

**WOLFSON COLLEGE, OXFORD**

**BERGGRUEN RESEARCH FELLOWS - TWO POSTS each for TWO years  
in approaches in Indian Philosophy  
to one of the socio-political themes listed below  
Salary: £33,000 per annum**

Wolfson College proposes to appoint two stipendiary Research Fellows in approaches in Indian Philosophy to one of the socio-political themes listed below. It is envisaged that the posts will each run for two years from October 2016 subject to funding being in place by the end of May 2017.

Wolfson College is a postgraduate college of the University of Oxford, with members from over 80 nationalities. The Berggruen Institute has created a Philosophy and Culture Centre involving comparative and interdisciplinary study of philosophy and culture with a particular focus on Eastern and Western traditions. It provides Fellowships, two of them in Wolfson, intended to facilitate insights to inform and influence dialogue on matters of contemporary importance by drawing on Eastern and Western philosophical traditions. It has provided for two Research Fellows and will also provide an annual workshop in Wolfson.

The Berggruen Research Fellows at Wolfson must be innovative thinkers engaged in work in Wolfson across cultures and disciplines. They must have the languages needed for their subject. They can select any one of the themes mentioned below to study through the lens of a particular Indian philosophical tradition, e.g. Hinduism, Buddhism, their interactions with each other, or the interactions of Hinduism with Islam. They can study the influence that traditional Indian philosophies have had on modern transformers of society, or should have on contemporary society and politics. Although substantial publication on one of these themes, through a perspective including Indian Philosophy, is an outcome required of fellows, this commitment will not exclude the development and publication of other interests of their own.

Main tasks of the post:

- To publish substantially on one of these themes.
- To select any one of the themes mentioned below to study through the lens of a particular Indian philosophical tradition, e.g. Hinduism, Buddhism, their interactions with each other, or the interactions of Hinduism with Islam.
- To study the influence that traditional Indian philosophies have had on modern transformers of society, or should have on contemporary society and politics.

Qualifications and experience required:

- Must be innovative thinkers.
- To hold a doctorate in a relevant field and have sufficient postdoctoral experience for substantial research on the project.
- Be engaged in work across cultures and disciplines.
- Must have the languages and the philosophy needed for their subject.

Current Berggruen themes:

- *The Autonomous Self and the Relational Self.* To what extent are we constituted by our social relations, and how do different views of the self affect our conceptions of the good life?

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- *Harmony and Freedom.* What are the areas of overlap and difference between these two ideals?
- *Equality and Hierarchy.* Which forms of hierarchy are morally justified, and how can they be made compatible with egalitarian goals?
- *Democracy and Political Meritocracy.* To what extent can these political ideals be reconciled and help to meet the challenges of the modern world?
- *Humans and Non-Humans.* Do humans have an inherent right of dominion over all other systems and beings? If so, what about our human-ness gives us this privilege? Is such dominion important to being human and should we lose it, do we become something less than human. Do we have a responsibility to the non human world?
- *Humans and Technology.* Insights from Indian Philosophy on what it is to be human. Could new technology in principle replicate or alter something of human nature, and affect what it means to be a human being?
- *Sustainable Innovation.* Insights from Indian philosophy on how rapid innovations in technology should be harnessed for desirable purposes and prevented from harming human beings and the world we live in. ~~2~~ Should there be constraints on innovation? If so, what should be the standards in artificial intelligence and biotechnology for permissible innovation, at the national and global levels?

Berggruen Research Fellows at Wolfson are encouraged to meet other Wolfsonians at college meals, both Wolfsonians in their own field of Indian Studies and their social or political implications and in many other fields, and among the recreational, cultural and social activities to take advantage of the regular talks of the Wolfson clusters in Law, Justice and Society, in South Asia Research and in Tibetan and Himalayan Studies. Fellows will be informed of activities in their fields in other parts of the university, introduced to experts where possible, and an association will be requested for them with one of the relevant university faculties, such as Philosophy, Theology or Oriental Studies.

The annual stipend is £33,000 p.a. plus any general percentage increase in salaries, agreed by the remuneration committee that may come into effect. These Fellowships carry Common Table rights for own meals in Hall, currently equivalent to £2150 pa (£43 per week). Any additional costs will be charged to the Fellow, along with any guests' meals. Berggruen Fellows will be entitled to College accommodation for which they will be expected to pay the going rate. College accommodation is much in demand, so remains on offer only up to the time of accepting an award. Fellows must have sufficient postdoctoral experience for substantial research on the project, and will reside in College or in the vicinity in Oxford.

The appointment will be subject to the satisfactory completion of a medical questionnaire and the provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

Non-EU citizens will require a Tier 2 Visa in order to take up this fellowship, and should therefore be in a position to comply with the current Home Office regulations in force at the time of application. Applicants who would need a work permit if appointed to the post are asked to note that under the UK's points-based migration system they will need to demonstrate that they have sufficient points, and in particular that (i) they have sufficient English-language skills (evidenced by having passed a test in English, or coming from a majority English-speaking country, or having taken a degree taught in English), and (ii) they have sufficient funds to maintain themselves and any dependents until they receive their first salary payment. Please note it is not possible to hold a Research Fellowship with a student visa. For further information, please see <https://www.gov.uk/tier-2-general>

## References

Candidates should themselves write directly to three referees asking them **without further request from the college** to send a confidential reference to the President's PA by the closing date (**13 May 2016**). No more than 3 references will be accepted and should be in English. **References should be emailed to the President's PA.** For preference, references should be sent by email, but alternatively may be sent by post to the address below.

## Applications

- Applications should be typed or clearly printed and include:
- A completed application form
- A full curriculum vitae
- A full list of publications
- The names of three referees
- A two page description of how you would tackle the Berggruen theme you choose, explaining for general readers the Indian and philosophical terms and references.
- Details of current and proposed research (max 1,000 words)
- Any additional information relevant to the application should be included in the covering letter.

Applications should reach the President's PA by **4 pm Friday 13 May**.

- **Completed application should arrive by the closing date and be sent as ONE .pdf file, with the application form on top. (address below)**
- **ONE paper copy of your complete application (single-sided and unstapled) should also arrive by the closing date. (address below)**
- **Candidates are encouraged to submit their application well before the deadline.**

**Recruitment Monitoring Form – OPTIONAL** – if you wish to complete and return the optional Recruitment Monitoring Form, please send a separate pdf. It does not form part of the application.

Application forms are available on the College website  
<http://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk/fellowships/>

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 13 May 2016 – 4 p.m.**

Typed or clearly printed applications should reach the President's PA by the closing date. The College reserves the right not to accept applications received after the closing date.

**SHORTLISTING**

Candidates shortlisted for interview will be notified **about June 1<sup>st</sup>** normally by email.

**INTERVIEW DATE: TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2016**

No alternative interview date will be offered, but it may be possible to make alternative interview arrangements for overseas or long distance candidates. Candidates should check whether they will have reliable facilities for both video and telephone conference interview.

Please note that the College regrets it is unable to offer financial assistance towards travelling expenses, visa fees or the Immigration Health Surcharge.

Applications & enquiries: PRESIDENT'S PA, Wolfson College, Oxford OX2 6UD

Tel:(01865) 274102 email: [bergg-rf@wolfson.ox.ac.uk](mailto:bergg-rf@wolfson.ox.ac.uk) Website: [www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk](http://www.wolfson.ox.ac.uk)

**WOLFSON COLLEGE, OXFORD**  
**BERGGRUEN STIPENDIARY RESEARCH FELLOWS 2016**  
 Application form

<b>PLEASE COMPLETE <u>ALL</u> PARTS</b>		Please see further particulars for documents to include with application.				
<b>NAME IN FULL</b> (underline family name)				<b>TITLE:</b> (Dr, Mr, Ms, Mrs, etc)		
<b>ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE</b>  Please notify any changes						
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>DAY:</b>		<b>EVENING:</b>		<b>MOBILE:</b>	
<b>E-mail:</b>				<b>FAX No:</b>		
		Please provide details				
<b>RIGHT TO WORK IN THE UK</b>  Are there any restrictions on you taking up employment in the UK?  Do you hold a UK/EU passport or have you permanent right to remain in the UK?	<b>I hold a UK / EU passport</b>			<b>YES</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>NO *</b>
	<b>I have permanent right to remain in the UK</b>			<b>YES</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>NO *</b>
	<b>* Details of restrictions for taking up employment in UK. eg VISA required</b>					
<b>SUBJECT / AREA OF STUDY:</b>						
<b>TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT:</b>						
<b>REFEREES:</b> GIVE THE NAME, ADDRESS & OCCUPATION OF THE 3 PERSONS WHOM YOU HAVE ASKED TO SEND REFERENCES.  <b>N.B.</b> YOU MUST ASK YOUR REFEREES TO SEND THEIR REFERENCES TO THE PRESIDENT, BY THE CLOSING DATE WITHOUT FURTHER REQUEST		1:				rec'd
		2:				rec'd
		3:				rec'd
<b>LIST ANY FELLOWSHIPS OR POSTS FOR WHICH YOU ARE CURRENTLY APPLYING AT OTHER COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES</b>						
<b>DEGREES &amp; QUALIFICATIONS</b> INCLUDE INSTITUTION & DATES OBTAINED		<b>Degree/Qualification</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Date awarded</b>		
<b>EXPECTED DATE OF DOCTORATE IF NOT ALREADY AWARDED:</b>						
<b>OXFORD UNIVERSITY FACULTY</b>						
<b>CURRENT POST OR OCCUPATION &amp; DATES</b>						

Applications should be submitted to:  
 Enquiries to :

The President's PA, Wolfson College, Oxford OX2 6UD  
 e-mail: [bergg-rf@wolfson.ox.ac.uk](mailto:bergg-rf@wolfson.ox.ac.uk) Tel: (01865) 274102

**NB: ONE HARD COPY OF YOUR APPLICATION AND AN EMAILED VERSION (sent as ONE pdf file) MUST BOTH ARRIVE BY THE CLOSING DATE. REFERENCES (preferably e-mailed) SHOULD ALSO BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE.**