St Edmund's College
University of Cambridge

The Notre Dame – St Edmund's Junior Research Fellowship in Global Catholicism

Details of the Fellowship

The Notre Dame - St Edmund's Junior Research Fellowship in Global Catholicism is a three-year, stipendiary, post hosted by St Edmund's College, University of Cambridge.

The Fellowship was established through the partnership between St Edmund's College and the University of Notre Dame, to act as an intellectual bridge between the two institutions, while advancing the work of the Von Hügel Institute for Critical Catholic Inquiry at St Edmund's and Notre Dame's Global Catholic Research Initiative.

The Fellowship aims to:

- Support outstanding early-career researchers at a formative stage
- Enable sustained, independent research in Global Catholicism, broadly defined as the study of how Catholics, Catholic institutions, and the intellectual, social, artistic, and cultural expressions of Catholic life have circulated—and continue to circulate—across regions, nations, and cultures, shaping and being shaped by the local contexts in which they take root.
- Strengthen the College's interdisciplinary scholarly community
- Strengthen the partnership between the College and the University of Notre Dame
- Contribute to national and international scholarship connected to Catholic thought, history, culture, and influence

Applicants must propose a research project that engages substantially with the study of Global Catholicism through one of the following disciplines:

- English;
- History;
- History of Art;
- Modern Languages;
- Philosophy;
- Theology.

Interdisciplinary proposals are welcome, including proposals that, while retaining an overall humanistic perspective, bring the disciplines listed above into dialogue with the social sciences.

The Fellowship is intended for scholars at an early postdoctoral career stage. Applicants must normally have completed a PhD no earlier than 3 years before the application deadline or expect to hold a PhD by the commencement of the Fellowship. Periods of parental leave and extended sickness leave should not be included in the calculation of the 3-year period.

The Fellowship is designed as a residential post within the University of Cambridge, enabling the appointed Fellow to participate fully in the academic and intellectual life of both the College and the wider University.

The core expectation of the Fellowship is the pursuit of ambitious, independent, high-quality research. The appointed Fellow will be encouraged to:

- publish research outputs;
- participate in seminars, lectures, and academic events;
- contribute to the intellectual life of the College;
- undertake limited teaching or supervision.

Because the Fellowship is intended to foster scholarly exchange between the University of Notre Dame and St Edmund's College, the Fellow will also be encouraged – as relevant for their research and normally outside Cambridge's Full Term – to spend time at the University of Notre Dame's main campus in the USA and/or at other Notre Dame global locations (associated travel costs will be covered).

Subject to the College's formal approval procedures, the appointed candidate will normally be elected to a Title B Research Fellowship of St Edmund's College for the duration of their tenure and thereby become a member of the College's Governing Body.

The Fellowship carries an annual starting salary of £45,348 together with associated College dining rights.

The Fellowship is expected to commence on 1 October 2027.

Please note that the College is a licensed Skilled Worker sponsor. Visa sponsorship may be available where the role meets the relevant Home Office criteria, however, sponsorship cannot be guaranteed and is dependent on role eligibility, compliance obligations, and the candidate's individual immigration status. Where sponsorship is approved, the College can assign a Certificate of Sponsorship, but the individual is responsible for paying their own visa application fees, associated immigration and relocation costs.

Recruitment Process and Expectations

The Fellowship will be awarded following a two-stage process. Initial longlisting will be based on an applicant's CV, research proposal summary, personal statement and academic references. A full research proposal, project plan and writing sample will be evaluated during the second stage. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview with the Appointments Committee.

The interview is intended as an academic conversation exploring:

- the originality, significance, and feasibility of the proposed research project;
- the candidate's wider scholarly field and intellectual development;
- future research ambitions and academic trajectory;
- the candidate's potential contribution to the intellectual life of the College;
- the candidate's contribution to the partnership between the College and the University of Notre Dame.

Candidates should expect discussion of both their submitted proposal and broader questions arising from their disciplinary area and research interests.

The Committee is interested not only in the strength of the proposed project, but also in the candidate's capacity for independent thought, interdisciplinary engagement, and contribution to a collegial research environment.

St Edmund's College is committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive academic environment and welcomes applications from candidates of all backgrounds.

Candidates requiring adjustments as part of the application or interview process are encouraged to contact the College.

Enquiries

Informal enquiries regarding the Fellowship may be directed to:

The Master and Notre Dame – St Edmund's Junior Research Fellowship in Global Catholicism Appointments Committee
c/o the Competition Administrator
Programmes Manager
St Edmund's College

pas@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk