

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/27

Merton is a vibrant and diverse intellectual community with a more than 750-year history of excellence in teaching and research. We span a range of subjects and disciplines. Merton college encourages interdisciplinary collaborations between the four major divisions of the University: Maths and Physical Sciences; Medical Sciences; Social Sciences; Humanities. Our academic strategy has two pillars: one is to attract, support, develop, and retain the very best academics in the world, through whom we can sustain and deliver world-class teaching and research. The other pillar is to attract the very best students to study here, irrespective of their background and previous opportunities, and to benefit from this world-class teaching and research. Our aim is to have an impact on the world that will benefit future generations. The [Visiting Research Fellowship](#) scheme is intended to attract eminent researchers to Oxford and Merton college. There is no restriction on the field of research for a Visiting Research Fellow. A member of the [Governing Body](#), however, must support and sponsor any application.

Visiting Research Fellows can be elected for one, two or three terms and are not eligible for re-election. No stipend is attached to these Fellowships, but accommodation and meals free of charge will be provided. The accommodation may be occupied two weeks before the start of term until two weeks after the end of term. *Please note if applicants wish to be accompanied by their family, this should be discussed in the first instance with the Governance Officer as VRF accommodation is limited to two properties and their capacities which means that family-friendly accommodation cannot be guaranteed.*

Visiting Research Fellows are expected to present their research to members of the College and the University. The sponsor will arrange a suitable forum and report to the Research Committee on any such activity at the end of the visit.

Fellows who have proposed a Visiting Research Fellow are expected to introduce the visitor to members of the College and join them in Formal Hall for a sufficient number of occasions to make the visitor feel at home.

To apply, please send a covering letter, a current CV and a research proposal to Ms Han Kimmett, Governance Officer, at vrfrecruitment@merton.ox.ac.uk by Friday 26 September 2025.

The Governing Body sponsor should send independently a letter of support to arrive by the deadline Friday 26 September 2025.

We strongly welcome applications from under-represented groups. Merton College is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Please be aware that the number of applications often exceeds the number of places available.

All applications will be reviewed by the Selection Panel for the Election of Ordinary Visiting Research Fellows and is Chaired by the Research Convenor.

The outcome is expected to be announced by the end of December 2025 with formal elections taking place in January 2026.