must not have an additional substantive post or be a postgraduate student of Merton College.

7. RIGHT TO WORK IN THE UK

The appointment will be conditional on satisfactory provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

8. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND APPOINTMENT

Applications

Those wishing to apply for this post should complete the online application form at <http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/about-merton/vacancies> **AND** email the following as a single PDF document (in this order) to vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk **by the deadline of 9.00 am (UK time) on Monday 14 July 2025.**

- a curriculum vitae incorporating details of any publications;
- a statement of teaching range and experience, no longer than one side of A4, in relation to the selection criteria and needs of the College, as specified above. Applicants should make clear in their applications which combination of papers they wish to be considered for;
- details of two referees.

The PDF should be named in the format '**Last Name First Name Law Application**'. Please put your **last name and 'SL in Law'** in the subject of the email.

It is anticipated that interviews will be held on 30 or 31 July 2025.

Any enquiries related to these Further Particulars should be directed in the first instance to vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk.

Applicants are encouraged to complete an Equal Opportunities Recruitment Monitoring form at the end of the online application form. The information collected on the Equal

Opportunities Recruitment Monitoring form does not form part of the selection process and will not be circulated to the selection panel. It will be used solely to monitor the effectiveness of the College's equality policy which is published at <http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/college-policies>

References

When completing the application form, you will be asked to provide details of two referees. **Applicants are responsible for asking their referees to send references directly to the College by the deadline of 9.00 am (UK time) on Monday 14 July 2025.** References should be sent electronically to vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk. Hard copy signed references will be required for the successful candidate. The College will not request references directly from referees.

Applicants are also requested to inform their referees that, under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018, the references they provide will 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. Referees should also be asked to note that even where a reference is marked "strictly confidential" it could still be disclosed to the subject of the reference if that subject so requested and the College's Data Protection Officer deemed it appropriate.

9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Merton College is an equal opportunities employer.

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.

10. PRIVACY NOTICE

To view our Privacy notice please see here <https://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/privacy-notices-and-ropas>