Job Description

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job title</th>
<th>Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Economics (4 positions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Economics in partnership with Nuffield College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Manor Road Building, Oxford and Nuffield College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade and salary</td>
<td>Grade 7: £32,236-£39,609 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Full time (37.5 hours/week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract type</td>
<td>Fixed-term for 3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reporting to</td>
<td>Head of Department and the Warden of Nuffield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacancy reference</td>
<td>136783</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional information</td>
<td>Please see the advert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The role

The Department of Economics, in partnership with Nuffield College, offers Postdoctoral Research Fellowship openings for candidates who hold a PhD in a relevant field or are close to completion. The Fellowships offer early career researchers the opportunity to develop their research portfolio within one of the world’s leading Economics departments and so strengthen their future position in the academic job market.

Oxford provides a vibrant environment for postdoctoral researchers: over twenty researchers currently hold postdoctoral positions within the Department. Many previous fellows have moved on to permanent faculty positions at leading universities in the US and Europe.

Fellowships are tenable for a fixed term of three years from **September 2019**; shorter appointments are considered only in exceptional circumstances. Fellows gain teaching experience via a minimal teaching load which will not exceed 30 hours annually. Consideration will be given to any field of specialization.
Responsibilities

For the Department of Economics

The postholder is required to perform the following duties to the satisfaction of the Head of Department:

- to engage in research of a quality commensurate with publication in leading international economics journals
- to develop and manage their own programme of independent research
- to present their research at international conferences and research workshops
- to play a full role in the intellectual life of the Department including working collaboratively with academic colleagues in areas of shared research interest, and taking part in Department seminars and workshops
- to provide up to 60 units of graduate or undergraduate teaching per annum (60 units is equivalent to 20 hours of lectures or 30 hours of TA-format class teaching) within the areas covered by the Department of Economics, as requested by the Head of Department
- to co-operate in the administration of teaching and research
- to examine as required by the appropriate committee for the nomination of examiners

For Nuffield College

The postholder is required to perform the following duties to the satisfaction of the Warden of Nuffield College:

- to participate in the intellectual life of the College by attending, and where possible by organising, seminars, workshops, conferences, and other academic events
- to act as mentors for graduate students, where appropriate
- to represent the College’s body of postdoctoral research fellows on one of the College’s committees and to take on College officerships, where appropriate.
Selection criteria

1. Hold a PhD in a relevant field or be close to completion

2. Ability to present research findings effectively to fellow professionals and other informed members of the public

3. Ability to play a major part in developing the department’s and the College’s research programme

4. Ability to innovate and work effectively with colleagues

5. Ability to teach high-achieving graduate students, including doctoral students, to carry out student assessments, and to contribute to the delivery of Economics degree programmes

6. Willingness to contribute more generally to the intellectual life of the Department and the College; and

7. Excellent oral and written communication skills.

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford’s researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual’s unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe’s most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Department of Economics

Oxford Economics 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 30 early career researchers on fixed-term appointments of 3 or 4 years. Economics at Oxford is broad-based aiming to produce first-class research across the range of the
discipline, rather than specialising in particular sub-fields. The research of the department covers all the major sub-fields with particular strengths in microeconomic theory, including behavioural economics; econometrics, both micro-econometrics and time series; economic history; development and international economics. Our members include some of the world’s most distinguished academic economists whose research has made major contributions to modern economic analysis. The current faculty includes 9 Fellows of the Econometric Society, 12 Fellows of the British Academy, 3 Foreign Honorary Members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and 5 Fellows of the European Economics Association. In the most recent assessment of the research output of UK universities, Oxford had more research in economics and econometrics graded as world-leading in terms of its originality, rigour and significance than any other institution in the United Kingdom.

In our large Department, research activity is focused within smaller, specialized, research groups. Research groups share the objectives of promoting and supporting high-quality research, and of providing an active and supportive research environment for faculty and research students in their field. Each group has one or more senior members of the Department as convenor with responsibility for coordinating activities, including regular seminars/workshops. Research groups share the objectives of promoting and supporting high-quality research, and of providing an active and supportive research environment for faculty and research students in their field. Emphasis is placed on providing a supportive environment in which less experienced researchers, research students and postdoctoral research fellows are able to present their research and obtain valuable feedback. Each group holds regular workshops where research by faculty and graduate students is presented and discussed; many distinguished researchers from outside Oxford also visit us to present their work at seminars.

Alongside the research groups, the Department is home to a number of specialized economics research centres, including the world’s leading research Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE), the Oxford Centre for the Analysis of Resource-Rich Economies (OxCarre) and the International Growth Centre (IGC). The Oxford-Man Institute and the Institute for New Economic Thinking at the Oxford Martin School are interdisciplinary initiatives across the University, and include researchers from the Departments of Economics.

Members of the Department are involved in teaching for the Economics graduate and undergraduate degree courses. There are about 329 graduates and 1000 undergraduates studying economics. There is no undergraduate degree in economics alone, but the joint honours programmes with economics are: Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE); History and Economics; and Economics and Management. The postgraduate degrees are the MPhil in Economics; the MSc degree in Financial Economics (joint with the Saïd Business School); the MSc in Economics for Development (joint with the Department of International Development); and, the DPhil which is a degree by dissertation.

For more information please visit: www.economics.ox.ac.uk.

Nuffield College

Nuffield College is a graduate college within the University of Oxford which was founded in 1937 and specialises in the Social Sciences, particularly Economics, Politics, and Sociology. It aims to be one of the world’s outstanding social science institutions, providing a stimulating research-orientated environment for postgraduate students, research fellows, and senior academics and promoting, according to its Charter, “the study by co-operation between academic and non-academic persons of social (including economic and political) problems”. About 30 students are admitted each year to undertake both taught masters courses and doctoral research for many of whom the College provides financial support in the form of studentships. In total there are about 100 students enrolled at any one time, many of whom either live in College or have offices in College.
Postdoctoral Fellows are an integral part of the College and its academic activity. In 2017-18 there are 44 Research Fellows in College of whom 10 are College-funded Prize Postdoctoral Fellows, 11 are funded jointly with the Economics Department, and the remainder are funded by external awards or by the Departments of Economics, Politics and International Relations; Sociology; and Social Policy and Intervention.

The College has in addition 34 permanent academic Fellows (of whom 6 are College-funded Official Fellows), 28 non-academic Visiting Fellows drawn from the world of business, industry, politics and administration; and a number of Research Officers working on research projects run by the College’s Fellows. The College enjoys strong links with the University’s social science departments and works closely with the Social Sciences Division.

Nuffield College has been – and continues to be – the source of some of the major research developments in social science. These include the British Election Studies and the major programme of research on Social Mobility in Britain. It was the birthplace of the “Oxford School” of Industrial Relations; it pioneered the development of cost benefit analysis for developing countries; and it has made a major contribution to the methodology of econometrics. At the moment the College hosts four research centres: the Centre for Experimental Social Sciences (CESS); the Centre for Social Investigation (CSI); the Gwilym Gibbon Unit for Public Policy Research; and the Nuffield Centre for Applied Macro Policy (NuCAMP) (see further information below).

The Economics Group within Nuffield

The College is organised around three broad disciplinary groupings (Economics, Politics, and Sociology). The permanent members of the Economics group at present include Professorial Fellows (PF) and Senior Research Fellows (SRF) as well as Official Fellows (OF). Further information about the work of the Economics Group at Nuffield can be found here: https://www.nuffield.ox.ac.uk/our-research/economics/

The current permanent members of the group, with their main areas of research, are as follows:

From 1 September 2018: Klaus Adam (PF) Monetary economics and dynamic macroeconomics; learning and expectations formation; and the economics of information and uncertainty.

Steve Bond (SRF) Applied microeconometrics, particularly the investment and financial behaviour of firms.

Stephen Broadberry (PF) Economic history, particularly the development of the world economy from 1000 AD to the present, sectoral aspects of comparative growth and productivity performance during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and wars and economic performance.

Ian Crawford (PF) Applied microeconomics; consumer theory; index numbers.

Martin Ellison (PF) Macroeconomics; monetary economics and macro-finance.

Ian Jewitt (OF) Microeconomic theory; incentives in organisations; information order; auction theory.

Paul Klemperer (PF) Industrial economics; auctions; economic policy.
From 1 October 2018: Hamish Low (PF) Life-cycle behaviour, including savings, consumption and working patterns of households

Margaret Meyer (OF) Microeconomic theory; theory of the firm; internal organization of firms and their behaviour in product and labour markets; theoretical industrial economics; the economics of information and incentives.

Bent Nielsen (PF) Econometric and statistical theory; model selection; cohort analysis; reserving in general insurance.

Kevin Roberts (PF) Microeconomic theory with an emphasis on welfare economics and on foundational issues connected with market economies.

There are a number of other Senior Research Fellows working in economics at Nuffield. David Hendry has research interests in econometrics; macroeconomics, particularly forecasting, econometric modelling, theory and methodology, and the modelling of economic time series. John Muellbauer works on macroeconomics; consumption; housing; and structural change. Peyton Young researches social norm and institutions; game theory; and learning in strategic environments.

College Research Facilities

The size and specialised nature of the College enable its members to work closely with one another in a stimulating and research-orientated environment. A ‘critical mass’ of students and Fellows working in the social sciences is helpful both in terms of facilities and of intellectual activity, such as the active seminar and conference programme.

The College Library is one of the finest in the social sciences and functions as a research library, reflecting the academic interests of the Fellows. The Library is open shelf and accessible 24 hours a day. Fellows also have access to all the facilities of the Bodleian Library, including full-text access to nearly all journals in the social sciences.

The College has an Information Systems Department to serve the computing needs of Fellows. The College provides facilities and grants for Fellows to invite academic visitors to the College to enable them to carry out collaborative work.

Research Centres in Nuffield College

The College currently hosts four research centres, focusing on different aspects of and approaches to the study of social sciences:

The Centre for Experimental Social Sciences (CESS) was established to promote and facilitate experimental research by social scientists in Oxford. The CESS offers an on-site laboratory with 25 computer stations, and maintains a large subject pool. The facilities are designed to support a wide range of experiments. The CESS also maintains an online panel of UK residents, and provides supports for fielding online survey experiments. Fellows are eligible to conduct lab and online experiments at a discounted rate subsidised by the College and the Social Science Division. The CESS has a regular seminar series that highlights the work of renowned scholars employing experimental methods. Periodic workshops held by the CESS provide training for researchers in experimental research design, experimental data analysis, and programming languages (including ztree and Qualtrics). More information on CESS is available at https://cess-web.nuff.ox.ac.uk/.

The Centre for Social Investigation (CSI) is an interdisciplinary research programme; in keeping with the College’s Charter which emphasizes “the study by co-operation between academic and non-academic persons of social (including economic and political) problems”, the
Centre aims to address contemporary social issues of public interest and to engage with policymakers and the public more generally, carrying out authoritative, non-partisan research on central social issues which draws upon expertise in economics, politics and sociology and related disciplines such as social policy. The Centre seeks to establish itself as an independent and rigorous source of information and analysis of contemporary social issues, communicated in an accessible way to nontechnical audiences, in addition to publishing technical work for academic audiences. Professor Anthony Heath serves as Director for the CSI, assisted by post-doctoral researchers. The Centre also hopes to attract a body of non-stipendiary associates to participate in its activities, and, once the Centre is fully established, to offer secondments from government or business. More information on CSI is available at http://csi.nuff.ox.ac.uk/.

The Gwilym Gibbon Centre for Public Policy Research has been established with the aim of bridging academia and public affairs through the provision of rigorous academic analysis of public policy issues (mainly in the UK). The Centre’s inaugural director has been Professor Iain McLean who undertakes research in response to calls for evidence from parliamentary bodies and government or as part of externally funded research projects. One of the Centre’s research projects focused on resource allocation in policing in Great Britain and was funded by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. From September 2018, Professor Jane Green will be joining the College and will take over the directorship of the Gwilym Gibbon Centre.

The Nuffield Centre for Applied Macro Policy (NuCAMP) was established in the Summer of 2017 to create a space in which academics and policymakers can freely and openly discuss current trends, insights and policies that influence how economies function. Through its convening power and activities focussed on holding conferences, workshops and visitor programmes, NuCamp fosters the development of fresh analytical and empirical approaches that promise to create better links and improved knowledge exchange between the academic and policy worlds of macroeconomic problems.

For further information about the College see: www.nuffield.ox.ac.uk.

Social Sciences Division

The University’s academic departments and faculties are organised into four large groups, known as Academic Divisions (Social Sciences, Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences (MPLS), Medical Sciences, and Humanities). The academic divisions are responsible for academic oversight of the teaching and research of their constituent departments and faculties, for strategic and operational planning, and for personnel and resource management. The Head of the Social Sciences Division is Professor Sarah Whatmore, who is a member of the University’s Council. The Social Sciences Division is a world-leading centre of research and education in the social sciences. The social sciences at Oxford are distinctive for both their depth and breadth, with activity spanning fourteen departments and faculties and one cross-divisional unit. (These are as follows: Law, the Saïd Business School, Economics, Politics and International Relations, the Blavatnik School of Government, the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, International Development, Sociology, Social Policy and Intervention, the Oxford Internet Institute, Archaeology, the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Education, the School of Geography and the Environment and the Oxford Martin School). Interdisciplinary links within and beyond the university are strong, extending to the humanities, natural sciences, and medical sciences.

Academic and research staff and research students are engaged in world-leading research that challenges current ideas and theories and is tackling some of the major challenges facing humanity, such as sustainable resource management, migration, governance, poverty and development, and justice. REF 2014 confirmed Oxford as the UK powerhouse for research in the social sciences, where Oxford accounted for more world-leading (4*) research than any
other institution, across the social sciences units of assessment to which it made submissions. The division has an extensive portfolio of external funders and collaborators, with competitively-awarded external research income exceeding £40million per year. Researchers in the division engage actively beyond academia and their research has influence in many spheres from innovation in public policymaking to practitioner communities such as law, business, education, social welfare and NGOs.

The division also delivers an exceptional range of high quality educational programmes (undergraduate, postgraduate taught and postgraduate research), all of which are underpinned by the innovative research being undertaken by our academics. Programmes range from those at the interface of the natural sciences, through to professionally-oriented provision in areas such as business, law and education. The division is home to several of Oxford’s most widely recognised teaching programmes, such as Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE); the BCL; the MPhils in International Relations, in Economics, and in Development Studies; the MBA and EMBA; and the nationally regarded PGCE.

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

**How to apply**

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the ‘Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford’ document, at [www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/).

If you would like to apply, click on the [Econjobmarket link](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/) button found on the advert page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. You will also be asked to upload a;

1. CV
2. A supporting statement
   Candidates are asked to describe their specific interest in postdoctoral positions at Oxford.
3. Job-market paper
4. Provide details of two referees who will be automatically sent requests by the application system to upload letters of recommendation, please alert your referees to prepare to submit their references before or as soon as possible after the closing date to avoid delaying the shortlisting process
5. Supplementary research papers

You may also upload a file of supplementary materials such as other available research papers if you wish.

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents as PDF files with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by midday on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Applications will be considered by a selection committee containing representatives from the Department of Economics and Nuffield College. The selection committee is responsible for conducting all aspects of the recruitment and selection process.
Interviews

Candidates called for interview will be required to deliver a research seminar for the selection committee. Additionally a programme of informal meetings with members of the department will be arranged.

First round offers will be made soon after the interview date, and acceptances will be required shortly thereafter.

A second round of applications may be considered in early 2019 if some posts remain unfilled.

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

All applications must be received by midnight on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. Please check your spam/junk mail regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

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<th>Information for priority candidates</th>
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<tr>
<td>A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.</td>
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If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments.

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. Please check your spam/junk mail regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University’s pre-employment screening procedures, found at: www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection
legislation. For further information, please see the University’s Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/. The University’s Policy on Data Protection is available at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/.

The University’s policy on retirement
The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69th birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at grade 8 and above. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+.

For existing employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+.

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at grades 1–7 have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

Equality of Opportunity
Entry into employment with the University 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. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.
Benefits of working at the University

University Club and sports facilities
Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See www.club.ox.ac.uk and www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Information for international staff
The University offers support and advice to international staff, including a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents. See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/.

Information for staff new to Oxford
If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation and local schools. See www.welcome.ox.ac.uk.

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club
The University of Oxford Newcomers’ Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk.

Childcare
The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries. For full details including how to apply and the costs, see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Family-friendly benefits
The University subscribes to My Family Care service through which staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a ‘speak to an expert’ advice service and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work+Family space. See: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/.

Disabled staff
We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor, see www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff.

Staff networks
The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/.

Additional benefits
Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits and discounts, including free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits.