



Fully-funded PhD studentship as part of the CULTIVATE MSS project

Commencing January 2020

The Role of Clubs and Societies in the Formation of Medieval Manuscript Collections, c. 1900-1945

The Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London invites applications for a fully-funded doctoral studentship to begin in **January 2020**, supervised by Dr Laura Cleaver as part of the ERC-funded CULTIVATE MSS project.

The Studentship

The CULTIVATE MSS project (2019-24) analyses the significance of the trade in medieval manuscripts for the development of ideas about the nature and value of European culture between 1900 and 1945. It examines the roles of collectors, scholars and dealers in the formation of collections of medieval manuscripts, and the impact of these people on the development of scholarship. Within the framework of the overall project, this PhD researcher will study the impact of clubs and societies on the development of collections of medieval manuscripts and the transmission of knowledge about them. Through an analysis of published and unpublished sources the research will address the role of clubs and societies in creating and maintaining social networks, and the impact of these on the acquisition of manuscripts and the creation of scholarship about them. Subjects studied may include, but are not limited to: The Roxburghe Club, The Grolier Club, the Burlington Fine Arts Club, and the Red Cross.

Research questions may include:

- To what extent did clubs and societies shape a community of manuscript collectors?
- Did clubs and societies help codify values projected onto medieval manuscripts?
- How did the composition, aims and activities of groups of manuscript collectors change in the period c. 1900-1945?

The studentship will begin in January 2020 and will last for up to 48 months.

The studentship will cover full tuition fees for 36 months plus a writing-up fee for 12 months at the UK/EU rate. In addition the studentship will provide a living allowance. For the 19/20 academic year, the living allowance is **£17,009**. The student will also have access to additional funding for travel for research and conference participation.





Please note that candidates not eligible for UK/EU fees may apply, but will have to pay the difference between home and overseas fees.

Eligibility

Applicants should have a good Master's degree in a relevant field of study, such as twentieth-century history or literary studies, book history, or medieval studies. All applicants should also have at least an Upper Second-class undergraduate degree (or non-UK equivalent: for a guide see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/overseas-degree-equivalency-table-and-methodology>).

Applicants whose native language is not English must be able to satisfy the English language entry requirements of the University of London. For further guidance see <https://www.sas.ac.uk/graduate-study/entry-requirements/>.

How to apply

The deadline for applications is **Tuesday 22 October 2019**. Please submit to Helen Bhandari, Manager of the Institute of English Studies (Helen.Bhandari@sas.ac.uk):

- A covering letter (maximum two pages) outlining your suitability for the studentship
- A CV (maximum two pages)
- Two references sent by email directly from the referee's email account
- A sample of academic writing, around 2,000-3,000 words

Your application will be acknowledged upon receipt. If you would like to discuss the studentship informally, or have any questions about the application process, please contact Dr Laura Cleaver (lcleaver.erc@gmail.com).

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend an interview and give a short presentation at the Institute of English Studies. The date of interviews will be **Tuesday 29 October 2019**. The selected candidate will then need to complete a formal application to the School of Advanced Study, University of London; the application must be submitted by the School's application deadline of **31 October 2019**.

