



Arts and  
Humanities  
Research Council

# International Fellowships for PhD and Early Career Researchers

Webinar 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 2pm GMT

# Agenda

Time	Activity
2:00 PM	Welcome, introduce guest speakers and the International Fellowships Scheme (Aims, benefits, hosts and their collections)
2:10 PM	How to apply and assessment criteria (Eligibility, timelines, application process, application tips)
2:20 PM	Travis Hensley, Programme Specialist at the Library of Congress
2:30 PM	Kirsty Stage, University of Cambridge – Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution
2:35 PM	Mark Waller, Kingston University – Fellow at NIHU
2:40 PM	Q&A
3:00 PM	Close

# Aims

1. Provide early career researchers, doctoral level research assistants and AHRC\* - funded doctoral students, with dedicated access to internationally renowned:
  - Collections
  - Programmes
  - Expertise
2. Enhance the depth, range and quality of research activities conducted by scholars
3. Create opportunities for networking with other international scholars at those institutions

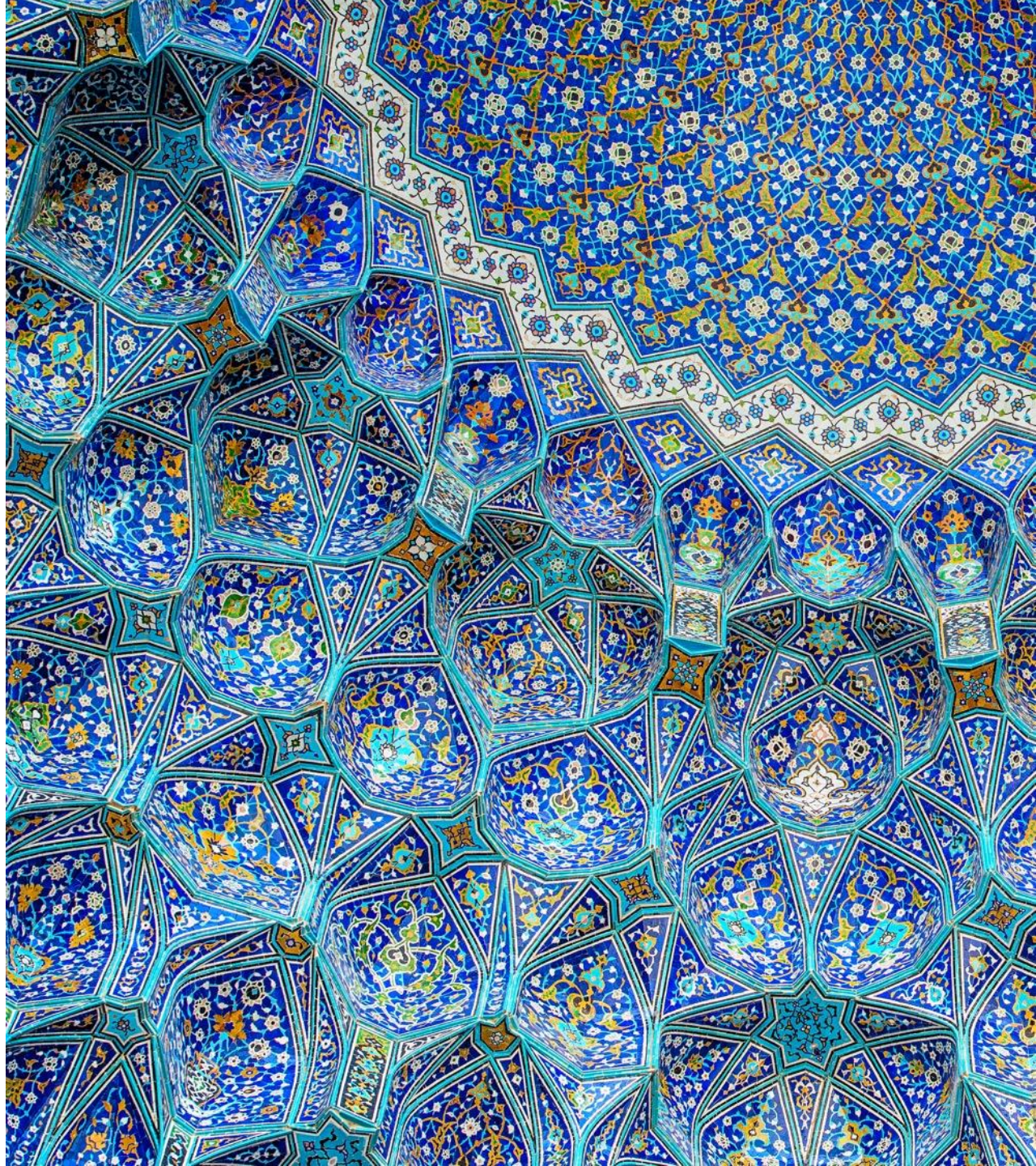


\*ESRC funded if applying to Library of Congress



# Benefits

- Access to host institute's collections, resources, facilities and scholars/curators
- Networking & collaboration
- Opportunities for participation in conferences, seminars, classes
- Introduction to non-UK research environment
- Membership of a cohort of international scholars, IPS friendships and networks, collaborations, invites to events etc.
- Enhances skills - project management, presentation, comms and influencing



# Host partners

The Huntington Library, California

Harry Ransom Center,  
The University of Texas

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C

Smithsonian Institution, Washington  
D.C

The Yale Center for British Art

Shanghai Theatre Academy  
Shanghai

National Institutes  
for the Humanities



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# The Huntington Library, California



8m manuscripts



1.8m books and prints



300,000 digital files



700,000 photographs



**11 million items spanning 11<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries**

# Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas



5m photographs



100,000 art + design works



42m manuscripts



1m books and print



# The Library of Congress



13.7m photographs



3.5m recordings



6.7m sheet music pieces



5.5m maps



36+m books and print



75+m manuscripts



**158 million+ items on 838 miles of bookshelves**



# Smithsonian Institution



155.5m artefacts, works of art, 2m library volumes specimens



14.9m digital records



156,830 cubic feet of archival material



**Worlds largest research and museum complex**

# The Yale Center for British Art



Reference Library and  
Archive 40,000 volumes



35,000 rare books  
and Manuscripts



2,000 Paintings and  
250 sculptures



20,000 Prints  
and Drawings



**Home to the largest collection of British Art  
outside the UK**

# Shanghai Theatre Academy, Shanghai



Practice-led rather than  
collections-based



Performing arts, fine arts and  
visual culture



# National Institutes for the Humanities, Japan



- Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
- International Research Centre for Japanese Studies
- National Museum of Ethnology
- National Museum of Japanese History
- National Institute of Japanese Literature
- National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics



# Previous Fellows

## Smithsonian

Contemporary History of Northern Virginia Data Centres—Security, Memory, Conflict

Exploring the material culture of the Soviet and Russian space programmes

## Huntington

The impact of early colonialism on perceptions of body size and beauty

Personification drama from manuscript to print, 1538-1607

## Library of Congress

Investigating the economic and educational reconstruction of Yugoslavia, 1945-1948

Hip-Hop Museology at LOC

## NIHU

Investigating images of strange phenomena and Yōkai depicted in paintings.

# Previous Fellows

## Harry Ransom Centre

Investigating James Hanley's later novels and radio drama

Queer Community in the Works and Correspondence of George Cecil Ives and the British Sexological Society

## Yale Centre for British Art

This Is Not a Novel: The 1960s Experimental British Novel and the Visual Arts

Queering Space and Place: The Collaborations of Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant

## Shanghai Theatre Academy

Investigating Historically-Responsive Theatre Practice in Shanghai: Tradition, Innovation, and Intercultural Exchange

# Who can apply

- a. You must be a current ECR, RA or PhD student (in funded period)
- b. Any arts and humanities discipline
- c. PhD students must be AHRC-funded (or ESRC-funded for LoC)

# Stipend

One off payment for  
visas and flights

**£1,000**

\* £1,200 for applicants  
to NIHU and STA

Monthly stipend

**£1,925**

# Host specific eligibility requirements

Host Institutions	Eligibility Requirements
Harry Ransom Center	Standard
Huntington Library	Standard
Library of Congress	Standard
Smithsonian Institute	Applicants must contact SI before applying to identify an advisor
Yale Center for British Art	Standard
Shanghai Theatre Academy	Knowledge of basic Mandarin is highly recommended
National Institutes for the Humanities	Applicants to NIJL + NMJH must understand Japanese to an advanced level



# How to apply

## Preparing your application

- You **must** identify and research the institutions' collections, fully familiarising yourself with them and how they are relevant to your own research
- The **project lead (i.e you!)** is responsible for completing the application process on the UKRI Funding Service.
- **Only** the lead research organisation can submit an application (this is submitted through your university's research office)
- If PhD is funded through a **consortium of research organisations**, the application should be submitted by your **home research organisation** rather than the consortia lead research organisation
- Full details on our finding funder page 'how to apply' section: <https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/international-fellowships-for-phd-and-early-career-researchers-2025/>



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## To apply

PhD students and early career researchers (ECRs) are both eligible to apply as a project lead for this funding opportunity. UKRI expects the research organisation will ensure that students do not apply for any other opportunities as a project lead unless it is specified that they are eligible to do so.

Select 'Start application' near the beginning of this Funding finder page.

1. Confirm you are the project lead.
2. Sign in or create a Funding Service account. To create an account, select your organisation, verify your email address, and set a password. If your organisation is not listed, email [support@funding-service.ukri.org](mailto:support@funding-service.ukri.org)  
Please allow at least 10 working days for your organisation to be added to the Funding Service. We strongly suggest that if you are asking UKRI to add your organisation to the Funding Service to enable you to apply to this Opportunity, you also create an organisation Administration Account. This will be needed to allow the acceptance and management of any grant that might be offered to you.
3. Answer questions directly in the text boxes. You can save your answers and come back to complete them or work offline and return to copy and paste your answers. If we need you to upload a document, follow the upload instructions in the Funding Service. All questions and assessment criteria are listed in the How to apply section on this Funding finder page.
4. Allow enough time to check your application in 'read-only' view before sending to your research office.
5. Send the completed application to your research office for checking. They will return it to you if it needs editing.
6. Your research office will submit the completed and checked application to UKRI.

# How to apply

## Funding opportunity

## International Fellowships for PhD and Early Career Researchers 2025

Opportunity status:	Open
Funders:	<a href="#">Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)</a> , <a href="#">Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)</a>
Funding type:	Fellowship
Total fund:	£250,000
Award range:	£4,850 - £12,750
Publication date:	20 November 2024
Opening date:	20 November 2024 9:00am UK time
Closing date:	13 March 2025 4:00pm UK time

Last updated: 21 January 2025 - [see all updates](#)

Start application

## Timeline

- 20 November 2024 9:00am  
Opening date
- 23 January 2025 2:00pm  
Webinar
- 13 March 2025 4:00pm  
Closing date

Print this guidance or save as PDF

OPP773:AHRC International Fellowships for Doctoral and Early Career Researchers 2025

## Confirm you'll be leading this project if your application is successful

We strongly advise that you only start this application if you'll be the project lead (or the fellow, if you're applying for a fellowship Opportunity).

If you're just curious about the application questions, or any guidance for completing them, you can find this information on the funding Opportunity's page in the [UKRI Funding Finder](#)

### Confirmation

I confirm that I'll be leading my project, and I understand that:

- the only people who can edit the application are myself and staff at my research office, if I have one
- if I have a research office, only it can submit the application to UKRI

Confirm and continue

# Assessment criteria

All applications will be checked for eligibility after the funding opportunity closes.

Eligible applications will be shared with the respective placement institutions and will be reviewed by relevant experts at the institutions. Scores and comments from the host reviews will then be moderated by AHRC and ESRC.

*\*\*Applications which do not meet the eligibility requirements of this funding opportunity will be rejected prior to the reviewing stage. We will notify the submitter for any applications rejected at this stage\*\**

## Assessment areas

The assessment areas we will use are:

- eligibility
- purpose
- applicant experience
- supervisor's or head of department's support

# Key dates

 **Application deadline: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 4pm** 

Host	Number of Awards Available	Window for Fellowships to Take Place (Indicative)	Fellowship Duration
Harry Ransom Center	7	1st Sept 2025 – 31st May 2026	2 to 3 months
The Huntington Library	10	1st July 2025 – 30th June 2026	3 to 6 months
The Library of Congress	25	1st Oct 2025 – 30th Sept 2026	3 to 6 months
National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU)	11	1st July 2025 – 30th June 2026	3 to 6 months
Shanghai Theatre Academy	4	1st Sept 2025 – 31st Dec 2026; or 1st Mar – 30th Jun 2026	3 to 4 months
Yale Centre for British Art	3	1st July 2025 – 30th June 2026	3 to 6 months
Smithsonian Institution	5	1st Oct 2025 – 30th Sept 2026	3 to 6 months

# Insights from Library of Congress



# Insights from NIHU and Smithsonian Fellows



# Q+A

For help and advice on costings and writing your proposal please contact your research office in the first instance, allowing sufficient time for your organisation's submission process.

For questions related to this specific funding opportunity please contact [enquiries@ahrc.ukri.org](mailto:enquiries@ahrc.ukri.org)

Any queries regarding the system or the submission of applications through the Funding Service should be directed to the helpdesk. Email: [support@funding-service.ukri.org](mailto:support@funding-service.ukri.org)

**Thank you!**