



The Ruskin School of Art

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Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships 2022

Through the generous support of the John Fell OUP Research Fund, the Ruskin School of Art is able to support up to two applications to the Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships 2022 competition for a post-doctoral research project.

The School will hold an internal competition to decide which application(s) will be put forward under the scheme, so applicants should not approach the Leverhulme Trust directly until departmental support is confirmed in writing.

The Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship scheme is aimed at scholars who are at a relatively early stage of their academic careers and who have a proven record of research. Fellowships are tenable for 36 months. Candidates should have **submitted their doctoral thesis** for examination within four years of the scheme closing date – ie no earlier than 24 Feb 2018, unless they have had a career break; **or** no earlier than 24 Feb 2017, *“if their work has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic”*. They should explain their case in their application.

Applicants must **either** hold a degree from a UK higher education institution at the time of taking up the Fellowship **or** at the time of the application deadline must hold an academic position in the UK (e.g. fixed-term lectureship, fellowship) which commenced no less than 4 months prior to the closing date. Hence, **those who do not hold a UK degree and whose UK academic position commenced after October 2021 are not eligible**. The intention is to support the career development of those building an academic career within the UK. Candidates must check that they are eligible for the scheme before proceeding with the application process described below. Further details about the scheme, including the eligibility requirements, can be found on the Leverhulme Trust’s website at <https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/early-career-fellowships>.

The Trust believes that the development of an academic career is best served by **gaining experience at different institutions**. Applicants who have not already moved institutions in the course of their academic career (i.e. between their undergraduate university and proposed host institution) should nominate a new host institution, or otherwise demonstrate clear evidence of the academic and/or personal reasons for remaining at the same institution, such as access to highly specialist equipment or a highly specialised research team.”

In addition to the salary (which normally will be set at Grade 07S.01 of the University’s salary scale, £33,309 per annum as from August 2021), the Leverhulme Trust will provide up to £6,000 per annum to further the award-holder’s research activities.

The Leverhulme Trust’s notes of guidance state that the Fellowships are intended to assist those at a relatively early stage of their academic careers, and it is hoped that the appointment would provide a platform for subsequent career development within the university sector or other research-active arts organisations. The objective is for Fellows to undertake a significant piece of publishable research during the tenure of the award, and the project put forward should therefore not be a reworking or mere extension of the candidate’s doctoral research project.

The application process

If you are selected to work up a full application for submission to the Leverhulme Trust, you will be supported by an academic member of staff from within the School who will act as your mentor. Candidates are asked to indicate in their Expression of Interest their preferred mentor. Your preference will be taken into consideration, though the School may nominate a different mentor according to availability and expertise. Successful nominees will be put in contact with a mentor after the internal selection process has been completed. For further information please see <http://www.rsa.ox.ac.uk/people>

Candidates must submit by email (subject line: 'Leverhulme ECF 2022') the following application materials by email to administrator@rsa.ox.ac.uk no later than midday (12pm) on Friday 17th December 2021:

1. A two-page draft statement of research (which may use similar headings to that in the Leverhulme Trust's Application Guidance Notes);
2. A one-page CV including education, publications, any awards, thesis title and examiners;
3. A 100-word abstract summarising the research for a general audience;
4. One academic reference (ideally from the thesis supervisor). This can be sent either with your submission or directly by the referee to the email address provided above, but must be submitted to the same deadline;
5. Practising artists should provide online access to up to 12 images, or a short excerpt of their film or music, as appropriate. Please include the link to your work in your draft statement of research.

All applications will be considered by a sub-committee of the Ruskin School of Art's Research Committee.

For any queries about about the application procedure or about the Ruskin School of Art, please contact Dr Richard Sykes (Head of Administration, Ruskin School of Art) (richard.sykes@rsa.ox.ac.uk); and for preliminary enquiries about your proposed programme of research, or about the role of mentors Professor Samson Kambalu (samson.kambalu@rsa.ox.ac.uk).

Candidates nominated by the School will be required to submit the final version of the application to the University's Humanities Division. The Humanities Division will notify nominated candidates of the deadline, and will provide assistance and advice during the preparation and submission of the application to the Leverhulme Trust.